

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**AUGUST 1, 2013**

**7:30 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

Mayor Wayne Bullard and Council met for a Council meeting on August 1, 2013 at the Courthouse with Mayor Wayne Bullard presiding.

**PRESENT:** Council: Ralph Clendenin, Terry Benjamin, Rose Adams, Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Cain, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Public Works Director Donnie Warren and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Wayne Bullard

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Wayne Bullard

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Wayne Bullard

**INVOCATION:** Councilmember Rose Adams

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

- A.) July 8, 2013 Work Session
- B.) July 11, 2013 Council Meeting

Councilmember Adams stated that she had no corrections. **A motion was made by Councilmember Adams to accept the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Adams, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**3RD MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING: SET MILLAGE (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that the millage rate comes around every year. He stated that it has not been increased in the last few years and it is the lowest last year for the last 30 years. He then stated that an ad ran in the paper to adopt a millage increase. He stated that this is misleading. He stated that because the property assessor rides around and assessment goes up and it is calculated by the millage rate. He stated that the Board of assessors is different from the City of Hahira and that the City of Hahira is not proposing an increase in the millage rate. By the state definition the property tax will be an increase. Sumner stated that we will keep the millage at 4.75 and that this is the third public hearing. Mayor Bullard asked if anyone would like to speak against leaving the millage rate at 4.75. None noted. Mayor Bullard then asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor of the 4.75 millage rate. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Cain made a motion to accept the 4.75% millage rate which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion**

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

**NONE.**

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES**

City Manager Sumner stated that he had reviewed the questions from Monday night and found that the items in question were transposed with earlier draft. He stated that he emailed the correct draft out earlier and stated that it will be known as draft 2 from this point.

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

**DISCUSSIONS:**

**LOW-BID RECOMMENDATION FOR WINERY SEWER LINE EXTNSION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that he was authorized at previous meeting to start the bid process and seek an insured and bonded contractor per requirement from Mayor Pro Tem Cain. He stated that the low bidder was Little River Contractors out of Tifton, Georgia. City Manager Sumner stated that the Engineers have worked previously with them and speak highly of them. He stated that they can get it done as soon as possible and that they are the low bid of four bidders. He stated that the projected cost was \$32,978 and the Little River Contractor bid was \$19,498 with 10% contingency. He stated that his recommendation was Little River Contractors. Sumner then stated that the Engineers recommend the 10% contingency in case something else comes up. **Councilmember Adams made a motion for the low bidder Little River Contractors for the bid of \$19,498 with 10% contingency which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Adams, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:**

**TAHOE PURCHASE-SPLOST VI (CHIEF DAVIS)**

Chief Davis stated that he would like to purchase a Tahoe for the Police Department. The Mayor stated that he had discussed it with Chief Davis and he would like to remove it from the agenda until the first of December. Chief Davis stated that the first part of the year the revenues for the fines and forfeitures was about \$213,000 for highway and City combined. He stated that the most the City has ever collected in a year was \$162,000. He stated that he has also been short staffed and feels that they have all been doing a good job and that the highway patrol backs up the City whenever they are short staffed. Councilmember Clendenin asked what the amount would be if divided. Chief Davis stated that all fines and forfeitures are combined and that the Court docket does not separate the City and highway funds. The Mayor then asked if Chief Davis felt the fleet was safe until the end of the year and can we make do until then. Chief Davis stated yes it is safe. **Councilmember Clendenin made a motion to table the Tahoe purchase until the December 2013 meeting which was seconded by Councilmember Adams. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Adams, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**TY13-14 CIKA (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated that the budget is assessed each year and it is time for the 2013-2014 budget. He stated that the COLA raise will amount to \$493.00 per pay period which will be a total of \$16,421 as budget expense. Sumner stated that the revenue account in General Fund and Proprietary Fund are both very healthy. Councilmember Clendenin stated that the 3% raise for the last 7 years has been an increase of \$220,000.00 of which \$57,000 is a recurring cost. He stated the expense and revenue showed 9477 difference which was not enough to cover the raises. He stated that he felt the decrease in the departments for repairs and equipment and that the money was taken from other departments to allow for the raises. City Manager Sumner stated for the record that he disagrees with all that was said. He stated that the departments are not shorted for the purpose of the raises. Councilmember Clendenin stated that there was only a \$9,000.00 increase in revenue and that \$24,400 was for the Mayor/Council increase. Councilmember Benjamin stated that all of the COLA raise will not be realized in one year. He stated that the money was already allocated for the 2013 budget. The Mayor then asked if anyone had any questions. **Mayor Pro Tem Cain made a motion to approve the 3% COLA raise for all employees which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Councilmember Benjamin stated that we brag on the employees every month and they do a good job. He stated that we are in a position to give the 3% raise and he feels that it is a small price to pay for all that the employees do. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Adams all voted in favor of the motion. Councilmember Clendenin voted against the motion. Motion was carried.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A.)GRWA FALL RAINING**

##### **B.)BASIC WASTE WATER TRAINING**

##### **C.)GCCMA FALL CONFERENCE**

##### **D.)MASTER METER PURCHASE**

##### **E. CLERK'S FALL CONFERENCE**

**Mayor Pro Tem Cain made a motion to accept the Consent agenda as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **REPORTS:**

Councilmember Adams welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming out tonight. She then thanked City Manager Sumner for his work on the budget and stated that she believes working a budget is very hard and she knows it will get done.

Councilmember Benjamin thanked everyone for coming out tonight and for the opportunity to serve. He stated that the budget for the last 12 years has been less pain taking since City Manager Sumner has been here. He then thanked the City Manager for getting it all together. He then stated if the department heads need something to fight for it. He then stated that the city is in a lot better shape than in recent years and that the employees and Mayor/Council do deserve more.

Mayor Pro Tem Cain thanked all for coming tonight and for the pleasure to serve Hahira and District II. He thanked fellow Councilmember's he said it is a tough job and we do the best that we can. He stated that City Manager Sumner is the ring leader and thanked him for a good job. He also thanked Lisa and Paula (Admin) and dept heads and stated that they are all the best. He stated that we do a lot with the little that we

have and that everyone does a great job. He then thanked public safety on the air rescue at the football field and for showing up quickly to help.

Councilmember Clendenin welcomed everyone and then stated that the salary runs whole year. Thank you for coming out, thank you to PW Warren for taking down the trees and for working to get the roof fixed at Smith Park. He thanked City Clerk Lisa Mashburn on a good job doing the minutes and stated that there had been no corrections. He then stated that it was a pleasure to serve district 3 and that it was a good month.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for opportunity to serve and stated that he loves working and living in same place for the last 10 years. He thanked the department heads for a fine job and stated that he has no complaints and he really appreciates it. He also thanked Sharon, Lisa and Paula for a good job.

Mayor Bullard thanked all for coming out. Thank you to all department heads and employees for the hard work. He thanked the office staff for their hard work and thanked the Council for approving the 3% raise. HE stated that we are all living on faith and that he likes to reward employees for a good job.

Tim Coombs of the Historical Society thanked Chief Terry Davis and PW Director Warren for their help with the fund raiser fish fry and a good job. He stated that everyone that comes out to eat enjoyed it.

Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Benjamin made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion to adjourn. There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Mayor Wayne Bullard

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City Clerk Lisa Mashburn

