

CITY OF HAHIRA
FEBRUARY 1, 2024
COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor Pro Tem and Council met for a Council meeting with Mayor Pro Tem White presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem White, Councils: Mason Barfield, Klayton Luke and David Lindsey. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Fire Chief David Thompson, PWD Willie Jones, Interim Police Chief Yolanda Hall, and MSD Price. Mayor Bruce Cain and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn were not present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem White

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Pro Tem White

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem White

INVOCATION: Pastor Josh Owens

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. January 2, 2024 Work Session

B. January 4, 2024 Council Meeting

Councilman Luke made a motion to approve the minutes as presented which was seconded by

Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

The application for HA-2024-01, HA-2024-02 and HA-2024-03 have been withdrawn by the applicant and we will not have a Public Hearing on these items.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. HA-2024-01 REZONNG REQUEST BY CRE8TIVE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, LLC (PLANNING DIRECTOR)**
- B. HA-2024-02 PLANNED DEVELOPMENT REQUEST TO CRE8TIVE Development Partners, LLC (PLANNING DIRECTOR)**
- C. HA-2024-03 ANNEXATION REQUEST BY CRE8TIVE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, LLC (PLANNING DIRECTOR)**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Shema Reddick of Hahira said that in the future there will be more transparency and the Citizens of Hahira will be informed more.

Doug Robinson 120 Floyd McNeal stated he is the HOA President of McNeal Estates said he is here to represent the residents of Mc Neal Estates and present a letter to

Councilman Barfield regarding the proposed new development across from McNeal Estates.

Terry Benjamin 539 S Hall has a council member that served 20 plus years and you must have smart growth, said that you have certain tax base to keep services that you are used to. Every subdivision that is represented here tonight previous tenants and subdivisions complained about what all of you are coming out for tonight they did not want the subdivisions. Audubon Heights, McNeal Estates, Woodbridge and Lawson Farms, nobody wanted the next subdivision to come in. The previous council thought smart growth was good for the city. The application that was withdrawn tonight, the tax benefit from \$300,000 homes is not small change. It is always beneficial to have the City of Hahira decide what comes in and it helps to subsidize businesses in town. You need to take all this into consideration. All the water issues were addressed in 2021 and set up for growth. Everybody wants low taxes but these projects cost a lot of money.

Duane Roarke of 3680 Newsome Road Valdosta. 446 Days ago, I brought the Veterans Parade to Hahira and I wanted to come before you tonight to allow me to do that. A lot of people here know me. I am on the Planning Committee for the Hahira Honeybee Festival. I just wanted to thank the

Council and the Citizens of Hahira for being so good to me. I am a member of the American Legion 248 and I would like to encourage everyone to come out and get involved.

Elan Reeves of 142 Orvis Lane of Hahira. I want to thank the council for getting the word out and letting the citizens be heard. I am here to address growth issues before more growth. We have traffic issues, moderate issues and I am thankful for the new businesses, the safety is the most important thing. Reason we have the chance. I think we should have reasonable growth, a slower pace. Thank you for your time.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

Mayor Pro Tem White asked if anyone had any discussion regarding the bills. None noted. Councilman Luke made a motion to pay the bills as presented which was seconded by Councilman Lindsey. Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

A. APPOINTMENTS TO THE HAHIRA HOUSING AUTHORITY (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner said as discussed on Tuesday night this Authority meets about one time per year. The Nashville Housing Authority oversees this and the board is locally maintained by citizens. We are looking for two

to serve and the reappointment of Mr. Mathis.

Councilman Luke made a motion to postpone until the March meeting which was seconded by Councilman Lindsey. Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

B. APPOINTMENT TO THE COASTAL PLAIN ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY (CITY MANAGER)

This is a multi-County board that manages Head Start and weatherization. Marilyn Dye is requesting to appoint a replacement for her position. City Manager Sumner thanked Mrs. Dye for her service to the board.

Councilman Luke made a motion to appoint Mayor Pro Tem Louise White to serve on the board which was seconded by Councilman Lindsey. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Luke, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

C. APPOINTMENTS TO THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF HAHRA (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated as of the meeting on Tuesday night we had two vacancies and we now have a resignation from Junior McCann. Now we have 3

vacancies. We have one seat that has opened from Council and a four-year term to be filled. We had three nominations on Tuesday night, One for Louise White, Jennifer Pagola and Ted Raker. **Councilman Luke for Mayor Pro Tem Louise White made a motion to serve 4-year term and Jennifer Pagola to serve a 4-year term which was seconded by Councilman Lindsey. Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Barfield made a motion to appoint Ted Raker to the two-year term. There was no second. Councilman Lindsey made a motion to table the 2-year term position which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion to table.**

**D. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT/WELL #1
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS (DAVENPORT & ASSOCIATES)**

Ricardo Cornejo, a Municipal Financial Advisor with Davenport and Associates, came to review financials with the Mayor and Council. He discussed the Utility Capital needs analysis, Debt profile update and Capital Plan overview via presentation. This was all information for Council and Citizens.

COSNENT AGENDA:

A. 2024 HONEYBEE FESTIVAL

B. APPOINTMENTS TO THE MAIN STREET BOARD-JAMIE PARR, CAITLIN DAY

C. CELEBRATION BLACK HISTORY AND CULTURE IN HAHIRA

D. CLAUDIA AND UNION ROAD LIFT STATION REPLACEMENT PUMPS-HYDRA SERVICE-\$19,036-SPLOST VIII

E. BUCKET TRUCK-EDDIES AUTO SALES -\$68,308-SPLOST VIII

F. RANDALL STREET WELL #1 REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION OF DESIGN AND GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY LOAN-#1.3 MILLION

G. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT-REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION OF DESIGN-REEVES YOUNG-\$100,000 ARPA FUND, SPLOST VIII AND GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY LOAN-\$16.5 MILLION

G. RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION MATCH AUTHORIZATION FOR TRANSPORTATION

**ALTERNATIVE GRANT-NEWSOME STREET TO UNION
ROAD SIDEWALK-\$200.000-TSPLOST, SPLOST VIII
H. ICE MACHINE-FIRE DEPARTMENT-COOMBS
HEATING AND AIR-\$6,100-SPLOST VIII**

Councilman Barfield made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Luke, Councilman Barfield, and Councilman Luke all voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS:

Councilman Barfield said thanks for being here tonight it is always great to have participation from our Citizens. Thank you to all the Directors for doing an excellent job and performing their duties, this town is what it is because of you.

Councilman Luke said it is an honor to serve. I appreciate all the departments, Police department, Fire department and EMS. Thank you to the Public works department, Admin staff and City Manager. He said thank you to Chief Davis, yesterday was his last day. I appreciate you all, we all have one common goal and that is the best for the citizens and may God bless you.

Councilman Lindsey thank you to everyone for being here. The first three words in the Constitution are we the people and your voice matters. Thank you to the community for calling us.

City Manager Sumner said thank you for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to the department heads for their outstanding job and to our outgoing Chief of Police. Thank you, our Interim Chief Hall, PWD Willie Jones, Fire Chief Thompson, the City Clerk and Finance as well as all admin staff.

Mayor Pro Tem White said “I am glad to see everyone tonight. We may not agree but we all love Hahira. We all need communication. Thank you.”

Councilman Barfield made a motion to Adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Barfield, Councilman Luke, and Councilman Lindsey all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURN.

MAYOR PRO TEM LOUISE WHITE

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN