

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – MAY 26, 2015

The May 26, 2015 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street by Mayor Robert B. Burns, Sr. 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 did not attend the meeting due to being out of town. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, and Times Enterprise Reporter, Karen Murphy, were also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor Burns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1.) Regular Council Meeting – May 11, 2015. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

2.) Budget Workshop Meeting May 11, 2015. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Special Event Permit for Florida State University, the College of Motion Picture Arts, for Closure of Broad Street on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight - Erica Chan, Applicant. Ms. Chan was present and stated that the faculty at the college had advised them to get a few more shots at the theater. After discussion, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

2.) Cairo First Baptist Church Street Closure Request - June 7 through June 11, 2015 from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Vacation Bible School - Susan Zipperer, Applicant. After review, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Request for Tent Sale of Legally Approved Sparklers - 361 8th Avenue, NE (Wal-Mart Parking Lot) - June 24–July 5, 2015 - Martina Duvall/Kathy Roos (TNT Fireworks), Applicant. Mr. Jonathan Reed, representing TNT Fireworks was present and read a statement from his cell phone from a company representative regarding the new law to become effective July 1st. However, the new license fees set by the law would not be effective until January 1, 2016. Mr. Reed was not able to answer any questions asked of him. After review, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinance to Amend Chapter 14, entitled “Fireworks, License and Sale” of the Code of Ordinances, City of Cairo, Georgia. Ordinance was introduced and will be considered for adoption at the next regular meeting.

Request from Birddog Bottle Co. for a Change in the Number of Package Stores allowed by the City’s Alcohol Ordinance. Mr. LaDon Toole was present, along with Mr. David Cochran who

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owned the building on Highway 84 East that formerly housed the Seminole Wind Restaurant. They were present to request that the Mayor and Council consider changing the portion of the alcohol ordinance that limited the number of package liquor store licenses to one for every three thousand residents of the City, as shown by the most recent Census, limiting the total to three stores. Mr. Cochran, who also owned the Bird Dog Bottle Co. in Thomasville, advised that the building on Highway 84 had been vacant for quite some time, and he had not had any serious interest shown in renting the building. They believed that allowing a fourth store would provide jobs and increase tax revenue. Councilman Douglas asked Attorney Lehman when and why the number had been limited to three. Atty. Lehman believed it was done because there were so many liquor licenses, and also because some patrons drank near the building where they purchased the alcohol. Mr. Cochran advised that this would not be a typical store, but would be similar to his other clean, upscale store in Thomasville. Atty. Lehman advised either to totally delete the restriction on the number of stores or to change the number allowed to a higher number. Councilman Cloud felt that one store for every 3,000 people was enough so as not to saturate the market, and also stated that looking at the request coming from a particular applicant was different. Councilman Douglas noted that, if the population restriction was eliminated, then the market would do what it does, adding that there was no limit on beer and wine licenses. Council Members discussed further and requested Atty. Lehman to do some research and bring back information at the next meeting.

Bank of America ATM - Amendment to ATM Lease Agreement, Consent to Assignment, Estoppel Certificate, and Memorandum of Lease. City Manager Addleton reported that the Bank of America ATM, located on City-owned property, was being sold to Ameris Bank; and they had requested that new documents be executed. After review, motion to approve and authorize execution of the documents was made by Councilman Douglas and seconded by Councilman Thornton. Motion passed with Council Members Douglas, Thornton, and Gilliard voting in favor, and Councilman Cloud abstaining.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Motion to amend the Agenda to add the Public Hearing on the Budget, properly advertised for this date, was made by Councilman Gilliard, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2015-2016 BUDGET. The hearing was held without public comment and then closed.

Reports:

City Manager Addleton:

- Acknowledged the Grady County Road Department for work they had done on 15th St., NW and Parallel Drive and for work to be done on 11th Ave. Extension when it dried out.
- Commended the Fire and Public Works Department Employees for their good response to a recent fuel spill, avoiding a possibly bigger disaster.
- Reported that the new terms of the contract proposed by Decatur County Prison for inmate labor were not acceptable for renewal of the contract. The City had been paying \$50,000 a year, basically for the salary of the guard who supervised the inmates, but they now wanted to increase that amount by \$13.00 a day per each inmate (8) for 7 days a week and fifty-two weeks a year. He proposed hiring temporary personnel to do the work. Council agreed that it was the best plan.
- Pre-construction meeting scheduled for May 28th for Azalea Park improvements.
- Advised that a copy of Fire Chief Schafer's presentation from last meeting was included in side pocket of agenda book.

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Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Gilliard noted that the Thomasville schools' graduation ceremonies were live broadcasts and asked if the CHS ceremony could be shown live next year.
- Councilman Cloud inquired as to why the 8th St., SW stormwater work had not been completed.
- Councilman Douglas requested that an informational timeline on nuisance abatement cases from start to finish be included in the Building Dept. reports.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:45 p.m., Councilman Douglas made motion to enter into Executive Session to meet with Attorney Lehman to discuss a pending or potential lawsuit, settlement, claim, administrative proceeding or other judicial action brought against or by the City, or any officer or employee of the City, or in which the City or any officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)). Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

At 7:10 p.m., Councilman Douglas made motion to go out of Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

There was no action taken as a result of the session.

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK