

CITY OF HAHIRA
NOVEMBER 1, 2022
WORK SESSION
6:00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Work Session on November 1, 2022 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Louise White, Tony Rosatti and Mayor Pro Tem Kenneth Davis. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, PWD Willie Jones, MSD Jennifer Price, Police Chief Terry Davis and Fire Chief Dwight Bennett. City Clerk Lisa Mashburn was not present.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

- A. OCTOBER 4, 2022 WORK SESSION**
- B. OCTOBER 6, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or corrections. None noted.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. None noted.

DISCUSSIONS:

- A. RED OWL (CHUCK SMITH)**

Chuck Smith 2314 Bemiss Road Valdosta, Georgia and Josh Hagan has purchased the property at 601 Hwy 122 W in July 2022 and he is in the audience tonight. The property is at the front of Food

Lion at the East entrance. Smith and Son are the Contractor for the project. We have submitted the plans to the Planning and Zoning and are starting to review the plans with Matt and Jeff at pre app meeting. The building will be about 740 square feet with front seating about 940 total square feet. This is in Gateway corridor and it needs to be 1,000 square feet. We are here to ask for Special exception due to being under 1,000 square foot and this is the only item that is pending for the approval. We are here to see if any questions and it is currently going through the advertising portion and to the Planning Commission on the 28th and then come back to Hahira Council. We are very excited about getting started and completing plan review. It is a triangle shaped building with two entrances and it is drive thru. The Mayor asked about the square footage, Mr. Smith stated 740 square feet with front patio that will make it 940 square feet. City Manager Sumner asked who the Engineer of record is and it was stated that it is Bill Kent is Engineer of record with Innovate Engineering. City Manager Sumner stated the only thing that he sees is the entrance off 122 State route, you may have traffic back up. DOT may have some input on this. Mr. Smith stated yes, we thought of that and Bill has put double stack of lanes going in there. Mayor Cain asked if any inside seating. No inside seating, only drive thru and only employee parking around the building. Councilman Barfield asked about the procedure with this request. City Manager Sumner stated it will go to the Planning Commission at the next meeting at the end of the month and then come back to Hahira Council for consideration at the December meeting.

**B. GREATER LOWNDES PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT
(CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that the City of Hahira has one seat on the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission and this term will end on the 14th of this month. The current appointee has requested reappointment and the request is in your packet. The Mayor has also put forth another person Mr. David Houtz who lives on Thompson Road. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. None noted.

C. SERVICE DELIVERY STRATEGY (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner explained the history of the Service Delivery Strategy and stated it has been 15 months since mediation between the Cities and County regarding SDS. The Valdosta City Attorney recommended and the Valdosta City Council has approved the latest proposal from the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners. Our City Attorney has concurred with the Valdosta recommendation. This is a ratification of a previous vote made by the Council shortly after mediation concluded last year. We understand that no items have significantly change since the last arrangement was reached. Valdosta has approved it and Lowndes County has approved it; we just have the two small Cities. The Mayor asked if any questions. None noted.

DEPARMENT REQUESTS:

A. PUBLIC SAFETY & COMMUNITY VIOLENCE REDUCTION GRANT (CHIEF DAVIS)

Chief Davis said we got invitation to apply for Public Safety and Community Violence Reduction Grant. It is a 1.2 million dollar grant over 42 months with zero matching grant money. The City would obtain Gabe Morris of Carter Sloope as grant writer. Chief Davis said we need to jump on this, we are growing by leaps and bounds, and we will need more staff. Lt. Pitchford said we cannot

buy weapons or cars, but you can pay for personnel, 2 positions to total approximately \$500,000. The grant period would begin in January of FY23 and end in June of FY26. After this period, it is estimated that the anticipated impact to the budget would be \$140,000 annually. We can also apply under categories of Violent crime/crime reduction because we had an increase of 100%. The third category is Equipment, we have identified \$42,000 worth of equipment that we have needed for a long time. This equipment would save us money on inmate fees in the future. City Manager Sumner stated this is COVID money for Public Safety. This need has been discussed at the Retreats regarding future staffing needs.

B. NARCOTICS INTOXALIZER-\$5,235- INTOXIMETERS INC (CHIEF DAVIS)

This is a piece of equipment that the Police department needs especially with all the Medical marijuana. They come into Georgia from Florida and we need a way for probable cause to draw blood due to Marijuana, Cocaine, Ecstasy and other drugs. Chief Davis stated we do not get very many DUI anymore they are mostly from narcotics now.

C. FY22 CHRISTMAS BONUSS AND EXCESS SICK LEAVE (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that he would like to thank the Mayor and Council on their consistent support of the staff regarding Christmas bonuses. The Mayor asked if any questions. None noted.

SET NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:40 P.M.

ADJOURN.

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN