

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 14, 2011

The November 14, 2011 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 Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., James H. Douglas, and Lannis Thornton. Mayor Pro Tem Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., Councilman Robert L. Gwaltney, and City Manager Chris Addleton were all out of town. Staff Members in attendance were City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Carolyn B. Lee, and Public Works Director Raymond Stokes. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Mayor VanLandingham.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – October 24, 2011. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

DELEGATIONS: None

SPECIAL EVENTS:

United Way 5K Run Fundraiser - Ms. Andrea Bentley/Susie White - November 19, 2011 from 9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. – Starting and Ending at Southside School. After review, motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve the event, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing: Closeout of Completed CDBG 03-x-065-2-3010 Project – Infrastructure Extensions to Higdon Furniture. The hearing was held and closed with no public input received.

Closeout of Completed CDBG 03-x-065-2-3010 Project – Infrastructure Extensions to Higdon Furniture. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to approve closeout of the completed project, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Public Hearing: CDBG 11p-x-065-2-5362 Teresa Edwards Stormwater Project. The hearing was held and closed with no public input received.

CDBG 11p-x-065-2-5362 Teresa Edwards Stormwater Project. A \$500,000 CDBG Grant was awarded to the City for the project.

Mr. Doug Spitler - 327 4th Avenue SE. Mr. and Mrs. Spitler, along with Mrs. Spitler's mother, Ms. Becky Teasley, were present regarding a sewer pump problem. As noted in a letter from Mr. Spitler, his house (former Teasley's School) had sewer backup problems in 2005, at which time it was determined that the house was too low for sewage to be gravity fed successfully. After considering options, it was decided that the best solution to solve the problem was for the City to install a holding tank and grinder pump with a two-year warranty; after which time the pump would become the responsibility of the homeowner. According to Mr. Spitler, the pump had gone out last

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year, and they had installed another pump which had now stopped working. The third pump, which was a grinder pump, had since been installed. He requested financial help in the form of some reimbursement from the City for his costs of approximately \$3,000 for the two pumps he had installed. Mayor VanLandingham reminded the group that the City had originally honored a two-year warranty on the first pump which had operated for over five years. Adding that there were 28 or 29 other such pumps located in the City, he stated that he felt the Council would need to follow the policy that was adopted in 2007. Mr. Spitler referred to apartments that had been built in the area as part of the problem and requested that an exception be made for some reimbursement to him. Ms. Teasley stated that she never agreed with the solution that was chosen and had wanted new piping. She added that she was still having problems with toilet flushing at her house next door which was built over a sewer line. She was informed by Director Stokes that her line had been checked with a camera, and no problems were detected. He added that sewer lines in the block had been redirected and presently only she and one other house were on her line. He stated that he was not aware of what type pump had been purchased by Mr. Spitler, with Mr. Spitler responding that the last pump purchased was a grinder pump. He asked if the City pump policy was in writing, and if so, he wanted a copy. Mayor VanLandingham expressed his empathy for the homeowners and informed Mr. Spitler that he could pick up a copy of the policy the next morning.

Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Section 22-30 of Article III of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, and the Zoning Maps, To Provide for an Effective Date; To Repeal all Ordinances or Parts or Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and for Other Purposes. (Property: Lot 3, Lot 9 and Lot 9.1 of City Tax Map C-11 - from C-2 to I-1) - EMC. The ordinance had been introduced at the October 24th meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Section 22-30 of Article III of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, and the Zoning Maps, To Provide for an Effective Date; To Repeal all Ordinances or Parts or Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and for Other Purposes. (Property: 410 4th St., SE - Parcel 6 of City Tax Map C-28 - from R1-A to C-1) - Evelyn Pless. The ordinance had been introduced at the October 24th meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Section 22-30 of Article III of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, and the Zoning Maps, To Provide for an Effective Date; To Repeal all Ordinances or Parts or Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and for Other Purposes. (Property: 1526 North Broad St. - Parcel 24.1 of City Tax Map C-23 - from R1 to I-1) - Chad Johnson. The ordinance had been introduced at the October 24th meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Thornton to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Section 22-30 of Article III of Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances, and the Zoning Maps, To Provide for an Effective Date; To Repeal all Ordinances or Parts or Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and for Other Purposes. (Property: off 16th Ave, NE - Parcel 24 of City Tax Map C-23 - from R1 to I-1) - Chuck Thomas. The ordinance had been introduced at the October 24th meeting. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

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Introduction of Ordinance to Re-State the Retirement Plan for the Employees of the City of Cairo in Accordance with Adoption Agreement - Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS). The ordinance was introduced and will be considered for adoption at the November 28th meeting.

Vote on Budget Amendments for FY 2010-2011. Councilman Douglas informed the Council that the minor adjustments made were to comply with budget law. Motion was made by Councilman Douglas to approve the budget amendments as presented, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Rescheduling of January 23, 2012 Regular Council Meeting due to Mayor's Day Conference January 21-23, 2011. After discussion motion was made by Councilman Cloud to cancel the January 23rd meeting unless City Manager Addleton deemed it needed, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

Consider Canceling the December 26, 2011 Regular Council Meeting due to Christmas Holiday. Motion was made by Councilman Cloud to cancel the December 23rd meeting, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members present.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

REPORTS:

1.) Fire Department Reports for the Month of October, 2011

- a.) Incident Type Period Comparisons – 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
- b.) Fire and EMS Combined List by Incident Number

2.) City Manager's Report:

3.) Reports from Mayor & Council:

a.) Due to the delay in the purchase of the Bank of America building, the Rental Agreement with the Dept. of Labor had been extended to commence on April 1, 2012 rather than November 1, 2011, with Attorney Lehman advising that the environmental clearance on the property had not yet been received; and that Bank of America had added a paragraph to one of the sales agreements that called for the closing to proceed whether or not the clearance was received. They had been notified that it had never been discussed to close without the clearance, and that it was not acceptable.

b.) The EIP loan for Turner Furniture was to be closed (\$329,000 One Georgia Grant).

c.) The Elbert Walker (Chickasaw Club nuisance abatement) appeal was now before the Court of Appeals in Atlanta after having gone through Cairo Municipal Court and the Superior Court appeal. Attorney Lehman was to prepare a motion to dismiss based on improper filing by Mr. Walker.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

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APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**