

## REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – APRIL 11, 2011

The April 11, 2011 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street, with Mayor Richard VanLandingham presiding. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, and Lannis Thornton. Councilman Robert L. Gwaltney and City Manager Chris Addleton were both out of town. Staff Members in attendance were City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman and City Clerk Carolyn B. Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Councilman Douglas.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular Meeting - March 28, 2011.** Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

### **DELEGATIONS:**

**1.) Miss Hannah Dentz - Washington Middle School - "If I Were Mayor, I Would" Essay Contest Winner.** Mayor VanLandingham introduced Miss Dentz and invited her to sit at the dais with the Council during the meeting. Miss Dentz was presented a plaque and a savings bond from the City for winning the "If I Were Mayor I Would" Essay Contest sponsored by Georgia Municipal Association. She won at both the local level as well as at the District 10 state level and had been invited to attend a luncheon in Atlanta on April 20<sup>th</sup> to receive her awards from GMA. She read her essay aloud and was congratulated by Mayor VanLandingham and Council Members.

**2.) Mr. Peter Wright & Mr. Tony Ward - Greyhound Bus Service Return to Cairo:** The gentlemen were present to request that the City assist in helping to promote the location of a bus station in Grady County or someplace closer than Albany or Tallahassee. The suggestion was made that assistance might be given to Mr. Merrill Baker (226-5076) of Thomas County to obtain a grant for that purpose, with a station to possibly be located in a transit building in Thomas County.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Article I Entitled "In General" of Chapter 5 Entitled "Animals and Fowl"; To Reorganize said Article; To Define Fowl, and Establish Certain Restrictions within the City; To Establish the Effective Date of Ordinance.** Council Members reported that they had received calls from various citizens asking that the maximum number of hens allowed in the amendment be increased. Ms. Debra Holland, a resident of the northeast section, was present and urged the Council to reconsider the prohibition of roosters and setting a maximum on the number of hens. She believed the ordinance should not be amended and stated that she and her daughter owned chickens, as did many of the Hispanic residents in her area. She reported that the residents used the chickens for eggs and the roosters for food. Discussion was held regarding the ordinance which was intended to prohibit the crowing noises from the roosters and the wandering of birds over the neighborhoods. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adopt the ordinance with one change to be made to increase the maximum number of hens allowed from seven (7) to fifteen (15). Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

**Community Services Department Quotes - Purchase of One Ton Diesel Truck for the Street Department to Replace the Asphalt Truck.** Three quotes were received: **1).** Brannen Motor Company - \$30,038.00, **2).** Stallings Motors, Inc. - \$33,650.00, and **3).** the lowest quote by Peach County Ford - \$29,661.68. In a memo to City Manager Addleton, Community Services Director Pat Mitchell had requested the diesel engine as it was better suited for the weight it would be hauling. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the purchase from the low bidder in the amount of \$29,661.68, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present. Mayor VanLandingham noted that there was \$10,000 difference in two of the bids between the gas and diesel truck and requested that City Manager Addleton double check to see if the diesel was the best purchase in this instance considering the current cost of diesel. If so, he was to proceed with the purchase from Peach County Ford.

**Resolution for Georgia Cities - April 17-23, 2011.** After review, motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

**2011 Alcohol Beverage License Renewal Application - Hermant Patel d/b/a Silver Dime, Inc. / L&M – 1001 5<sup>th</sup> St., NE – Retail Beer, Package.** After review, motion to approve the

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application was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

**REPORTS:**

**Cairo Fire Department Report - Quarterly (Jan., Feb., Mar., 2011).** An additional report was submitted at the meeting per a request by Councilman Douglas who wished to see a list that included the medical-assist calls.

**Reports from Mayor & Council:**

1. Mayor VanLandingham announced that he, Councilman Cloud, City Manager Addleton, Energy Services Director Rod Prince, and Mr. Tom Berry would be leaving next Monday for the Plant Vogtle Tour.

2. Councilman Cloud referred to the litter problem in the City and requested that the Police Dept. be on the lookout for littering and also asked Editor Randy Wind to publish something in the Cairo Messenger to raise awareness of the problem.

3. Mayor VanLandingham reported on a recent Electric Cities of Georgia (ECG) meeting that he had attended at which one of the issues addressed was how to improve relations with existing and potential retail commercial and industrial businesses. He had met last week with three local industries, and a meeting was set up with an ECG representative for further discussions.

4. He requested Council Members to review H. B. 87 and S. B. 40 and to advise legislators of their opinions.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**APPROVED:**

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**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM  
MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**CAROLYN B. LEE  
CITY CLERK**