

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 26, 2012

The November 26, 2012 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 James H. Douglas, Council Members Ernest W. Cloud, Jr., Kermit V. Gilliard, Jr., 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 Building Official Brian Hayes. Cairo Messenger Editor, Randy Wind, was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Gilliard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – November 12, 2012. Motion to approve minutes as submitted was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Proposed Agreement between Chiquita Williams (Roberts) and the City of Cairo regarding Nuisance Abatement. City Manager Addleton advised that Attorney Melvin Horne, who was representing Ms. Williams, had presented a proposed agreement the previous week and asked that it be considered by the Council. (Neither he nor Ms. Williams was present at the meeting). The agreement requested another delay until June 1, 2013 in order for her to obtain financing, a building permit, and be actively engaged in renovation of her property located at 1100 M. L. King, Jr. Ave, SW. City Manager Addleton added that the abatement process had been started over two years ago, and the case had been in court for a year and a half. Building Official Hayes reported that only part of the buildings had been torn down and a fence put up, but the building left had no windows or roof. He had submitted a timeline of events in the case starting in 2010 through the last court appearance on November 14, 2012. There were several delays and rescheduled court dates. Mayor VanLandingham asked for comments from the Council, adding that he didn't want to treat anyone in the abatement process differently from someone else. Councilman Douglas believed that Ms. Williams had been given ample opportunity to comply with the ordinance. He pointed out that plans had been presented, but the permit had expired. Several rescheduled dates had been given, and he couldn't see giving any more extensions when others had been required to comply. He believed the caveat with regard to variances in the agreement would cause further delay. Attorney Lehman added that Ms. Williams and her attorney were trying to take the matter out of the Judge's hands. After discussion, Councilman Douglas made motion to deny approval of the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gwaltney and passed with Council Members Douglas, Cloud, Gilliard, and Gwaltney voting in favor of the motion to deny, and Councilman Thornton voting against the motion. It was requested that Attorney Lehman be present in court on December 5th to represent the City in this case, with City Manager Addleton adding that he would also attend.

Approval of Proposed 2013 Council Meeting Calendar. After review, motion to approve the calendar was made by Councilman Cloud, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 26, 2012

Cancellation or Rescheduling of December 24, 2012 Council Meeting. After discussion, Councilman Douglas made motion to approve cancellation of the December 24th meeting, unless the need occurred to reschedule the meeting, seconded by Councilman Cloud, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Reports:

1. City Manager's Report :

- Closed on three of the five FEMA-GEMA Northwest properties, with two owners declining offers. Received money for two of the properties and was expecting money soon for the third. One building had been demolished, with the remaining two to be demolished after December 15th.
- York & Associates had certified Trench F at the Landfill and had submitted to EPD for approval. A visit was expected from EPD in December.
- Public Works Director Stokes had analyzed the proposed Full-Site Soil Vapor Extraction Plan for the Landfill and had questioned why a “full-site” was needed, as other trenches would be opening up for use. A proposed re-design would look at splitting the project into two phases, North and South, with the South Phase to be done now (Est. cost - \$450,000) and the North Phase to be done several years later (Est. cost - \$60,000 to \$75,000). The re-design proposal had been submitted to EPD. City employees would do the trenching and pipe-laying, pumps and flaring system would be sized for both phases to avoid extra costs, and wells would be bid out.

2.) Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Cloud asked that the Public Works gates always be locked at night.
- Councilman Douglas asked about the progress with the Community Services building, with City Manager Addleton responding that they were currently doing the punch list; but the building was essentially complete.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:15 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Gilliard to enter into Executive Session to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceeding by or against the board or an officer or employee or in which the officer or employee may be directly involved; (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2)(1). Motion was seconded by Councilman Thornton, and passed unanimously by all Council Members. Present for the session were Mayor VanLandingham, Council Members Douglas, Cloud, Gilliard, Gwaltney, and Thornton, City Manager Addleton, Attorney Lehman, and City Clerk Lee. At 6:25 p.m., motion was made by Councilman Cloud to close the session, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

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

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 26, 2012

APPROVED:

**RICHARD VANLANDINGHAM
MAYOR**

ATTEST:

**CAROLYN B. LEE
CITY CLERK**