

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 5, 2015**

**7:30 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting November 5, 2015 at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Kenneth Davis and Terry Benjamin. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett and PWD Donnie Warren. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin was not present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Mike Wells

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

- A. AUGUST 3, 2015 WORK SESSION**
- B. AUGUST 6, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING**
- C. AUGUST 31, 2015 WORK SESSION**
- D. SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**Councilmember Barfield made a motion to accept the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmembers Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**A. FY16 BUDGET FORMAL ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner reviewed the budget process. He stated that the digest was not set in July as usual and that everything had been delayed due to the Lowndes County Board of Assessors. The Preliminary Budget was set with no appreciation in the digest. We have had two budget workshops, a preliminary adoption with public input. We had two public hearings at City Hall regarding the millage

rate and budget and another Special Called Meeting on November 12, 2015. We have one modification to the preliminary budget after the adoption of the millage rate. We have around \$40,000 added to the digest, we would like to deduct from the expected fines and forfeitures. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the Budget. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the Budget. None noted. The Mayor asked if there was any other discussion on the budget. Councilmember Benjamin thanked the City Manager and the department heads, he said everything is straight forward and thank you for the hard work. **Councilmember Benjamin made a motion to adopt the FY16 Budget which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

June Cuthbertson of 218 E Park Street said she would like to speak the meter lids that do not stay on. A jogger or a child could get hurt with them being an open hole. The Mayor said he would get with the PW Director about this matter.

#### **REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

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

#### **DISCUSSIONS:**

**All discussions items were moved to the consent agenda.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. THREE PARCEL APPRAISALS \$7,500-TE PROJECT-SPLOST VII**
- B. RETREAT 2016**
- C. MAYOR'S DAY 2016**
- D. W/S WIRELESS METER EQUIPMENT-SPLOST VII**
- E. HOLIDAY AGENDA SUBMISSION AND PACKET DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE**
- F. SURPLUS PROPERTY-TWO CROWN VICTORIAN'S**
- G. MEETING & HOLIDAY SCHEDULE-2016**

## **H. CHRISTMAS BONUSES & EXCESS SICK LEAVE**

### **I. CHRISTMAS PARTY-DECEMBER 8**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Consent agenda. None noted.

**Councilmember Barfield made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

### **RECOGNITION OF FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR:**

Chief Bennett stated that the American Legion of Valdosta contacted him asking for a representative for Firefighter of the Year from Hahira. He said that he decided to do things the democratic way and let the staff decide. It was decided that a dedicated individual Ken Taylor should receive the award. Ken thanked everyone for the honor and for being a part of the Hahira Firefighters.

### **REPORTS:**

Councilmember Davis congratulated Ken Taylor and thanked him for doing what he does. He said we have had a lot going on with the election and events, he thanked everyone for another 4 years serving District II. He thanked everyone for their support and approval of the 4.75 millage rate. We have had another year without raising taxes and we need to hold fast. He is happy to be a part of that and thank you all for coming out.

Councilmember Benjamin thanked the citizens of District I for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to all the department heads, they are what makes Hahira. Thank you to the City Manager, City Clerk, Finance and thank you to the Council. We have tackled a lot this year, we having been seeing things and making a lot of decisions. Congratulations to Councilmember Davis on another 4 years. We are entering the Holiday season, reach out to help your neighbor during the holidays, pay it forward.

Councilmember Barfield said ditto to all the above. He stated that he like the cold weather and he is looking forward to all the things going on for the holidays. He thanked all the City for what they do and for the DT Merchants and churches in town. Thank you to the Police department, Fire department, City Hall staff and the Mayor/Council. We are really blessed.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve for the last 9 years. He said that November 1 made it 9 years and that he hopes for many more. This is a great group to work with and he feels that he has the best staff.

The Mayor said he would like to also ditto what everyone has said. We have a great staff and appreciate them. Congratulation to Firefighter Ken Taylor and thank you for the good turnout. He said that appreciated everyone who got out and voted. The next meeting will be November 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have the DDA forum. I invite everybody to come out to the Hahira United Methodist Church from

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Councilmember Barfield made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

**The Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**