

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 12, 2009

The October 12, 2009 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at City Hall with Mayor Richard VanLandingham presiding. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Council Members James H. Douglas, Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Community Services Director Pat Mitchell joined the meeting a few minutes later. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION – Councilman Cloud gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Minutes of the September 28, 2009 Regular Meeting were approved with motion made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

First Baptist Church - Fall Festival - Block 6th Ave., NW from North Broad to Stop Sign at 1st St., NW on October 25, 2009 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. After review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reconsideration of Vacation Comparison and Proposal. Councilman Cloud asked that the Council reconsider the recently approved vacation schedule and accept the schedule that had been recommended by the committee; making motion to that effect, seconded by Councilman Thornton. Motion failed, with Council Members Cloud and Thornton voting in favor and Council Members Douglas, Gilliard, and Gwaltney voting against.

Nomination Process for Appointment of Cairo Planning Commission Member (To fill the unexpired term of Stephen L. Holt due to his recent resignation effective December 31st - term to expire December 31, 2011). City Manager Addleton advised that he had spoken with staff at the Regional Development Commission in Camilla, and they were willing to provide training for Commission members. It was agreed to advertise in the newspaper for individuals who might be interested in volunteering their services on the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

LP Gas and Tanks at Natural Gas Peak Shaving Plant – Surplus Equipment. City Manager Addleton advised that the plant had been built to reduce natural gas demand by injecting a propane/air mix into the natural gas system but had not been used in several years due to a reduction of the natural gas load. The Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) regulated the plant and natural gas system. In order to maintain a compliant status with them, the plant would need \$50,000 to \$60,000 worth of maintenance and repairs. After re-evaluating the need for the plant and the benefit-to-expense ratio, it was determined that the need for the plant was basically non-existent. However, as long as it was physically connected to the distribution system, although out of operation, it would be regulated by the PSC. It was recommended to remove the physical connection to the system, thus removing the plant from PSC regulations. Once disconnected, it would fall in the jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshall resulting in less stringent regulations; but approximately \$15,000 would be required to comply with State Fire Codes as long as propane was stored on the site.

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Both City Manager Addleton and Energy Services Director Prince, with concurrence from MGAG personnel and the City's gas consultant, recommended closing the plant and selling the approximate 36,000 gallons of propane along with all equipment and fixtures to the highest bidder with a minimum bid of \$115,000.00. It was also requested that the propane, air plant equipment, and fixtures be deemed surplus and removed from inventory. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the recommendations as presented, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Appointment of Designee as Contact Person to Represent the City's Interest for the Comprehensive State-Wide Water Management Advisory Body. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to appoint City Manager Addleton as the City's designee, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Reported that there were currently 561 telephone customers.
2. Announced the GMA District 10 Fall Meeting to be held on Nov. 5th at 6:00 p.m. in Moultrie, with all Councilmen planning to attend.
3. Announced Fish Fry Fund Raiser planned for Donna Young on Nov. 12th.

REPORTS:

a.) Community Services Department Report on new G.P.S. System – Director Pat Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell submitted his report to the Council which showed the number of locations logged during the month of September for various items such as pot holes, leaves, limbs, mixed debris, garbage cans not rolled out, white goods, etc. As a result of implementing the system, he had been able to eliminate running one truck and also had a reduction in mileage of 41% as compared to the previous month. Council Members asked questions pertaining to the system, and Mayor VanLandingham also requested a report on recycling efforts.

b.) Cairo Police Department – August 2009 – Monthly Workload and Citations/Tickets. Councilman Douglas requested more patrol on Highway 84 in the morning hours.

c.) Code Enforcement – September 2009 – Permits, Citations/Warnings, Utility Inspections. Councilman Cloud asked for a status report on the building at 196 MLK. Councilman Gwaltney stated that he had received several complaints regarding the "Smicky's Place" building on MLK.

REPORTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

Councilman Cloud noted that Mr. Hunter had put up a fence stretching from the convenience store on Highway 111 up to the apartments he was planning to renovate.

Councilman Douglas stated that he had talked with Mr. Alan Parks regarding the sewage flowing into his pond and the odor it created. After discussion, City Manager Addleton stated that he would meet with Mr. Parks to obtain specific details regarding the matter.

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**