

**REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

The November 14, 2016 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 James H. Douglas, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Jerry L. Cox, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Carolyn Lee, Public Works Director Raymond Stokes, and Public Works Supervisor Darin Todd. Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind and Times Enterprise Reporter Jordan Barela were also in attendance.

**INVOCATION:** The Invocation was given by Councilman Cloud.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Council Meeting – October 24, 2016.** 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:**

**Special Event Permit for Full Gospel Holiness Mission Church with the U.S. Marine Corp. “Toys for Tots” Toy Drive – Kick Off and Registration on Saturday, November 19, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Holder Park - Kennetha W. Anderson, Applicant.** After review, motion to approve the event permit was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant - Street and Drainage Improvements and Administration for 15<sup>th</sup> Street (SW) Neighborhood.** The public hearing was held with no comments offered from the public.

**Presentation: Sensus Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Water Meters, Blake Wilson, HD Supply Waterworks.** Mr. Wilson, along with Mr. Jason Milhorn, presented information on their company and the Sensus AMI water meters. Mr. Wilson stated that the 125-year old company employed over 3,600 employees and had over 600 tower reading systems across the country. Since 2007, they had installed over 18 million sensors on meters, holding over 50% of the market for water meters. He added that 85% of Cairo’s water meters were already Sensus, part of which were iPERLs, and just needed sensors added to them. They held a primary-use license and would network by interface to the utility billing system. There could be employee access anywhere on the internet to acquire information on a meter which held 45 days of data. The system provided alarms, remote disconnect capability, and re-reads with less truck rollouts. Also available would be a consumer portal, cathodic protection, pressure modeling, and lighting controls. Director Stokes clarified that these other features would be at an additional cost. Mr. Wilson brought attention to the problems that DeKalb County had experienced with their system and the resolution of those problems. Councilman Douglas asked about warranty information, learning that the iPERL meters were warrantied for 20 years on accuracy and 10 years on the components, and prorated thereafter; with no warranty on labor included. The basic

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system would include metering, alarms/alerts, and billing reports that would be somewhat customizable. A consumer portal add-on would require a 1,500 user minimum block and \$3 per customer afterward. He also noted that a customer portal could be set up for certain large industries who wanted to closely monitor their usage. Director Stokes noted that they were not able to do queries presently that were needed to resolve issues. He inquired about security and if there had been any hacking; with Mr. Wilson replying that there had been a case involving a Sensus employee, but measures could be installed to increase security. Director Stokes asked if there would be any drop in unaccounted-for water and if hi/lo usage would automatically create a work order, learning that it would not create a work order and would have to be monitored. There was discussion on how to monitor and reduce loss on the city's side. Adding that the correct parameters would have to be set up in the system to detect a problem, Director Stokes also inquired about software fees and updates; with Mr. Wilson responding that updates were done every few months, and the fee amount would be furnished. Concerning the problem with cut cords, he asked if an alarm would be received or if it would show on a report. Noting that there was a problem with meters in 2014 that had to be replaced, he asked if meters that had issues could be checked. Councilman Cox noted that the system would be good when it worked but didn't think Cairo's infrastructure was ready for it. Director Stokes stated that meters were currently being upgraded each month.

**Georgia Court Tax Refund Intercept Program (TRIP) Memorandum of Understanding.** The program was being offered by the Administrative Office of the Courts in cooperation with the Ga. Department of Revenue as a means of collecting unpaid fines from state income tax refunds and to serve as an incentive for debtors to pay off their fines directly to the court. After discussion, motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

#### **Reports:**

**1.) October Departmental Reports:** a.) Council Members discussed water loss, with Councilman Douglas pointing out that if water loss was not addressed, there would be no benefit from the meters proposed. Director Stokes advised that there was a possible problem on 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., SW; and he wanted to install new valves in that area, adding that most cities experience an 18% to 40% water loss. He noted that there were a lot of old meters and old mains in that area, and it would cost \$10,000 to replace one block of main. b.) Council Members also discussed the overtime reports.

#### **2.) City Manager Addleton's Report:**

- Reported on the Mayor's Summit that he had attended recently.
- Plant Vogel – construction of Modules 3 and 4 was behind schedule.
- HB57 on Solar Distribution would probably be revisited in the Legislature.
- EPA Clean Power Plan was discussed.
- Reported on recent activity at the Airport water plant, with several different contractors now on site. It was anticipated that the plant would be operational by the end of the month with testing during December. Councilman Douglas asked when the plant would be online and how soon the MacIvor plant would be refurbished, learning that it would be at least two to three months after the Airport plant started operating before the MacIvor refurbishing could begin. It was

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planned to have the Airport plant online long enough to be comfortable with taking the MacIvor plant down.

- Announced Mainstreet Artisan Fair to be held downtown on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the sidewalks.
- Advised that the SGGSA consolidation was going well.
- Financial Audit draft to be presented at the next meeting.

**3.) Reports from Mayor and Council:**

Councilman Cloud reported that trucks are still going down Broad Street and 4<sup>th</sup> St., SE & SW. He requested a “No Thru Trucks” sign at 4<sup>th</sup> St., SW and Highway 111 and a “No Left Turn” sign on Highway 111 before the light at Broad Street. It was also discussed to request another DOT traffic study at 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., SE and Highway 93 South.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, Councilman Cloud made motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Cox, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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**CAROLYN B. LEE, CITY CLERK**

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**ROBERT B. BURNS, SR., MAYOR**