

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – AUGUST 13, 2012

The August 13, 2012 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 James H. Douglas, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Carolyn Lee, and Building Official Brian Hayes. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Gwaltney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – July 23, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Gilliard, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Setting of Final 2012 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to set the final 2012 net rate at 8.21 mills, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Introduction of 2012 Tax Ordinance (Gross Millage 14.23 Mills, Rollback 6.02 Mills, Net Millage 8.21). The ordinance was introduced and will be considered for final adoption at the August 27th meeting.

Alcoholic Beverage Application – R. K. Anderson – Cairo Recreation, LLC – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Consumption on Premises – 1701 Highway 84 West – Cairo Country Club. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Alcoholic Beverage Application – Retail Beer, Package - Atulkumar B. Patel d/b/a Copper Dime, Inc. – Relocating from L & M Food Mart at 1001 5th St., NE to Cairo Food Mart at 1010 Highway 84 West. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Alcoholic Beverage Application – Maulik Patel/OM 2012, Inc. d/b/a L & M Food Mart – Retail Beer & Wine Package - 1001 5th St., NE. After review, motion was made by Councilman Gwaltney to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

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- 1.) **Building Official Brian Hayes – Update on Nuisance Abatement/Blight Project.** Mr. Hayes reported that there had been 98 structures condemned since 2010, with 39 having been completed. There were 111 cases since the first of 2012 involving overgrowth, abandoned vehicles, junk, sewage leaks, and roosters, with 90 completed. One hundred twenty-three utility cut-on inspections had already been done in 2012, with two trips required on the majority of those. The total of all permits issued thus far in 2012 was 303, with 648 inspections required. In 2011 the number of permits was 261, with 445 inspections required. It was noted that the utility inspections performed before turning on power probably aided in reducing fires and saving lives. Council Members discussed various issues including how to shorten the timetable for having burned structures removed or repaired, as well as looking at the fee structure to possibly offset some of the costs for the building department inspections. Also discussed was the status of several houses that were on the abatement list.

Councilman Gwaltney reported that he had been in a class at the convention in Savannah in June and learned that Cairo had been much more successful with their efforts in nuisance abatement than most cities. He complimented Official Hayes and his staff on their work.

2.) **City Manager Addleton's Report:**

- The Community Services Building framework had been put up.
- The Fire Training Building concrete foundation had been poured, with erection to begin in two weeks, and completion expected in another week.
- The engineering consulting firm for the Streetscape Project is to be in town for a meeting on Tuesday.
- Regarding the DOT/Broad Street takeover, the paperwork was still in Atlanta, and it was expected to be in Tifton in mid-September.

3.) **Reports from Mayor & Council:**

Councilman Cloud:

- Some street lights were out on 2nd Ave., NE near the laundry.
- Street lights were also out on the east side of South Broad from the railroad to Miss Myrt's.
- Inquired about the 2012 Tahoe that had been ordered for the Police Department, with City Manager Addleton reporting that the dealer had been between model years 2012 and 2013; therefore, the City would be receiving a 2013 model rather than the 2012, with \$1,000 off the price.

Mayor VanLandingham:

- Reported that he had received many compliments regarding the Davis Park renovation, adding that other parks and areas would also be considered for improvements.

Council Gwaltney:

- Councilman Gwaltney asked how the holding pond at Davis Park was working, with City Manager Addleton stating that it was working as designed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

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APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**