

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 13, 2017

The November 13, 2017 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street by Mayor Pro Tem Ernest W. Cloud, Jr. Present were Council Members James H. Douglas, Jerry L. Cox, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Mayor Robert B. Burns, Sr. joined the meeting after the Invocation. Attorney Lehman joined the meeting after approval of the minutes. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton and City Clerk Carolyn Lee. Mayor-Elect Booker T. Gainor was also in attendance. Cairo Messenger Reporter Mesha Wind also attended.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Thornton.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES: Regular Meeting – October 23, 2017.

Motion to approve the agenda and minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

Cliff Harpe and Jack Brinson, Tax Specialists of Georgia – Southeast, LLC. Messrs. Harpe and Brinson gave a presentation on services to claim sales tax refunds on materials purchased by contractors for City jobs. Mr. Harpe pointed out that the drinking water treatment facility was one project that would qualify for this refund. Their company would obtain copies of invoices from contractors and determine which tax should be exempt. They would receive a portion of the refunds, usually 25%, when the City was paid. The refunded tax was also interest-bearing from the date of invoice. A limited power-of-attorney for sales tax matters would be needed, and there was a three-year statute of limitations for making claims. Mr. Brinson added that, due to their extensive knowledge of sales tax exemptions, they had never had any claim sent in that had been disallowed.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

First Assembly of God Special Event Request for “Thanksgiving in the City” on November 18, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Closing of 12th Ave., NE from church driveway to Pineland Dr. – Travis Harrison, Applicant. Motion to approve the request was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing – Conditional Use Request for Tech Services Home Occupation, Sec. 22-93 (f) within a Single-Family Residential District (R1) located at 1319 10th Ave., NE; identified as County Tax Map C34, Parcel 41 - Matthew Heaberlin, Applicant; Rodger Heaberlin, Owner. Mr. Matthew Heaberlin was present and commented that most of his business would not even be at this location. After comments, the hearing was closed.

Conditional Use Request for Tech Services Home Occupation, Sec. 22-93 (f) within a Single-Family Residential District (R1) located at 1319 10th Ave., N E; identified as County Tax Map C34, Parcel 41 - Matthew Heaberlin, Applicant; Rodger Heaberlin, Owner. Both

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the SOWEGA Regional Commission and the Cairo Planning Commission had recommended approval of the conditional use. Motion to approve the conditional use was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Adoption of Zoning Ordinance for Re-Zoning from R1-A (Single Family Residential District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) at the location of 68 Alton Hall Road NE - Tax Map C39, Parcel 62 - Nyhema Kelly-Hicks. Motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Cox, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Adoption of Well-Head Protection Ordinance to define said Well-Head Protection Zone around Landfill. Motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Introduction of Zoning Ordinance for Rezoning Parcel located at 890 MLK Jr. Ave., SW from C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial District) to C-2 (Highway Commercial District) – Gary Grant. Ordinance was introduced and will be considered for adoption at the next regular meeting.

Property Abandonment Resolution and Quitclaim Deeds to adjoining Property Owners for a portion of Robinson Alley between 8th and 9th Streets, SW – Approximately 20' by 200' - (Property Owners: Teresa Sanford, William Bernard Cooper, Joe Rufus Willis and Jeanette Willis, and Ricky Copeland). After review, motion to approve the resolution and signing of quitclaim deeds was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Cox, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Cairo Development Authority Appointment/Re-appointment. Motion to re-appoint Mr. Chuck Stafford to another term (to expire 10/31/2020) was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

2018 Lease Agreement between City of Cairo and Grayson Hall. (33.5 acres at \$45.00 per acre). After review, motion to approve the agreement was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Application and Resolution for the GMA – GIRMA Firefighters' Cancer Benefit Program mandated by 2017 House Bill 146 effective January 1, 2018. City Manager Addleton advised that the proposed annual cancer and disability premium was \$5,564, which was not budgeted but would have to be absorbed. Councilman Cox noted that this was an unfunded mandate passed by the State. Motion to approve the resolution and application was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

Application for Alcoholic Beverage License - Due to Change of Ownership: Beer Retail Package for Aravn Arianna LLC dba Easy Stop Cairo located at 995 U.S. Hwy 84 E; Ankitkumar R Patel, Applicant. After review, motion to approve the application was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

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OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

- 1.) **Departmental Reports for the Month of October.** Council discussed the Water Loss Report, Comp Time Report balances and highlighting on report, 911 type calls to the Police Dept., Fire Dept. response to accidents, and the Overtime Report.
- 2.) **City Manager:**
 - Reported that the CNS float had been reserved for the Christmas Parade to be held on Dec. 7th.
 - The DOT Audit meeting held last week was well-structured and well-attended and a report is expected by the end of the year.
 - Five requests for proposals were received from architects for the Police Dept. bldg. A Work Session was scheduled for Nov. 20th at 5:00 p.m. to evaluate and select an architect.
- 3.) **Reports from Mayor and Council:**
 - Councilman Cox reported that he had several calls asking that the “yelping” dog issue not be dropped. Atty. Lehman reported on the matter and felt “consistency” would be the key factor in addressing the matter in the noise ordinance, but also believed it would be hard to incorporate and enforce.
 - Councilman Thornton asked when piping work would be done on 10th Ave., NW, learning that bids were to be opened on Dec. 6th and awarded on Dec. 11th.
 - Councilman Cloud reported that residents on 2nd St., SW past Bethlehem AME Church had requested that the street be made one-way due to its narrowness. He requested an opinion from Police Chief Sandefur. He also reported numerous holes along the side of 9th St., NE. near Three Squares Diner. He inquired when the Grant Ave. Project would be done, with City Manager Addleton stating that it was a large project; and he recommended bidding out Phase Two. He reported that his neighbor’s water was cut off while she was preparing dinner on Sunday and asked if they were changing meters out on weekends.
 - Councilman Douglas asked if the process of identifying debris holes on the sides of streets had been completed, with City Manager Addleton replying that the southwest section had been finished, and they would move on to the other sections.
 - Councilman Gwaltney suggested that pothole repairs or utility cuts be done on streets that were going to be paved before new asphalt was put down.

ADJOURN: Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

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ATTEST:

APPROVED:

CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK

ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR