

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 9, 2015

The November 9, 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 Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, 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 Human Resource Director Carolyn Robinson. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor Burns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting – October 26, 2015. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

1.) Permit for MLK Collaborative – MLK Parade to be held on January 18, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. – Douglas Addison, Jr., Applicant. After review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the permit, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

2015 Resolution to Assign Primary and Alternate Voting Delegates for the ECG Board Elections. After review, motion was made by Councilman Gwaltney to approve the resolution to appoint Rod Prince as Primary and Chris Addleton as Alternate voting delegates, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Resolution of Results In Lieu of the 2015 General Election - Lannis Thornton as Councilman for District No. One (1); Robert L. Gwaltney as Councilman for District No. Three (3); and Jerry Lee Cox as Councilman for District No. Five (5) for terms of four (4) years beginning January, 2016. After review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the resolution declaring the election results, seconded by Councilman Gilliard, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Resolution for Georgia DOT Gateway Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Grant Application (Signage and plantings to be located on Highway 84 West at Highway 112). City Manager Addleton explained that a mowing and maintenance agreement would also be required to be signed later, even though the City already maintained the right-of-way. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Proposed CNS Cable TV Rate Increase to be Effective January 1, 2016. City Manager Addleton advised that the adjustment was necessary to cover continued increases in cable provider programming and local over-the-air channel subscriber fees. While rates were proposed to go up, a new level of programming was being added, Basic Plus, which would fall between the Basic

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Package and the Super Basic Package to give subscribers another option. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the proposal as presented, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members. A letter informing subscribers would be mailed out on December 1st.

Review of City of Cairo Employee Compensatory Time Policy. City Manager Addleton advised that he had been reviewing City policies for needed improvements, and after consulting with GMA and their legal staff attorney, he and Human Resource Director Robinson had proposed some changes and clarifications to the policy. It was proposed to reduce the maximum comp time hours that could be accumulated from 240 for regular employees and 480 for public safety employees to 80 hours and 160 hours, respectively. Councilman Douglas believed the simplest thing to do was to do away with the policy all together, believing it to be a way of not having to have overtime and to keep it from showing on an overtime report. City Manager Addleton noted that there was not a large amount of time accumulated and advised that only 20 employees out of 150 would currently be over the proposed limit. Those employees who had hours in excess of the proposed would be given a three-year period in which to take the comp time off to get below the maximums. Councilman Gilliard asked how the time was being tracked and learned that, at the present time, the tracking of comp time was being done by the timekeepers in each department. Recently, they had been instructed to submit comp time reports to Mrs. Robinson regularly. The proposed policy better defined the documentation of time earned and used, as well as addressed pay-out at termination, retirement, or promotion to a salaried position. Mayor Burns suggested eliminating comp time to see how that would work, with City Manager Addleton adding that that would be one option; but having it as a management tool did help in spreading out expenses over time. After discussion, Councilman Douglas made motion to table the matter and to come back with a list of the comp time liability amounts along with a proposal to end comp time and a plan as to how employees would be able to use their previously accumulated time. Motion was seconded by Councilman Cloud and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1.) Departmental Reports for October 2015. Council reviewed the reports with Councilman Douglas requesting a breakdown of overtime hours by each special event. He also asked why there were no letters sent out on blight issues in October. He requested to know when the locate crew would be up and running.

2.) Finance Report for August 2015. Councilman Douglas reported that the report had been reviewed by the Finance Committee, and there was one adjustment to be made in the Airport Accounts. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the report, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

3.) City Manager's Report: Azalea Park – Playground equipment was being installed during the week and tables and trash receptacles would follow later in November. Security lights were also to be installed. The Airport groundwater storage tank was nearing completion, and a pre-bid meeting was being held on November 19th for the water plant.

4.) Reports from Mayor & Council: Councilman Cloud asked if the water tank at the Airport would be fenced. Learning that it would be, he requested that trees be planted as a buffer along the fence similar to what was done at the MacIvor plant. He also asked that the traffic light at MLK and 4th St. be checked for timing issues. He inquired as to what the time frame was for removing the house on MLK that the City had acquired at a tax sale last year. Attorney Lehman advised that the process had just been

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 9, 2015

started to bar redemption of the property. Councilman Cloud reported on a dog bite case in which it was said that neither Animal Control nor the Police Dept. had investigated when the hospital had reported the incident.

Councilman Douglas asked about the status of the two small houses with set-back issues and learned that two variance requests had been submitted and would be decided on by the Cairo Planning Commission on Nov. 19th. City Manager Addleton reported that he had asked Building Official Hayes to look at the City's zoning to possibly amend the ordinance to limit those smaller houses to the R-1 zone where mobile homes were allowed. Attorney Lehman was requested to start the process for considering an ordinance change.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: During the Regular Session on November 9, 2015, at 6:55 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Cloud 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 Douglas and passed unanimously by all Council Members. Present for the Session were Mayor Burns; Council Members Douglas, Cloud, Gilliard, Gwaltney, and Thornton; City Manager Addleton; Atty. Lehman; and City Clerk Lee.

At 7:13 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Douglas to end the Session, seconded by Councilman Cloud, 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, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK