

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 25, 2010

The October 25, 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, Fire Chief Jim Fielding, and Asst. City Clerk Sandra Pearce. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Gwaltney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – October 11, 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:

1. **Grady County Housing Task Force** - Mr. Peter Wright, Vice Chair of the Grady County Housing Task Force, presented a survey of the different communities located within Grady County and explained that he hoped the survey was beneficial in CHIP funds being used in Grady County. He added that the housing task force meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Library for anyone who would like to attend.

2. **Christopher Rudd, Cairo Airport Hangar Lessee – Hangar H-2** - Mr. Christopher Rudd talked with the Council about his desire to do maintenance from Hangar H-2, which he currently rents at the Cairo Airport. He explained that he has his pilot's license and currently does maintenance in Quincy, FL, and that he also travels around the county and world to work on airplanes. He is living in Grady County and would like to have the opportunity to perform work at the airport here during the evenings and weekends, which would eliminate him having to have planes ferried to the Quincy location. Mayor VanLandingham explained that maintenance of aircraft is not allowed at the airport, and asked Mr. Rudd what would happen if he was working in his hangar and damage was caused to an adjoining hangar. Mr. Rudd explained that he only wanted to improve the airport and facilities and help bring interest there. After further discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Cloud to set up a meeting within the next 30 days with Mr. Rudd, Mr. Bible, the current FBO, and city personnel to discuss airport improvements. It was also decided that anyone who rents a hangar at the airport would be notified of the meeting as well. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and approved by all Council Members.

3. **DRMP and Wood & Partners, Inc. – Revised Davis Park Conceptual Master Plan** – Bryant King with DRMP and Charlie Johnson with Wood & Partners presented the council with a revised plan that would lower construction costs and also present alternate solutions regarding the existing conditions of the park. Johnson noted that nothing had changed to Phase II of the plan, but Phase I now contained a dry pond instead of a wet pond, the amphitheatre would be eliminated due to the removal of so many trees, and the gazebo would be relocated closer to the Woman's Club. Councilman Douglas asked about the difference between the dry and wet pond with Mr. King explaining that 40% of the pond capacity is lost with a dry pond and the design level moves from 25 years to 10 years in regard to impacting the flood issues. After further discussion, Councilman Douglas requested to have a comparison of the original plan with the revised plan and also a cost comparison of the two. Mr. King is to have the comparison prepared and it is to be presented at the next meeting.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

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OLD BUSINESS:

Donation of Land from Robert Burns, President of First Investments, Inc – Approximately 8 Acres on 10th Ave., NE – City Manager Addleton recommended that the land be accepted and commented that the city had utilities that ran through the property. Motion was made by Councilman Gwaltney to accept the land and for the City to pay surveying costs. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed with Councilmen Thornton and Gilliard voting in favor of acceptance also. Councilman Douglas abstained.

Placement of a New Cell Phone Tower to be Located at 244 1st Avenue SW - City Manager Addleton had had correspondence with Site Development Services about the possibility of using a tower located at the Grady EMC. It was determined that the location would not be sufficient, as the tower needed to be located further south into town. He also added that the placement of the tower on the City property would provide \$6000.00 a year in income. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the placement of the cell tower, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed by all Council Members.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing for Conditional Use Application for Internet Home Occupation Located at 626 7th Avenue SE – Ramsey Schafer, Applicant – Mrs. Schafer was present for the public hearing and was instructed that she should have no extra traffic to her home or signs placed advertising the business. The public hearing was closed.

Conditional Use Application for Internet Home Occupation Located at 626 7th Avenue SE – Ramsey Schafer, Applicant – Motion was made by Councilman Thornton to approve the conditional use request, seconded by Councilman Douglas and passed by all Council Members.

Public Hearing for Conditional Use Application for a Home Occupation (Cleaning Service) – Melissa Calloway, Applicant – Ms. Calloway was present for the public hearing and was instructed that she should have no extra traffic to her home or signs placed advertising the business. Ms. Calloway stated that she would go out to her client's homes to clean, and that she did not plan on having any traffic to her home.

Conditional Use Application for a Home Occupation (Cleaning Service) – Melissa Calloway, Applicant – Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the conditional use request, seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed by all Council Members.

Tired Creek Lake Mitigation Plan – Survey of City Property at the LAS and Greenway Sites - City Manager Addleton referenced an email that was received from County Attorney Kevin Cauley that explained the plan and the property that they would like to use from the City. The county would like approximately 116 acres, but wanted to be able to survey the land to see what could be used for mitigation. Addleton also explained to Council that the County had paid between \$2000.00 and \$4000.00 per acre on property that had been purchased from other owners, and estimated the city property to be worth approximately \$2000.00 per acre. After further discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to donate the land to the County and to indemnify the city from any claims of damage to both properties and to allow the Greenway to be used as originally intended. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed by all Council Members. Mayor VanLandingham commented that he hoped to continue to partner with the County on future projects.

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South Georgia Governmental Services Authority/National Cable Television Cooperative Agreement – Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the agreement, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed by all Council Members.

Introduction of the Outdoor Watering Ordinance to Comply with The Georgia Water Stewardship Act – Attorney Lehman commented that this was the standard state ordinance. (Ordinance was introduced and will be considered for final adoption at the next regular council meeting).

Paving of Parking Lot Behind City Hall – City Manager Addleton requested to have the drive and parking lot behind City Hall paved with parking spaces added since the new council chambers and historical society had been completed. Councilmen also felt the city-owned lot across from Windstream should be paved as well. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve paving the drive and both lots, seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed by all Council Members.

Introduction of Revised Ordinance for Certified City of Ethics Recertification – The revised ordinance was introduced. Attorney Lehman had made some revisions and commented that the ordinance would need to be adopted by mid December.

Finance Report for the Month of July 2010 – Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud and passed by all Council Members.

Request to Participate in Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade on Monday, January 17, 2011 – Councilman Cloud commented that the City had provided port-a-toilets in past years and also wanted parade participants to be made aware that there was to be no candy thrown from moving vehicles. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Gilliard and passed by all Council Members.

Bids for the Northwest Water Loop – City Manager Addleton explained to Council that three bids had been received for the Northwest Water Loop Project from the Technical College to Crine Blvd., and he recommended that the bid be awarded to HD Water Supply in the amount of \$79,134.57. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to award the bid to HD Water Supply, seconded by Councilman Douglas and passed by all Council Members.

City Manager's Report:

1. Reported that the downtown east project would be completed this week with Oliver Lane being paved today and the parking lot scheduled to be paved next week. 2. He currently had a dozen letters in support of the DOT transportation enhancement program. 3. Community Ventures was scheduled to tour the city on Tuesday, October 26th. 4. There was an elevated tank meeting scheduled for November 3rd. 5. Downtown trick-or-treating was scheduled for Friday, October 29th from 3-5 p.m. and Halloween would be celebrated around the city on Saturday evening.

REPORTS:

Fire Department Report - Chief Fielding gave a report to the Council regarding emergency calls, fire hydrant renovations, the new Sparky costume, public education, and the mass casualty drill. He explained that the department had checked 180 hydrants in the last two weeks, and that there were approximately 571 hydrants on record. The tops of the hydrants were to be painted certain colors to

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indicate the water pressure for that hydrant. He also commented that the new Sparky costume had been obtained through fundraisers and showed the Council pictures of Sparky at different children's functions. He also added that the department had been a part of 15 public education classes with 1002 children participating and that the crews had responded well to the mass casualty drill. Lastly, Chief Fielding talked with the Council about a possible vehicle replacement for him. He currently has a Crown Victoria, but would prefer a SUV or 4-door pickup truck. He explained that he had talked with the Police Chief about the possibility of trading the car with the police department for funds that were in the Police Department budget for a new vehicle. Councilman Douglas suggested that Chief Fielding check with local dealers to see if a low mileage SUV could be purchased and bring back his findings to the Council.

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 and also commented that the Mayor's Motorcade had been discussed at the board meeting in Athens. He also asked City Manager Addleton about the status of the condemned letters that were to be sent out, with Addleton responding that approximately a dozen letters had been sent. Councilman Gwaltney asked when 20th St. was scheduled to be paved with Addleton commenting that the job could possibly be bid out in March or April of 2011, with work to begin in May. He also added that a fire hydrant on Lakewood Drive needed to be checked. Councilman Thornton commented that there was a water leak on 15th & 1st Avenue that needed to be checked and added that there was a fire hydrant on 8th & 8th NW that should be checked also. Councilman Gilliard told the council that he had received a call questioning why the City was endorsing Community Ventures instead of local contractors. He explained to the individual that the City was not endorsing anyone but had been approached by Community Ventures about helping the citizens of Cairo. Councilman Cloud reminded the Council that he would be presenting a plaque from the City to Dr. Smith on November 4th. Mayor VanLandingham commented that there was a boat located on 4th Street SW that had been there for several years. It was decided that a letter would be sent to the property owner. He also explained that a complaint had been received about a carwash being operated from a parking spot on 1st Avenue SW. Addleton was aware of the issue and was working with the Building Department to get it resolved.

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

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**SANDRA PEARCE
ASST. CITY CLERK**