

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 9, 2015

7:30 P.M.

COURTHOUSE

Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting July 9, 2015 at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Kenneth Davis, Terry Benjamin and Mayor Pro Tem Ralph Clendenin. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett and PWD Donnie Warren were all present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Special Guest from Boy Scott Troop #418

INVOCATION: Pastor Mike Wells

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

- A. JUNE 1, 2015 WORK SESSION**
- B. JUNE 4, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION ORDINANCE-FIRST READING (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that we observe local government laws set by federal government and the state of Georgia regarding erosion and sedimentation. We have had an ordinance for years and now the new MS4 requires that we update the language in our ordinance and other Cities have already done this. This is the first reading and if unanimous approval then the ordinance will be codified. The new ordinance has been certified by staff and approved by the City attorney. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin asked if this included people and the drainage of their washers. City Manager Sumner said this ordinance is in regards to construction of buildings and the most common thing is the silk fencing which will prevent fun off into drains and streams. Sumner asked if anyone had any questions. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak against the ordinance. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the ordinance. None noted. The Mayor asked if Council had any questions. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin made a motion to approve the Erosion and Sedimentation ordinance as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Mayor Pro Tem**

Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Barfield 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.

Councilmember Benjamin made a motion to pay the bills as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.

DISCUSSIONS:

A. DOWNTOWN PROGRAM (MAYOR CAIN)

The Mayor said that as discussed on Monday night than he along with Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis talked with the Downtown Merchants regarding the Downtown Coordinator position. After much discussion they stated that the Downtown Merchants would like to plan and do all the events for the City. The merchants that showed up were all in agreement. Sumner said that basically the Downtown Merchant Association would come to Council to request expenditures, the budget would be reviewed and then a check would be cut to the vendors. This would include events such as the Christmas parade, Christmas lighting, Fall Festival, Eggarama and movie night out. The Downtown Merchant Association would handle all of this. This would benefit all citizens. Councilmember Clendenin said will the come to Council on an event before anything is agreed upon. The Mayor said that they would come to the Council on any item that would be over \$1,000 like it has been. If the amount is under that then they would take it to the City Manager and the Mayor for approval. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said that he does not think that would be cool with the citizens. The Mayor said it is the same way that it has always been. City Manager Sumner said like with the billboard situation, that they would solicit proposals and bring them to Council. The Mayor said this is not for private business events, it is for City of Hahira events. Councilmember Davis asked how it is different than with the Downtown Coordinator. None said the Mayor except that the staff budget can be added to the budget for events. Councilmember Benjamin said so the Downtown Merchants are doing an in kind service to do the work and we do not have to pay staff \$15,000. This has been taking place for the last 20 years. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said that he feels we should go back to a person to put on activities for Hahira, he knows that there has been friction between the businesses and the Downtown Coordinator. He feels that we should not give the taxpayers money to the businesses, just hand out money to them. Councilmember Barfield said that there is no reason that anything should change, everyone will be informed and they will come to us if over \$1000 amount. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said why not do a budget. Councilmember Barfield said we have a budget and a good system, the City Manager is basically doing double duty, let the Downtown Merchants put on events for the City and use City budget. City Attorney Rob Plumb said it is basically like the Honeybee Committee. Mayor Pro Tem

Clendenin said they do not ask us for money. The City Manager said that they ask for Police, Fire, Public works and Administration help and it is at a cost. City Attorney Plumb suggested that we just do an allocation of Downtown Coordinator salary and move it to tourism promotion and do a motion to amend the budget. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin asked why we are not replacing Brandy. Councilmember Davis said that he attended several downtown meetings and then Brandy resigned. There was tension on both sides at the meetings, should we continue with that. The Downtown Merchants felt that we should not replace the Downtown Coordinator and are interested in the Downtown Merchants Association putting on the events. Councilmember Barfield said he felt it would much more prudent expenditures of revenues. He said we have a lot of bright, capable, creative citizens in this town, there is no hidden agenda, just the agenda to promote this City. They said why have a coordinator when the Downtown Merchants can do that. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said every event has been free. City Manager Sumner said yes they are free but that we do have several events that do not pay for themselves. **Councilmember Benjamin made a motion regarding the BHT budget to move the salary line item to the city events line item which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin voted against the motion. The vote was 3-1, motion carried.**

B. HARVEY'SHUDDLE HOUSE WATER LOOP-SPLOST VII (MAYOR CAIN)

The Mayor said that it was stated Monday night we have a change order from Little River in the amount of \$18,501 to loop water main in front of Harvey's into Highway 122. He stated if we use existing basin we will spent about \$18,000 now instead of \$60,000 later. The City Manager said the infrastructure is the City's responsibility. Councilmember Davis asked if we have state approval, City Manager Sumner said yes but it will all take a few weeks. We will have to dig out a 6 x 6 square on Hwy 122. City Manager said we are saving the price of a bore if we do it now. **Councilmember Davis made a motion to approve the bid from Little River Construction at a cost of \$18501.60 which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin all voted in favor Of the motion.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. NEW SERVER-SPLOST VII**
- B. ENTRANCE CITY SIGN-HIGHWAY 122 EAST**
- C. PAVING PROJECT-SARGENT STREET-SPLOST VII**
- D. FY16 LMIG PAVING PRIORITY-SOUTH NELSON STREET**
- E. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY-AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PREPARE MAP**

Councilmember Barfield made a motion to approve the Consent agenda which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Benjamin and Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS:

Councilmember Davis thanked everyone for coming out and a special thank you to the Boy Scouts. He said that we welcome your input and you can always be heard. This is not the only place, call your City

Manager, call the Mayor, call your Councilmember or come to the City Council Meeting to be heard.
Thank you.

Council member Benjamin thanked everyone for coming out and the opportunity to serve. HE said that he was glad to see the Boy Scouts. He said at the Annual Conference attended classes and learned of things that we will have to change in the future, it was a very interesting class and said that we should all continue to receive training. Thank you to the Mayor, City Manager, Council, City Clerk and Department heads for the job that they do.

Councilmember Barfield said ditto to all that has been said. HE said he is excited listening to folks and that they want to see the City move forward. We need to work with the Downtown Merchants and see what they have in mind, keep our ears to the ground. We always want to make things better, try things and not fear change. If it does not work out it can be changed. Have a happy rest of your July.

Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin welcomed everyone, with special welcome to Chairman Straughter and the Boy Scouts. He said that things have been pretty quiet with only a few complaints. We have a new rental trash truck and some of the cans were missed.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. He thanked the department heads and reminded everyone that Hahira will be on Channel 27 Friday starting at 5 a.m. with Hahira spotlight on the City.

The Mayor thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Thank you to legal counsel, department heads, City Manager and Staff for all the work that they do. Thank you for coming.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Mayor Bruce Cain

City Clerk Lisa Mashburn

