

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 11, 2010

The October 11, 2010 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 Lannis Thornton, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., and Robert L. Gwaltney. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and Asst. City Clerk Sandra Pearce. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Thornton.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – September 27, 2010. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Special Called Meeting – September 30, 2010. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS: Barbara Hilliard and Mike Tabb with Camilla Housing Authority, along with Diane Watson of Community Ventures, a non-profit organization, were present to talk with the Council about work they had done in Camilla to help build new homes or rehab existing ones. Their work had begun in Camilla in the late 1990's when tornadoes struck the area and left many neighborhoods completely destroyed. Mrs. Watson had read about the City's desire to address blight within the city of Cairo and decided that they may be able to offer help in rebuilding certain neighborhoods here. She explained that Community Ventures visited neighborhoods to find lots that were in need of rehabilitation and approached the property owner to negotiate a price. The homes would be built through HUD, sold to the Housing Authority, and then the Authority would sell the home back to the individual. Most homes were sold for moderate gain that would help cover the salary of the case manager that works for Community Ventures. Councilman Douglas commented that many of the lots in the city were considered sub-standard lots and work would need to be done to help eliminate this problem. After further discussion, Mayor VanLandingham commented that he thought the program would be very beneficial to the residents of Cairo, and offered to set up a tour of the City with Community Ventures.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1. First Baptist Church - Fall Festival Permit Application – October 31, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. - First Baptist Church requested to block the intersection of 1st Street N.W. & 6th Avenue N.W. to North Broad Street on the day of the festival. Motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and passed by all Council Members.

2. Democratic Party of Grady County – Special Event Application – October 30, 2010 from 12:00 Noon – 5:00 p.m. – The Democratic Party had requested the use of Holder Park to hold its “Get Out the Vote Rally”. Motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the application, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS: None

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 11, 2010

NEW BUSINESS:

Site Plan Review - Grady Electric Membership Corporation – Mr. Rex Robinson with Grady EMC was present to discuss replacing an existing low-band telecommunications tower with a new 300 foot tower that had been approved by the FAA. The Council reviewed the structural design report by Sabre Towers and Poles, with Mr. Robinson explaining that the tower would have a dual red/white beacon that would convert at night. He also added that the original tower would be taken down and either moved or sold. Mayor VanLandingham asked Mr. Robinson if the residents in the area had been notified, with Robinson responding that the EMC would make sure the residents were made aware of the tower replacement and also make the City aware of the findings or any objections the neighbors had. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the site plan review, contingent upon Grady EMC notifying the residents in the area and the residents not having any objections. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed by all Council Members.

Placement of a New Cell Phone Tower to be Located at 244 1st Avenue SW (City of Cairo EJD Property) – Site Development Services, on behalf of Allied Wireless Communications (GA), LLC, dba Alltel, had requested to place a new 150' Monopole telecommunications tower on the City's property. Mayor VanLandingham asked what affect the tower would have if the new warehouse was to be built on the property, with Addleton explaining that the pole would fit on a 50' x 60' lot with an easement, and it would not affect the property should the warehouse be built in the future. Council also discussed the new pole with Mr. Robinson from Grady EMC, and he offered to talk with Site Development Services about the possibility of using the pole the EMC was needing to move. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to postpone this item until the next meeting, which would give Grady EMC an opportunity to talk with Site Development Services. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed by all Council Members.

Budget Amendments and Resolution for FY 2009-2010 – Councilman Douglas explained that the amendments would clean up the “due to” and “due froms” that had accumulated over the last several years, which would help simplify future financial statements. The auditors were in agreement that this should be done. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to amend the general fund budget as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed by all Council Members.

Final Adoption of Tax Ordinance for the Year 2010 – Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adopt the tax ordinance for the year 2010, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed by all Council Members.

Final Adoption of Ordinance for Rezoning Property Located at 615 4th Street NE (C26-63) from R-1 to C-2 - Tyler Lee, Property Owner (Ordinance was introduced at the September 27, 2010 meeting) – Motion was made by Councilman Gilliard to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed by all Council Members.

Finance Report for the Month of June, 2010 – Councilman Douglas commented that the report is for the end of the year and reflects budget amendments. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the June, 2010 finance report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and passed by all Council Members.

Re-Certification as a Georgia Certified City of Ethics – City Manager Addleton notified the Council that the City's certification runs out in January, 2011, and in order to continue to participate in the program GMA must have all materials back by December 15, 2010. Attorney

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 11, 2010

Lehman asked to review the documents and make changes prior to the November 8, 2010 council meeting.

MEAG Power Sale of Excess Reserved Capacity to the City of Camilla on Behalf of the City of Cairo – Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the sale of the excess reserve to the city of Camilla. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed with Council Members Thornton and Gilliard voting in favor of the sale also. Councilman Douglas abstained from voting.

City Manager’s Report:

Reported that the city was applying for a transportation enhancement program through DOT. He notified Council that he was seeking letters of recommendation and also made them aware that he had a sample letter, should anyone like to submit one. He would like to have letters submitted by mid-November.

REPORTS:

1. Police Department Report for the Month of August, 2010
2. Fire Department Report for the Month of September, 2010 – Chief Fielding is to give a report at the October 25th Council Meeting.

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

Councilman Douglas reminded the Council that the GMA district meeting will be held in Cairo at the Grady Cultural Center on November 18th. Tours of the new council chambers and historical society will be given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Councilman Gwaltney made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the sale of real estate, but realized that the matter could not be discussed in executive session. City Manager Addleton handed out information regarding the Tired Creek mitigation process, which also included a letter from County Attorney Cauley for Council to review in regard to the sale of land from the City’s LAS and Greenway sites. The letter provided some history as to why the sites were chosen and also answered some questions the City had in regard to the mitigation process. Attorney Cauley is scheduled to talk with the Council further at the October 25th meeting.

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

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**SANDRA PEARCE
ASST. CITY CLERK**