

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

The September 14, 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., Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Councilman James H. Douglas was out of town in training but was able to join the meeting at 6:05. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Jerry L. Cox, unopposed candidate for Councilman in District 5 in the 2015 General Election, was also present to observe the meeting. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Cloud.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Council Meeting – August 24, 2015. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Syrup City Players Request for Special Event Permit – Davis Park – Outdoor Performance on October 2 and 3, 2015 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. – Jim Ellis, Applicant. After review, motion to approve the event request was made by Councilman Gilliard, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Cairo High School Request for Special Event Permit – Homecoming Parade – October 22, 2015 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Chris Lokey, Applicant. Councilman Gilliard left the dais and did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter due to his affiliation with the Board of Education. After review, motion to approve the event request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed by Council Members Cloud, Thornton, and Gwaltney. Councilman Gilliard did not vote.

Main Street Request for Special Event Permit – Downtown Trick or Treating – October 30, 2015 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Celeste Tyler, Applicant. After review, motion to approve the event request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Adoption of Ordinance to Re-Zone Parcel located adjacent to 1710 S. Broad Street – Tax Map 54, Parcel 32 from R-1A (Single-Family Residential) to C-1A (Restricted Office-Institutional District) - Owner Briland Construction Company (Magnolia Place) – Applicant/Owner, Jerry “Jay” L. McDaniel, III. (Ordinance was introduced at the August 24th meeting). After review, motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Resolution to Authorize City Manager to Abate Nuisance (Overgrowth) at 2582 MacIvor Drive, NE – JP Morgan Chase Bank National, Owner. After review, motion to authorize the City Manager to abate the nuisance was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present. Councilman Douglas joined the meeting at this time and noted that a lien would need to be recorded on the property.

Georgia Transportation Infrastructure Bank (GTIB) Grant Resolution for Application for the Full-depth Reclamation and Resurfacing of 20th St., SE. City Manager Addleton advised that Grady County Admin. Tobar would be submitting the application for \$235,000 with matching funds to be provided by the City, Grady County, and the JDA. The City's portion would be \$125,000 and was budgeted in SPLOST. After review, motion to approve the Resolution was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) Loan Application for Funding to Finance a Water Meter Replacement Project (Installation of automated metering infrastructure for water, to include retrofitting approximately 3,266 water meters with new interface units and replacing approximately 925 meters with new radio read meters including the interface units, base station, hardware, and software to operate the system). City Manager Addleton advised that the infrastructure would also be compatible for electric and gas meters. It would provide the ability for informational monitoring of meters and automatic turn-off capability as well as reduce unaccounted water loss and ultimately replace the meter reader personnel, resulting in a savings projection of approximately \$100,000 in wages and benefits annually. He added that the City was eligible for a loan of \$1,189,645, with a principal forgiveness amount of \$475,858. Councilman Douglas stated that Camilla had installed the system, but it was not as successful as had been presented to them; adding that it could save some money in labor costs, but it was unlikely that the system would totally eliminate the need for some manual meter reading. He also asked that the Council consider how much money was being used out of the Municipal Competitive Trust Fund. Atty. Lehman asked questions about technical aspects of the system. After discussion, motion to approve the loan application was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Waiving of Building Permit Fees for Other Governmental Entities. Councilman Gilliard left the dais and did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter due to his affiliation with the Board of Education. City Manager Addleton had requested direction on this matter at the previous meeting. In reviewing the history of requests for waiving permit fees, it was found that the City had waived fees in the past for most public entities. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve waiving fees for the Board of Education and Grady County, with other public entities to be considered on a case by case basis if they submitted a request. Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed unanimously by all Council Members with the exception of Councilman Gilliard who did not vote.

Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant Agreement and Resolution for the Downtown Streetscape Project (Estimated Cost \$875,000; Federal Contribution: \$750,000; City: \$175,000). Atty. Lehman had reviewed the documents and submitted a counsel opinion to be included in the agreement. After discussion, motion to approve the resolution and agreement was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

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1.) Departmental Reports. Reports were reviewed, with Councilman Gilliard asking questions regarding overtime for Police, Cemetery & Parks, and Energy Services Dispatch. City Manager Addleton was asked to check on the Police overtime for special events which was thought to be too high. Councilman Douglas asked if a more detailed report could be provided. Councilman Cloud stated that four or five officers were needed at ballgames to provide escort for the opposing team to and from the gym locker rooms, but questioned why so many lieutenants were needed at the games. Councilman Gilliard also asked if the overtime for the School Resource Officer's hours were included in the report, as the Board of Education reimbursed the City for those wages. With regard to the Cemetery & Parks overtime, City Manager Addleton believed that to be due to the loss of inmate labor during the busy grass cutting season. The Energy Services dispatch service was not converted to Thomasville on July 1st as originally planned, so that accounted for the Dispatch overtime.

2.) City Manager's Report.

- Extended an invitation for a ribbon cutting at the Boys & Girls Club Baseball Field at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.
- Reported that both the Lullwater Lift Station and the Airport Tank Projects were underway.

3.) Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Gilliard asked about paving at Azalea Park and was informed that it had to dry out but would be paved in mid-October.
- Councilman Gilliard requested that parking spaces on North Broad Street be re-stripped.
- Councilman Cloud requested that the high grass along the 8th St. project area be cut.
- Councilman Cloud asked that tree limbs be trimmed around the security lights at Holder Park.
- Councilman Douglas inquired if anything could be done to strengthen the ordinance to help eliminate repeatedly having to address the same nuisance on MacIvor Drive, with Atty. Lehman responding that he was not aware of anything else.
- Councilman Douglas also requested that Atty. Lehman notify Mr. Hammett on 20th St. to remove materials from the right-of-way. Mayor Burns added that a front end loader near that location was leaking a lot of hydraulic fluid.
- Atty. Lehman commended the Mayor and Council on their ability to work together in decision-making processes without bringing in personal agendas.

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK