

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 24, 2012

The September 24, 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 Community Services Director Pat Mitchell. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Cloud.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – September 10, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Special Event “Outreach to Community” at Davis Park on October 6, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – New Beginning True Hope - Pastor Daniel E. Berry, Sr. Council discussed the request with Pastor Berry who stated that they were planning to establish a church in Cairo and were already having Bible studies here. They wanted to reach out to the community to provide counseling and support and would like to have an event with free food, games, an inflatable bouncy house, and informational handouts. After discussion, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. The applicant was reminded that they would need to coordinate placement of the bouncy house with Director Mitchell and that they would be responsible for cleanup of the area after the event.

2.) Special Event Permit - Cairo-Grady County Chamber of Commerce - Annual Cairo Christmas Parade on Thursday, December 6th beginning at 7:00 p.m. Motion to approve the permit was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. Councilman Cloud asked that participants be reminded that there could be no candy thrown from moving vehicles.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Cairo Airport Committee Report: Special Event - Young Eagles Day at Cairo Airport – October 20, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Airport Committee Members Henry Brown and Denny Warren were present and stated that the committee had recommended that the Tallahassee Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association be allowed to hold the event at the Cairo Airport. EAA Chapter representatives had appeared before the Council earlier in the year requesting use of the Airport to hold the same type event that they were holding in other cities. It was aimed at introducing young people, ages 8 through 17, to aviation. They would provide free airplane rides to the young people, after receiving parental/guardian consent. They had insurance to cover the event, and each pilot also had insurance on his plane. The City’s liability would cover the Airport property. They usually had 10 planes at an event; but with this being the first event held here, they would probably

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have only three or four. After discussion, motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) Program. City Manager Addleton advised that the City had been awarded \$92,878.34 to be applied to road projects, with the requirement to match 30% (\$27,863.50) of that amount. In past years, a mileage amount, rather than a dollar amount, had been awarded; and the match amount required only 10%. Prior to the defeat of the SPLOST proposal, GDOT had managed project bidding, awarding, and supervision; but in the future, all aspect of projects would be managed by the City. City Manager Addleton recommended two projects to be considered for the grant allocation: **1.)** (4th St., NW Project) - 11th Ave., NW - curb, gutter, and resurface from 12th Ave., NW to Highway 84. **2.)** 20th St., NE - widen and resurface from Eastside School to Highway 188. Council discussed the projects, noting that both were needed, but only one could be done in 2013. After discussion, Councilman Cloud made motion to choose the 11th Ave, NW project to be submitted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Georgia DOT Functional Reclassification Resolution and Notice of Intent (NOI) Maintenance Agreement. City Manager advised that this was the first step in the City's takeover of Broad Street from Highway 84 to Highway 111 South and Highway 84 Spur (1st Ave., NE) from Broad Street to 5th St. at the overpass. Reclassification and transfer of some sections of State Routes 38 Spur, 93, 111 and 188 to and from Urban Minor Arterial and Urban Principal Arterial would be necessary to transfer those sections from the State to the City's jurisdiction. The City would maintain these sections of roads. Also the City would be required to continue to allow commercial truck traffic to utilize the sections of State Routes 38 Spur, 93, and 111 removed from the State System for the purpose of delivery and pickup. It was suggested that DOT should be consulted regarding the capability for trucks making wide turns at intersections. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the Resolution and NOI, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

Proposed Consent Order - Grady County - Cairo 6th Avenue Municipal Solid Waste Landfill - Permit Number 065-002D (SL). City Manager Addleton advised that the December 2011 EPD inspection report for the City landfill had documented some deficiencies, and a Notice of Violation was issued. A follow-up inspection in June 2012 noted some continuing, as well as some new, violations; some of which were minor and had never been addressed by previous inspectors. More corrective action was planned, and much progress had been made; but a proposed consent order was issued on September 10th to comply with the conditions of the order and included a monetary settlement of \$2,000. Director Pat Mitchell updated the Council on the progress that had been made and some of the obstacles that had been encountered. Council discussed closure/post-closure, and it was noted that the City's landfill was one of only three unlined landfills in Georgia. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the Consent Order, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. In preparation for future closure of the Landfill, it was suggested that Thomas & Decatur County officials be contacted with regard to their fee schedules.

REPORTS:

1.) Finance Report for June 2012 (Final). Councilman Douglas advised that the final report of finances for the fiscal year was good, and that there would be some budget amendments later. He made motion to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

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2.) **Fire Department Report: July and August, 2012.** The report was reviewed by Council.

3.) **City Manager's Report:**

- Reported that three representatives from the Public Service Commission (PSC) had visited the new Fire Training facility and the Gas Department. Items listed on the Consent Agreement had been checked off, and the representatives were very complimentary of the City's accomplishments, resulting in their recommendation that Cairo be removed from the "visit frequently" list.
- Cairo Police Department had received a \$10,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety.
- The City did not receive CDBG funding for the 8th Street Project this year, but application could be made again next year.
- The date of July 30, 2013 had been set for the Plant Vogel tour.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Addition of NFL Network to CNS: City Manager Addleton reported that the addition of the NFL network to CNS programming had been discussed previously, but Thomasville had wanted to put it in a package. It had since been learned that Thomasville had launched the network themselves. He asked the Council if they wished to consider adding the network. It would cost the City 85 cents per digital customer per month to add the network. Based on 944 current digital subscribers, additional programming cost would be \$802 per month. He recommended adding the digital channel now, as he did not think there would be a contract commitment, with the City absorbing the cost (\$2400) until January. The network could be added in one to two weeks, and there could also be the possibility of picking up new digital customers. In January, there would be an indication of how well it was received, and rate adjustments could then be considered. Councilman Thornton noted that only digital customers would be able to view the network if it was added. It was also pointed out that the network was already carried by satellite TV competitors. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to launch the NFL network as recommended and re-evaluate it at the end of football season. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed with Council Members Douglas, Cloud, Gilliard, and Gwaltney voting in favor and Councilman Thornton voting against.

Reports from Mayor & Council:

- Mayor VanLandingham advised that the "baggy pants" issue would be discussed with Judge Bell and Chief Sandefur at the next meeting. He wanted to also discuss downtown improvement at the next meeting.
- Councilman Cloud asked that a map of the Central Business District be mailed out as the DDA had discussed expanding the area. He also suggested looking at putting signs on dumpsters at restaurants asking that they not be blocked so as to allow for garbage pickup, and to also consider setting a fine for violations. He also requested that he, City Manager Addleton, and Director Mitchell meet regarding the cemeteries. He asked that a lot at the corner of Adams Ave. & 8th St., SW be checked for cleaning overgrowth and possible drug activity.
- Councilman Douglas advised that he had been told that State law provided that citations for baggy pants violations could not be written unless there was skin showing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

APPROVED:

RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR

ATTEST:

CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK