

CITY OF HAHIRA
SEPTEMBER 1, 2022
COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting at the Hahira Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bruce Cain

INVOCATION: Pastor Josh Owens

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. AUGUST 2, 2022 WORK SESSION

B. AUGUST 4, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING

The Mayor asked if anyone had any corrections or questions regarding the minutes. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Davis approved the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilman Tony Rosatti. Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Councilman**

Rosatti and Councilperson White all voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. HA-2022-08 REZONING REQUEST BY JUSTIN COLEMAN, WEST STANFILL STREET PROPERTY (PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR)

Matt Martin Planning and Zoning Administrator reviewed HA-2022-08. This rezoning request from Justin Coleman for 16.5 acres. This is a request for 15.34 acres of the property to be rezoned Cn and 1.2 acres to remain R-10 on the NE quadrant of Exit 29. The property at Hwy 122 and Stanfill Street across from Food Lion. You have a copy of the zoning map in the packets and the conditions. This is not for master plan approval it is to show connecting pattern of propose NS Road and EW Internal Road to show the proposed space. The Planning Commission approved this with conditions from 2017 as stated. Does anyone have any questions? None noted.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against zoning change.

Tony Wrestler of 900 Sugarberry said this is a nice town without influx of people coming in. We do not need the noise and traffic. The Mayor stated that the noise making businesses will not be allowed in this area. No restaurants or bars or tire places. The business would have to come before Council for approval if any changes in the future.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the zoning change.

Richard Colen of WG Developers said there is not a lot I can add but this is a Gateway corridor (Commercial). They have considered residential property with 50 foot buffer. This is the only large property that can become commercial and it is at I-75. The developer completed a survey and has done a lot of work as to what can be done, it has been a long time coming.

Justin Coleman of 9129 Coffee Road with W Development Group said he would like to add to what Matt Martin said. This development would increase economic development and it would have 60 foot easement on the EW Corridor. I think you can cohabitate with the development and he gave examples of other developments like this.

The Mayor asked if anyone else had any discussion.

Councilmember White said this is in my district, I have talk to them and everything that we have asked them to do they are planning to do. We will grow and if what they have proposed on paper is done, it will be done the right way. I think this will be good for the City. I support it.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis said I agree with Councilmember White. Developers come in and they work to meet the requirements. I know we have requirement list for business types to protect us. Zoning can change in the future but not for all of us. I am for it as well.

Councilman Rosatti said I agree with all said, we have developers doing it the right way here and it is to help protect the homes. I agree.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis made a motion to approve HA-2022-08 as presented with 4 conditions which was seconded by Councilmember White. Councilmember White, Councilman Rosatti and Mayor Pro Tem Davis all voted in favor of the motion.

B. THIRD MILLAGE REATE PUBLIC HEARING (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner said this is the third millage rate hearing, handouts are available for review. The text of the ad was an issue when the property tax was advertised. The proposal is to increase millage rate from 4.75-5.75. The 24.8% is very misleading wording. The proposed collected would be \$79,939 with the total collected at \$455,000 which is a difference of \$90,000. This is proposed difference of amount collected which is based on individual assessments. This must be decided tonight. The last time the millage rate was increased was in 1995 and it has been decreased two times in the last 10 years from 6.0 to 4.75. Sumner talked about the budget and the loss of funds due to COVID. We survived because of COVID money.

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

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against. None noted.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor. None noted.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis made a motion to approve the Millage Rate Increase from 4.75 to 5.75 which was seconded by Councilman Rosatti. Councilmember White voted against motion. The motion was approved with 2-1 vote.

C. FY23 BUDGET PRELIMINARY ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated the Budget process started back in May. We had Budget workshop I & II, the preliminary adoption and then it was advertised. Now it is time for the formal adoption of the FY23 Budget.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against. None noted.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor. None noted.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Davis to approve the FY23 Budget as presented which was seconded by Councilman Rosatti. Councilman Rosatti, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Davis all voted in favor of the motion.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

None noted.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the bills. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Davis made a motion to approve the bills as presented which was seconded by Councilman Rosatti. Councilman Rosatti, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

REPORTS:

Councilman Rosatti said thank you to all Officials and staff for the great job they do every day. We do have a lot of tough decisions and I think we all weigh out the good and the bad. As a representative I think we made good decisions tonight. We will continue to grow and prosper in good fashion. Thank you to everyone for coming out tonight.

Councilmember White said I am glad all the people came out tonight and I love Hahira.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis said thank you to everyone that came out tonight.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to the department heads and staff. Thank you to Matt Martin. Thank you to the Council for your leadership, you continue to come and help make decisions. If anyone has questions please come to staff, we are here to serve you.

Mayor Cain thanked everyone for coming out. Thank you to the department heads for everything you do to keep the City going, you are appreciated by all of us. As development goes, a lot of people do not like change but we must change and grow. I was born and raised here and I see we need Commercial changes. The Millage rate is something that has to be done, we need the tax money, maybe we can lower it back in the future, and we did do that in the past.

Councilman Rosatti made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilmember White. Mayor Pro Tem Davis, Councilmember White and Councilman Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.

ADJOURN.

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN