

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

The September 18, 2017 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 Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Council Members James H. Douglas, Jerry L. Cox, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. 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 Mayor Burns.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting – August 28, 2017. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Cox, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Mr. Sydney Gainey and Mr. Wayne Tootle. Mr. Tootle spoke first stating that he was representing and speaking on behalf of his neighbors, a large group of whom was present, in opposition to a motocross track being located in their area. He gave three reasons for the opposition: 1.) The City owned the property and would select a bidder. He thanked the Council for following a process that allowed those that were opposed to learn of the possible sale and use of the property and have a chance to speak. He added that he believed the rush to sell property was questionable, and the promise of a windfall of money would not happen. 2.) He asked that the Council imagine how atrocious it would be for people having Thanksgiving dinner, and on some weekends, with the noise that the track would create. 3.) He asked the Council to consider what all might be put on the property, adding that some families had owned their homes for generations. He agreed that motocross did need a venue for their sport, and he was not against racing but was against the proximity to residences. He noted that there would be noise, dirt, as well as safety issues due to Wight and Collins Roads not being able to handle the traffic. He referred to the wording in the Invitation to Bid Notice, stating that the last paragraph gave the City the leeway to do what was right for the people. In closing, he asked the Council to reject the bid to sell the property.

Mr. Sydney Gainey stated that this would not affect him since he did not live in the area, but he had experienced living near a tract; and he would never get used to the noise. He added that he understood from the website that Mr. Kearns, promoter of the motocross event, had successfully negotiated with the Florida property owners to have the race there.

2.) Mr. Jerry Mobley. Mr. Mobley was not present at the meeting.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Set a Final 2017 Ad Valorem Tax Millage Rate. A tentative millage rate of 7.691 net mills had been set previously, and the 5-year history had been advertised. Motion to set the net

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

millage rate at 7.691 mills was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Cox, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Introduction of Ordinance to Levy and Authorize the Collection of a General Ad Valorem Tax for the Year 2017. The ordinance was introduced and will be considered for adoption at the September 25th meeting.

JDA City Appointment/Re-Appointment. After consideration, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to re-appoint Chuck Stafford to another term (to expire October 1, 2020), seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Jeremiah Horne Request to Deed Property to the City. Mr. Horne was present regarding an error in his previous survey that showed East Blvd., NE extending farther than it should. He had a revised plat that now left one of his two subdivided lots without street frontage. Mr. Horne proposed deeding a portion of his property to the City to extend East Blvd. up to the Zaxby's property in order to legally subdivide his lot into two parcels and provide street frontage to both of the parcels. He had agreed to pave the rest of the street referred to as "Right-of-Way" on his survey. Atty. Lehman advised that he had done some research on East Blvd., and it should be very near to what was shown on the drawings presented. Mr. Horne was asked how it would benefit the City, with Mr. Horne responding that it could mean being able to build up to 24 residences rather than just 12. It would also allow him to have utility access from that point rather than farther down the street. It was noted that the City would have to maintain the street, so it would have to be built to specifications. City Manager Addleton advised that a cul-de-sac might also be required since it would be a dead end street. Councilman Cox asked if the infrastructure could handle the run-off and storm water, and if a civil engineer had looked at the plans. Mr. Horne replied that the scope of the project was too small for that requirement, but he planned to have a drop inlet that would carry water to a stream. Atty. Lehman added that the subdivision requirements would need to be met. Councilman Douglas suggested that City Manager Addleton get together with Mr. Horne and look at resolving the paving, cul-de-sac, and storm water issues and bring back to the next meeting, also making motion to that effect. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Azalea Park Improvement Project. The designs had been submitted, and the bid process had been completed with two bids received: **1.)** GFA Design-Build Contractors - \$175,323.00, and **2.)** Tip Top Construction - \$158,000.00. The project included restrooms, landscaping, and a pavilion similar to Davis Park. It was asked who would draw up the contract, with Mr. David Dunn of Tip Top Construction, offering to put together a standard contract. Council discussed other jobs that Mr. Dunn had completed in the area, with Mr. Dunn having cut some cost on this project as compared to the Davis Park project. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the project and award the bid to Tip Top Construction in the amount of \$158,000.00, and motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton. It was noted that the project had been originally budgeted in the General Fund, but it had been decided later to pay for it out of Municipal Competitive Trust Funds, so the motion was amended to approve that method of payment, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

REPORTS:

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

1. Departmental Reports - Previously reviewed by Council Members.

2. City Manager:

- Gave a Hurricane Irma update and commended City personnel on their work.
- Reported that after-hours calls had been switched from the City of Thomasville to Interactive Utility Communications which was working well.
- Updated on the work being done by Taylor Waste to catch up after the storm.
- Safe-Sidewalks will be here tomorrow to work on the last phase.
- Bid results on LAS property will be due on Friday and will be presented at the next meeting.

3. Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Cloud asked that an oak tree at Cairo Cemetery be taken down.
- Councilman Cloud requested that the person mowing the cemeteries be asked not to mow on Sundays.
- Councilman Cloud wants traffic studies to be done for traffic lights at the intersections of Hwy. 93 and Hwy. 111 and at Hwy. 93 and Long Branch Rd., and to also contact legislators regarding this.

ADJOURN: Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR