

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

The September 9, 2013 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. Others present were Mayor Pro Tem Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Council Members James H. Douglas, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Councilman Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr. was unable to attend the meeting, but did later join the group while in executive session. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Thornton.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – August 26, 2013. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Special Event Permit for Chamber of Commerce: Downtown Trick or Treating, October 31, 2013, 3:00PM – 5:00 PM. Jennifer Majors/Applicant. Ms. Majors was present to inform the Council of plans for the event. Council discussed the safety issue and the requested street closing. After discussion, Councilman Cloud made motion to approve the event, with Broad Street to be closed from 1st Ave. NE to 2nd Ave./MLK. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Public Hearing: Rezoning Request from I-1 (Light Institutional District) to C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) and a Conditional Use Request For a Church at 290 2nd Avenue, NE – Tax Map C20, Parcel 58 – New Beginning Baptist Church, Applicant. Pastor Joseph Smith was present and informed the Council that the Fellowship Hall would be the first building to be constructed. There were no other comments, so the public hearing was closed.

Rezoning Request from I-1 (Light Institutional District) to C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) and a Conditional Use Request For a Church at 290 2nd Avenue, NE – Tax Map C20, Parcel 58 –New Beginning Baptist Church, Applicant. City Manager Addleton explained that the Planning Commission had approved the rezoning but had overlooked action on approval of the conditional use. After review, motion to approve the rezoning to C-1 was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present. Motion to approve the conditional use permit was also made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Setting the Final 2013 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve a 2013 millage rate of 8.28 mills, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

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Introduction of Tax Ordinance to Levy and Authorize the Collection of a General Ad Valorem Tax for the Year 2013. The ordinance was introduced and will be considered for adoption at the next regular meeting.

Approval of Application for Alcoholic Beverage (Beer and Wine Package) for a New Business: The Great American Travel Center located at 328 US Hwy. 84 E, Jessica O’Neal, Operations Manager/Applicant. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1.) City Manager:

- A preconstruction meeting for the 11th Ave., NW project was held with the contractor and a Notice to Proceed issued for Sept. 30th, with work to begin in October.
- Joint Governmental Leadership Forum to be held on Sept. 19th at Country Club at 6:30 p.m.

2.) Reports from Mayor & Council:

- Councilman Gwaltney reported a road washed out at the intersection of 19th St., NE and Livestock Pavilion Rd.
- He also noted that a tractor-trailer and other trailers were parked in the street on 19th St., NE.
- Confirmed that 4th Ave., SE and 1st St., SE were on the paving plan for next spring.
- Reported some water issues at the Presbyterian Church where a pump was pumping water out of the basement, and it was running down to the street.
- Councilman Cloud reported that grass was being blown onto headstones in Greenwood and Crestview Cemeteries, and it had stuck to them. He asked that the grass be washed off, possibly by the Fire Dept.
- Councilman Douglas asked about the status of City telephone numbers being sent out to the public, with City Manager Addleton reporting that Energy Services Director Prince was working on a mailer. It was suggested that they also be published in the newspaper.
- Mayor VanLandingham noted that, although he did not qualify to run again as Mayor, he was still very interested in the City and was willing to help the Council in any way that he could.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:20 p.m., Councilman Cloud made motion to enter into executive session. (To meet with Attorney Jim Garland to discuss a pending lawsuit, settlement, claim, administrative proceeding or other judicial action brought against or by the City). Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

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Present for the session were Attorney Jim Garland; Mayor VanLandingham; Mayor Pro Tem Cloud; Council Members Douglas, Gwaltney, and Thornton; City Manager Addleton; City Attorney Lehman; and City Clerk Lee.

At 6:39 p.m., Councilman Gilliard joined the meeting.

At 6:40 p.m. motion was made by Councilman Thornton to end the session, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

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

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

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**