**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL**

**WORKSESSION**

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2014**

**6:30 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

Mayor and Council met for a Work session September 29, 2014 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Councils: Ralph Clendenin, Kenneth Davis, Terry Benjamin and Mason Barfield. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Public Works Director Donnie Warren, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn.

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

**A. SEPTEMBER 2, 2014 WORK SESSION**

**B. SEPTEMBER 4, 2014 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. **WATER-SEWER RATES**

City Manager Sumner said that as requested by Mayor and Council there will be a presentation on Thursday night. He stated that a hand out was prepared and delivered to all customers. The Public hearing for the water rates has been advertised in the newspaper and on the marquee and front door at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin and Councilmember Barfield stated that the City Engineer will be here on Thursday night to discuss the issues, alternatives and history for last 25 years while they were working with the City.

1. **FY14 BUDGET FORMAL ADOPTION**

City Manager Sumner said this item is for formal adoption of the 2015 budget. He said that has required by code it has been advertised in the Valdosta Daily Times, a copy is available at City hall and that he can email a copy of it to you free of charge. He stated that no major modifications were made from what was adopted in September. The 2015 budget will take effect on January 1, 2015. He asked if anyone had any questions. None noted.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

Mayor Cain asked if anyone had any questions regarding the bills. None noted.

**DISCUSSIONS:**

1. **SCADA UPGRADE-SPLOST VI (CITY ENGINEER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that the SCADA is the radio system that links all the City wells together. He said that it is an automated system to be sure that our tanks are full. He said that an upgrade is necessary to the software to bring the system current. The estimated cost is $12,000 to $14,000. Councilmember Clendenin asked if we have a backup computer. No we do not but we do have a pressure switch. The Mayor said the City Engineer would be here on Thursday night if any more questions.

1. **DDA INFORMATION SESSION PROPOSAL-CVIOG (MAYOR CAIN)**

Mayor Cain said that he spoke to Myra Register with UGA in regards to coming down and giving presentation regarding the DDA. The cost would be around $1,800. Councilmember Barfield asked the background of Mrs. Register. The Mayor stated that she has 25 years of experience with the City of Valdosta, she was the director of the downtown and assistant to the City Manager. She understands the downtown systems and how they work; she had a big part in the revitalization of downtown Valdosta. Councilmember Clendenin asked if the business owners are on board with DDA. The Mayor stated that this would be an informational meeting so that everyone will know what the DDA will do or what the limits are. Councilmember Barfield said it is for the businesses to get information and digest it so that we can get their feedback. Councilmember Davis said the businesses need to be called about this information, they will be impacted by this but that we do not have enough information about this to decide, we do not know the legalities and obligations of the DDA. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin said that a lot of people do not understand the DDA and that we need an outside entity. Councilmember Davis said that we can get information from the internet but that we will get generalized information, we need specific information for Georgia towns and this person has worked with Hahira and Valdosta. Councilmember Clendenin said that we can go on the internet and see step by step what the DDA can do and that if you talk to the business owners cold they won’t have much feedback. Councilmember Barfield said that you can send out a packet beforehand and let the businesses review the information. Councilmember Clendenin said if you hit them cold they won’t have questions. The discussion was that Monday would be a good day for the businesses to meet because they are all closed. It was suggested to meet on the first or third Monday at around 8:30 a.m. The training will be about three hours. The Mayor stated that they have done a great job with the DDA in Valdosta and that the majority of the people are pleased.

**SET WORK SESSION AGENDA:**

Agenda remains the same.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.**

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**Mayor Bruce Cain**

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