

Council Meeting
August 9, 2001

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, August 9, 2001 at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Adams presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor John Adams; Councilmen Bob Harris, Joel Hunnicutt, Sonny Copeland and Wayne Bullard; Student Council, Chris Bullard; City Manager, Danny Lucas; Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Utilities Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, J. C. Plair.

Mayor Adams called the meeting to order, then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Harris gave the invocation.

Visitors were welcomed and a quorum was established.

Council Minutes of July 12, 2001 were not available for approval.

Review of bills: Bills were not available for approval at this time.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

(A) Approval of text amendments to Zoning Ordinance:

1. Sherry Davidson of the Planning Commission reported that the Planning Commission recommended approval for Text Amendment for Home Occupations P.C. File #HA-2001-05. Council Bullard made a motion to adopt the changes to the text amendment of the Zoning Ordinance, seconded by Council Harris. Vote was unanimous.

2. Ms. Davidson reported that the Planning Commission recommended approval for Text Amendment for Parking Standards P.C. File #HA-2001-06. The text amendment will delete the existing off-street parking and service area requirements for retail businesses. The new provision will bring Hahira's off-street parking standards for retail businesses in line with the county's provision for retail parking space. Council Bullard made a motion to adopt the text amendment on parking, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

3. Mr. Eric Vorwald, Special Projects Planner with the RDC, reported that the five-year update to the Short-Term Work Program in the 2010 Greater Lowndes Comprehensive Plan will need to be completed by October 30th, in order to maintain Qualified Local Government Status. The Transmittal Resolution will need to be adopted in order to allow the South Georgia RDC to initiate review of the proposed updates and to allow the RDC to transmit the proposed updates to the Department of Community Affairs for their mandatory sixty day review period. City Manager, Danny Lucas, read the Resolution. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to adopt the resolution as read, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(B) Department Requests:

1. John Thursby, Public Works Director, reported that Gish Oil Company offered to give the City a truck, which would be at no charge to the city. He recommended that the city accept the truck. Council Harris made a motion to accept the truck as offered, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

2. John Thursby reported that Well #1 had recently been hit by lightning, damaging the electrical system. He contacted Cowart Electric and was given a price of \$4,696.00 to repair the damages. He recommended going ahead and getting it fixed as soon as possible. Council Harris made a motion to get it fixed as soon as possible, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

3. John Thursby reported on two change orders. The first request from Mike Harrison Construction Company, which would be for an 8" sewer line to connect the last three houses on South Nelson Street, at a cost of \$1,700.00. The second request would be for an 8" sewer line between Weaver Street and College Street, at a cost of \$11,000.00. He recommended Council's approval for both change orders. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to follow the change order from Mike Harrison Construction Co., seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

4. John Thursby reported that each year the city has to install Christmas lights and the cost to rent lifting equipment is between \$3,000.00 and \$3,500.00. The Baker Company in Forest Park informed him that they would rent a boom truck to the city for two months at \$3,640.00. The truck could be used to install Christmas lights and also to trim the trees. He asked for Council's approval to rent the truck prior to Thanksgiving holidays through the first of the year, so that they can take the Christmas decorations down. Council Bullard made a motion to authorize the rental, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(C) Hahira Chamber Executive Director's request to install bulletin board in City Park:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, reported on the request for a bulletin board in City Park. A local contractor, Marcus Holt, has volunteered to have a shelter built over it for further protection. Council Harris made a motion to authorize the Chamber Director to go ahead, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(D) Hahira Chamber Director's request to apply for 501-C-3 status for Better Hometown Program:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, read resolution 1-04, which approves and supports the Hahira Better Hometown application for Internal Revenue Code 501-C-3 status. Council Harris made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

(E) Utilities Protection Center (UPC) Membership Agreement for Governmental Entities:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, reported on the UPC Membership Agreement and asked for Council's approval to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with the UPC. Council Bullard made a motion to enter agreement with Utilities Protection Center, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(F) Bid award for purchase and installation of playground equipment in Webb Miller Park:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, reported that the city received three bids on playground equipment. He recommended rejecting the bids. Council Bullard made a motion to reject the bids, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(G) Adoption of resolution accepting Governor's Discretionary Fund Grant and granting mayor authority to execute required documents:

Mayor Adams read the resolution. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(H) TMDL Stakeholder nominee:

Mayor Adams asked Council to approve Public Works Director, John Thursby, as TMDL Stakeholder nominee. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to approve John

Thursby as TMDL Stakeholder nominee, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(I) Approval of updated LARP list:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, reported on the LARP list. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to adopt the list, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(J) Scruggs estate sewer line replacement request:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, read a letter from Walter F. Newsom, Attorney at Law, representing the estate of Betty C. Scruggs, requesting the city take whatever action is necessary in order to open a clogged sewer service line that serves the former residence of Betty C. Scruggs located on the property. Mayor Adams stated that nowhere does the easement state that the city would maintain the sewer service line serving the house. He asked for Council's decision, to approve or deny the request. Council Copeland made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(K) Consideration of change to City of Hahira Authorized Positions and Pay Grades schedule:

Mayor Adams explained the pay grade schedule and asked Council to approve deleting Grade 2 and start at Grade 4. Council Bullard made a motion to make the numerical change, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

(L) Request to exchange property for water and sewer taps:

City Manager, Danny Lucas, reported on the request. Property is located adjacent to Boone Triangle Park. Owner of property would be willing to donate a section of his property to the city for recreation to add to the park area in exchange for free water and sewer taps. Council Harris made a motion to reject the offer, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

Council's Reports:

Student Council Chris Bullard, had no report.

Council Copeland had no report.

Council Hunnicutt reported that school would be starting tomorrow.

Council Bullard had no report.

Council Harris had no report.

City Manager had no report.

Mayor Adams reported on a meeting in Norman Park on August 23rd. and asked Council to notify the city manager if they planned on attending the meeting.

Qualifying for the city election would be from September 10 through the 14th. There are two council positions and Mayor position to be filled.

A pre-bid conference on renovations to City Hall (upstairs) and the Police Department will be held on August 14th.

With the bid opening on August 28th.

Work on the water treatment plant is complete. EPD has done their final inspections.

Work on the new budget will be starting soon.

Mayor stated that the tax digest was received.

Mayor Adams stated he would be proposing a slight increase in water and sewer rates to become effective in the coming year.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 9.00 P.M.

John F. Adams, Mayor
Brady, City Clerk

Marilyn