

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

The September 28, 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 James H. Douglas, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Councilman Ernest W. Cloud, Jr. was in a training session out of town and was unable to attend the meeting. 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 Douglas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular - September 14, 2015. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS:

1.) Michael Best - July 4th Fireworks. Mr. Best was present to request that the traditional fireworks production be reinstated for the July 4th holiday. Noting that he had received a lot of positive response after his column was published in the newspaper, he had received pledges from some business owners in the amount of \$4,000. He had also approached the County Commission who agreed to his proposal to split the cost three ways at \$4,000 each if the City would also contribute. He also proposed that CNS be in charge of the event which would take place at Cairo High School and perhaps include additional features such as bouncy houses, etc. Councilman Douglas brought attention to the fact that the City should not bear the burden for planning and promoting the event and extra personnel cost, as well as the \$4,000. He suggested that the additional cost should be computed and added to the cost of the fireworks, and then split the amount three ways. He later made motion to commit to one-third of the total cost of the fireworks, including the in-kind service cost. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed unanimously by all Council Members present. City Manager Addleton was requested to compute the additional cost figures and send them to Mr. Best.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Cairo High School Request for Special Event Permit – Syrupmaker Color Fun Run on October 31, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. – Football/Cheerleading - Cheryl Cruel Simmons, 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. There was discussion regarding the route, which was thought not to be optimum, as well as the need for police assistance which had been estimated at \$20.00 per hour. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed with Council Members Douglas, Gwaltney, and Thornton voting in favor of the motion. Councilman Douglas added that it would be good if the event could be handled without any overtime, since the Council had directed that overtime be reduced but was now potentially creating the necessity for it by approving event requests.

2.) Betsy McGriff – Archway. Mrs. McGriff, the new Archway Professional, introduced herself to those whom she had not already met and told a little about herself and her work. She briefed the Council on the 2015-16 Work Plan and goals of the Archway Partnership.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

Public Hearing - Alcoholic Beverage Application, (Beer, Wine and Liquor, Retail Package)
New Business: Bird Dog Bottle of Cairo, LLC - Located at 2695 US Hwy 84 E. - J. LaDon Toole/Southern Magnolia Bottle, LLC, Owner/Applicant. The public hearing was held with comments made by Mr. Branklyn Ferrell who stated that he was speaking on behalf of several area residents near the proposed location. He expressed their concerns regarding the negative impact that they believed would result, adding that they were not against the business, but the location itself. They did not believe the approval would be a plus for the community or their quiet neighborhood. After comments were heard, the hearing was closed.

Alcoholic Beverage Application, (Beer, Wine and Liquor, Retail Package) - New Business: Bird Dog Bottle of Cairo, LLC - Located at 2695 US Hwy 84 E. - J. LaDon Toole/Southern Magnolia Bottle, LLC, Owner/Applicant. Councilman Douglas left the dais and did not take part in the discussion or voting on this matter due to a potential conflict. After discussion, motion to approve the application, pending final approval of the premises by the Building and Fire Departments, was made by Councilman Thornton and seconded by Councilman Gilliard. Motion passed with Council Members Gilliard, Gwaltney, and Thornton voting in favor of the motion.

Award of Bid for Phase 4 Street Resurfacing Project and Notice of Award and Contract Agreement. Three bids had been received: **1.)** Oxford Construction - \$922,774.00; **2.)** Peavy & Sons Construction - \$ 1,088,083.00; and **3.)** The Scruggs Company - \$920,102.41. Watkins & Associates had recommended awarding the project to the low bidder, The Scruggs Company. After review, motion to award the bid to The Scruggs Company (\$920,102.41) and approve the contract was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Grady County Board of Education's Request for the City's Assistance with a Stormwater Project Related to Building the Cairo High School College and Career Center. 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. In a meeting with the Board, they had requested the use of the City's Public Works Department to construct a stormwater detention pond with related piping and to upsize stormwater pipes on 6th St., SE and 6th Ave., SE. The Board would purchase all material related to the project and also provide surveying services for the project. Public Works Director Raymond Stokes had reviewed the plans and estimated that it would take 35 to 40 working days for the Construction Crew to perform the work. After discussion, motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed with Council Members Douglas, Gwaltney, and Thornton voting in favor.

Cairo Development Authority Appointment/Reappointment. After review, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to reappoint Mr. Robbie Burns to another term (expiring October 31, 2018), seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

Cairo/Grady Joint Development Authority Appointment/Reappointment. After review, motion was made by Councilman Thornton to reappoint Charles Goar to another term (expiring October 1, 2018), seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

1.) Finance Report for Month of July 2015. Councilman Douglas noted that the new fiscal year had started well, adding that if anyone had questions to please email Finance Director Faircloth. He made motion to accept the report, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

2.) City Manager's Report.

- The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) had granted renewal of a 5-year permit for operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- On October 7th, the Electric Cities of Georgia (ECOG) Bus Tour promoting economic development would be in Cairo, with dinner scheduled for that evening.
- The GMA District 10 meeting would be held in Pelham on October 22nd at 6:00 p.m.
- Relayed appreciation from the County Commission and Recreation Dept. for assistance in installation of the new lighting at Barber Park. Council was not able to attend the celebration as it conflicted with the meeting.

3.) Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Thornton reported that the railroad tracks at 4th Street needed to be repaired again. City Manager Addleton advised that the north side would be paved in the resurfacing of 4th St., NW, but the south side needed building up. Council Members noted how hard it was to get the railroad company to cooperate in making repairs or improvements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:40 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Thornton to enter into Executive Session to discuss hiring, appointing, compensating, disciplining, or dismissing an employee; (O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(b)(2)). Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed unanimously by all Council Members present. Present for the Session were Mayor Burns; Council Members Douglas, Gilliard, Gwaltney, and Thornton; City Manager Addleton; Atty. Lehman; and City Clerk Lee.

At 7:30 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Douglas to end the Session, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members present.

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

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

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK