

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 3, 2014

7:30 P.M.

COURTHOUSE

Mayor and Council met for a meeting April 3, 2014 at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Ralph Clendenin, Kenneth Davis and Mason Barfield, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Benjamin, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, PW Director Donnie Warren and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn. City Manager Sumner is not present tonight.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bruce Cain

INVOCATION: Pastor Mike Wells

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

- A. March 31, 2014 Work Session**
- B. April 3, 2014 Council Meeting**

Mayor Bruce Cain asked if anyone had any questions or corrections to the minutes. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin made a motion to accept the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. HA-2014-01 REZONING REQUEST BY MELISA BOWMAN & LAURENCE NELSON**
- B. HA-2014-02 ANNEXATION REQUEST BY MELISA BOWMAN 7 LAURENCE NELSON**

Matt Martin (Planning & Zoning) said that as discussed on Monday night that the rezoning request needs to be voted on and then the annexation request. The request is to change the zoning from agriculture to residential for eastern tip of land adjacent to Edgewater Subdivision. The request is to obtain water and sewer service from the City and that Lowndes County had no objection to land use at the March 31, 2014 Planning Commission meeting. Martin said that approved EA to R15. Councilmember Clendenin asked how far is service line. It was noted that it is west side of property and Hwy 122 side of property is stubbed out; approximately 150 feet. Martin said that the property owners would pay for the utility tie in. Martin stated that at March 31 Planning Commission meeting and had no objection from EA to R15. Councilmember Clendenin asked how far service line is. It was stated that it is on west side of property and it is approximately 150 foot. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. He then asked if any one wished to speak against. None noted. The Mayor then asked if anyone

would like to speak in favor of the request. Laurence Nelson of 508 Church Street asked what the cost of the tie end would be. The Mayor said that we would have to locate the pipe and work up cost estimate. Mr. Nelson said that he is ready to inter into agreement with the City and he to pay for sizing of the pipe. **A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to accept HA-2014-01 Rezoning request to R-15 which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of HA-2014-01 Rezoning. A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to accept HA-2014-02 with the stipulation the water/sewer cost would be paid by developers which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of HA-2014-02 Annexation.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD;

Wilmon Stanley of 308S Washington St, Hahira stated that he was paying attention at the work session and wanted to commend the restraints and input regarding public safety. He said that his father, grandfather and great grandfather all served in the wars protecting people of the United States. He said that there is no price tag on public safety especially when it comes to protecting our children. He asked that they not make a decision regarding public safety based on money values.

Rose Adams of 611 Hodges St., Hahira stated that she is here tonight in agreement of safety but that she wanted to save the trees. She said that she was here tonight regarding cutting down the 5 trees at the library and them being a safety issue. She said that we have police there directing traffic each day and that cutting down the trees is not about safety. She said that Hahira has been a tree City for the last 23 years and that she does not know why we have a lot of complaints about the trees. She asked the Mayor and Council not to cut down the trees until they have a plan in place. She said to listen to the citizens because 99% do not want trees cut down. She said that she is begging them tonight; do not cut down the trees.

Marge Stewart of 205 Thrasher St. Hahira stated that she is here tonight because she is upset about cutting down the trees. She said that after the work session that she took a drive and that the green hedge is more in the way than the trees. She said that parents and grandparents are cautious when driving through there and policemen are on duty so that she does not see cutting down the trees. She asked that they reconsider cutting down the trees at the library.

Sandra Warren of 8178 Smith Road Hahira said she was here tonight about the trees because she is a bus driver and even with the police out there directing traffic it is a hazard. She said that they have field trips and other events during the day and the police officers are not there. She asked that they get in the bus and ride with her because you have to get out in the road to see.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or comments regarding the bills. None noted. **A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin to pay the bills as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

DISCUSSIONS:

REQUEST TO CUT DOWN MAIN STREET MAGNOLIA (SHARON DARBY/JANIE WEST)

Councilmember Clendenin said that we had taken the tree out at Railroad Street and that he was opposed to taking this tree out now. He would like to move it to retreat to discuss what to do with the trees. He said that due to the business owners request that he would like to bring it to a vote. Councilmember Davis said that the tree would be pulled up and replanted like the other one. Councilmember Clendenin said that he would like to postpone until we get a plan regarding what to do about all the trees and replanting. Sharon Darby of the Tin Bucket said she would like to have the tree removed now. **A motion was made by Councilmember Barfield to remove the tree in front of the Tin Bucket and move it to another location which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilmember Barfield said that he would like to discuss this at the retreat. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis voted in favor of the motion. Councilmember Clendenin voted against the motion. Motion was carried.**

EAST STANFILL STREET REPAVING-SPLOST VI (MAYOR CAIN)

The Mayor stated that the cost estimate for the repaving would be \$85,000 and that DOT reimbursement would be \$38,000. This would repave from Nelson to Hagenbridge and the cost to dig out roots and do concrete base. Councilmember Clendenin made a motion to repave East Stanfill Street from Nelson to Hagenbridge at the cost of \$47,000 to be paid from SPLOST VII and \$38,000 to be paid by the state which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.

NATURAL GAS LINE MARKING-UPDATE (COUNCILMAN CLENDENIN)

City Manager Sumner said that he checked with the Natural Gas Co and that the markings are on pavement but that they had a problem with the air release valves which stopped the construction until Engineers can figure out what to do about it. He said that once they do start up they will get letters out to the residents. **A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to contact the gas company and get a letter out to notify residents which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

CHAIRS FOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS-SPLOST VII (COUNCILMAN BARFIELD)

Councilmember Barfield said that he submitted some proposals to Mayor and City Manager for recommendation. He said that it is a company that he has used in the past and that he would like for everyone to review the selection of chairs. **Councilmember Barfield made a motion to postpone until everyone could review which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.**

TREE REMOVAL (5) S. NELSON/E. MAIN

Per request from Mayor/Council this item was moved from the Consent agenda for discussion. It was decided that the City should get professional opinion regarding the trees because it is a line site problem it becomes liability, we want the City to be safe and have trees. The Mayor said that he would like to have it all discussed at the retreat and plan to present to citizens. Councilmember Davis said that he is willing to do this and take a look at it but that this is a very important issue. He said that the trees are very beautiful but that they are a safety issue. He said that he travels that way every day for the past three years and that it is a safety issue. He said that so far it has just been paint, metal and glass; not a child. He said that the kids do not watch and that you cannot see all the kids, a few hundred kids pass through there in a matter of 10-15 minutes; we do have police officer watching but they cannot watch each child and there is a blocked view. Davis said that it

really is a hazard and the trees need to come down, we just need something to replace the beauty. Councilmember Clendenin said that the chain link fence on south of Nelson is also safety issue. The Mayor said that is a dangerous area. **Councilmember Barfield made a motion to delay the decision on trees to discuss issue of crossing to review at retreat which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin.**

Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:

UTILITY BILLING LASER PRINTER-SPLOST VI (CITY CLERK)

Mayor Cain asked if anyone had any one had any questions. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin made a motion to purchase the Ricoh Printer in the amount of \$1,478 with SPLOST VII funds which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

MILITARY ORDER OF PURPLE HEART

PROPOSAL FOR LONG-TERM WATERSHED MONITORING FROM TTL

COMPUTER PURCHASE-SPLOST VI

LADDER TRUCK PURCHASE-SPLOST VI/VII AMOUNT \$632,989.00

VEHICLE SURPLUS

INTOXILIZER 9000 GRANT/PURCHASE

POLICE CHIEF'S SUMMER CONFERENCE

PAY FOR STREET LIGHT ON PROGRESS STREET (\$10.00 PER MONTH)

Mayor Cain asked if anyone had any questions regarding the consent agenda. None noted. **Councilmember Clendenin made a motion to approve the Consent agenda which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the Consent agenda.**

REPORTS:

Councilmember Clendenin said that it is nice to see this turn out and all the new faces. He said that the City is moving forward and that he feels we have a great team. Thank you to Public works, Fire department and Police Department. He said that he hopes we can resolve the tree issue to satisfy all and thanked Council for support.

Councilmember Barfield dittoed what Councilmember Clendenin said and thanked everyone for coming out. As he stated before we have power sitting in the audience and asked that they continue to let us know what you are thinking.

Councilmember Davis said that he feels tonight demonstrated to him how this is all to work. He said that he felt everyone responded with wisdom and that he feels we are doing it the way it should be done. Please come again.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve District 1 and thanked all for coming out tonight. He thanked all the department heads, City Manager, City Clerk, and Finance person

Mayor Cain thanked everyone for coming out tonight and that it had been a pleasure. He thanked all the department heads and said that they are the best around. He said that he appreciates his fellow Councilmember's, City Clerk and Finance clerk. He thanks City Manager Sumner who is not here with us tonight.

Mayor Cain asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Barfield made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN