

## REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – AUGUST 23, 2010

The August 23, 2010 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 Lannis Thornton, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., and Robert L. Gwaltney. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, 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 Mayor VanLandingham.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting – August 9, 2010. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**DELEGATIONS:** None

### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**1. Community Block Party** - Area of 8th and 9th Streets, NW on Saturday, September 4, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Fondren Williams, applicant. After review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**2. CHS Homecoming Parade** - October 22, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., beginning at the First Methodist Church and ending at the Roddenbery Memorial Library. After review, motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Application for Set-up of 1997 Manufactured Home at 324 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., NW – Felisha Peterson, Applicant.** (Mr. Donald Lowe and Mr. Wes Whitfield were present for this agenda item). Council Members reviewed pictures of the home which required Council approval, as it was more than 10 years old. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**Request by Robert Burns, President of First Investments, Inc. to Donate to the City Approximately Eight Acres of Land on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., NE (off 11<sup>th</sup> Street along Little Tired Creek).** City Manager Addleton reported that the timber had been cut on the tract, and limbs needed to be cleared from the lot. Adding that Mr. Burns had requested that the City reimburse First Investments, Inc. for the survey costs of \$1,900.00, City Manager Addleton recommended accepting the land contingent on a clean Phase I Environmental Assessment which could be handled through the Cairo/Grady County Brownfield Grant. He noted that most of the property was in a flood zone, and that the City had a utility easement running through the property. During discussion, it was noted that the County might have a need for a 200' buffer along the creek for wetland mitigation for the Tired Creek Lake Project. It was suggested that City Manager Addleton talk with Mr. Burns and the County officials regarding the donation, a 200' buffer, and payment of survey costs.

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### OTHER BUSINESS:

**Airport Tree-Clearing Project.** City Manager Addleton updated the Council on the project in which the City had contracted with Folsom Construction Company in 2009 to perform the tree-clearing on the east end of the airport runway. On March 8, 2010, the contractor was declared in default of the contract. Their bonding company, Merchants Bonding, took over the remaining contract and rebid the remaining work, with Jim Boyd Construction, Inc. as the successful bidder. The bonding company would pay \$12,624, which was the difference between the Folsom contract to complete the project (\$31,984) and the new Jim Boyd bid of \$44,608. He presented a Tender Agreement between the City and Merchant Bonding to accept the tender of Jim Boyd Construction, Inc. and its bid for completion of the project. The Tender Agreement had been reviewed by City Attorney Lehman, and the City would enter into a Contract directly with Jim Boyd Construction to complete the project. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the Tender Agreement, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members. Motion was also made by Councilman Cloud to enter into a Completion Contract with Jim Boyd Construction, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

### City Manager's Report:

1. Reported on a meeting and signing ceremony held earlier in the day regarding "Contract with Georgia," a partnership between local government and the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Taking part in the ceremony was DCA representative, Mike Beatty, along with City and County Officials. The partnership would entitle Grady County to receive grant funds of \$5,000 over a 3-year period to be used for community incentives.
2. Announced that the Boys and Girls Club had been awarded a \$75,000 grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
3. Advised that he had placed a public notice in the newspaper for an Environmental Assessment and Notice of Opportunity for a Public Hearing for proposed improvements at the Airport. Improvements were to be included in a five to ten-year plan.
4. Reported on the 20<sup>th</sup> St. NE Project – Phase I. Paving had been done where the culvert was replaced and striping and guardrails would be finished during the week. Engineering for Phase II had been started.
5. Advised that he would be attending a communications kick-off meeting in Bainbridge the following day.
6. Reminded Council Members that there would be an open house for Council Chambers and the Historical Society on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
7. Reported on recent complaints of golf-cart and ATV activity on streets in the southeast section. Presenting a copy of the City's ordinance regarding go-carts, he stated that he would like to publish it in the newspaper to make the public aware of the regulations. Council discussed this problem and also the use of motorized scooters on public streets.
8. Announced that the Nuisance Abatement case for the house on M. L. King had been scheduled to be heard in Municipal Court on Aug. 25th.

### REPORTS:

1. Fire Department Incident Summary – 7/17/2010 to 8/17/2010.

### REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

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Councilman Douglas asked that the Council look at the City's Ordinance regarding the deadlines for taking action on nuisance abatements. He suggested considering more aggressive and quicker enforcement, or possibly strengthening the ordinance. City Manager Addleton noted that it was often difficult to learn who the current property owner or appropriate contact was and gave a recent example of a difficult notification process for a corporation. Mayor VanLandingham made a suggestion, rather than addressing problems on a complaint basis, to look at the issue on a city-wide basis. City Manager Addleton recommended taking an inventory of substandard structures and developing a master plan for action. He pointed out that many property owners could not afford to repair or demolish the structures and suggested offering some sort of incentive to aid them. He was instructed to begin taking an inventory along the major routes, focusing abatement on the worst lots first. It was noted that the problems of overgrown grass should be much easier to solve.

Mayor VanLandingham reported that he and City Manager Addleton had met recently with County officials regarding the tax billing issue and also becoming more involved with other issues affecting the community, noting that future meetings would also be held.

Councilman Gilliard reported that tires had been dumped in the ditch on 11<sup>th</sup> Ave., NW near where the pavement ended. He also reported on two locations where mobile homes were being torn down and the debris piled by the road. He asked when the fence around the holding pond behind Washington School would be put up and learned that it was to be done later in the week.

Councilman Cloud reported on a lot on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., SW that contained several junk vehicles, trailers, campers, etc.

**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**