



Council meeting minutes 2004

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Council Meeting

January 8, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, January 8, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu (who was sworn in prior to Council Meeting); Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Works Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Public Works Director, John Thursby, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mayor Crowe.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF DECEMBER 4, 2003 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Mayor Crowe recommended appointing Council Nelson as Mayor Pro Tem. He asked Council for nominations. Council Benjamin nominated Council Ogundu as Mayor Pro Tem. Council Nelson made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Council Benjamin. Mayor Crowe called for a vote on the nominations. Council Nelson – one vote. Council Ogundu – two votes. Mayor Crowe stated that Council Ogundu would serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

SWEARING IN OF DAVID FAIRCLOTH AS NEW POLICE OFFICER

Mayor Crowe swore in David Faircloth as a new police officer for the Hahira Police Department.

PROMOTION OF SHANNON KINGSTON

Police Chief, Terry Davis, called on Shannon Kingston to read the letter of promotion to Sargeant. Police Chief, Davis, congratulated her on her promotion.

SWEARING IN OF JUSTIN PLY AS ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

Mayor Crowe called on Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, to swear in Justin Ply as the new Assistant Fire Chief.

SWEARING IN OF ROB PLUMB AS CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Crowe swore in Rob Plumb as City Attorney.

PROCLAMATION: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Mayor Crowe called on Council Benjamin to read the proclamation, with Mayor Crowe reading the last paragraph, designating January 19 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Crowe asked Police Chief, Terry Davis, if anyone had signed up on the list "Wishing to be heard." He stated that there was not. Mayor stated that this is the first meeting to include "Citizens Wishing to be Heard" and it will be included at each council meeting. Citizens will have to sign up for this.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR WATER/SEWER/SANITATION PAYMENT & COLLECTION

Public Works Director, John Thursby, reported on changes in water/sewer deposits and payments. He stated that he had checked other surrounding cities to find out the amounts of their deposits. The deposits were from \$75.00 to \$100.00. He suggested a \$100.00 deposit. He also asked the city to allow customers who couldn't pay the full deposit to pay ½ and then the balance in 30 days. Those in the military would pay \$50.00. H & S Rentals would pay \$70.00 for water and sewer, no sanitation deposit. He requested that commercial customers would vary from \$100.00 to \$500.00. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the changes on the water and sewer payments and collection, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

PURCHASE APPROVAL FOR JET RODDER

Public Works Director, John Thursby, asked for approval to purchase a new jet rodder from P & H Supply for \$24,750.00 plus shipping. He stated that he could pick it up and save the cost of shipping. This is a budgeted item. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve the purchase from P & H for \$24,750.00, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

PROPOSED CHANGES IN PAYMENT OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, reported that he had done research on the codes for the volunteer firefighters and there was a lot of room for interpretation in the ordinances. They wanted to make some amendments to the ordinances. They discovered that most of the amendments read that most of the volunteers were considered part-time employees and taxes were taken out. He wanted to correct this by having each volunteer not to be considered an employee of the city. This would make them exempt from taxes which would be considered a reimbursement to them for training pay. Training pay would be set at the amount that was discussed previously. Each volunteer that meets the requirement of 50% of Hahira Fire Dept. training meetings and 50% of all fire calls in Hahira will be eligible to receive \$180.00 annually, with the option of placing these funds in the Georgia Firefighters Pension Plan, or any other plan that the firefighter deems financially secure. **Council Nelson made a motion to make the changes, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Agreement for Public Works to complete parking area at Courthouse

Public Works Director, John Thursby, reported that the city would do the work in paving the parking area on the east side of the Courthouse. Estimated cost of the project would be \$1,600.00.

- B. Change allowing Accounting Clerk or City Manager authority to make necessary line item amendments to budget within departments with approval of Mayor

Mayor Crowe read the amendment to City Code Section 2-111 Transfer of appropriations. This is the first reading of the amendment. The second reading will be at next month's council meeting.

- C. Authority to execute Railroad Property Maintenance Agreement

Mayor Crowe asked for Council's approval to give him the authority to sign the Maintenance Agreement.

- D. South Georgia Medical Center-First Responder Agreement

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, reported that this would allow the Fire and Police Department to respond to emergency calls and to assist the EMT's. Training would be included from SGMC.

- E. Acceptance of 2004 City Council and Work Session Calendar

Mayor Crowe reported that the calendar would have the dates of the work sessions and Council Meetings and would be displayed in the display case in front of City Hall. (List attached)

- F. Acceptance of 2004 Employee holiday calendar

Mayor Crowe reported on the employee holidays for 2004. (List attached)

- G. Implementation of Employee of the month program

Mayor Crowe reported that the program will start in February. There will be an employee of the month award and an employee of the year.

- H. Approval to amend code concerning compensation of elected officials

Mayor Crowe reported that Section 44 of the Charter under "Compensation of Mayor and Council" needed to be changed. He read the first reading of the change. This will be read again at the next council meeting and council will vote on the amendment. (Copy attached)

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REPORTS

COUNCIL

Council Nelson reported that Edgewater Subdivision was almost completed.

Council Benjamin congratulated Shannon Kingston on her promotion and David Faircloth as new patrolman for the Police Department, Justin Ply as new Assistant Fire Chief and Rob Plumb, new City Attorney. He stated that he would miss outgoing Councilmen Wayne Bullard and Joel Hunnicutt.

Council Ogundu also congratulated Shannon Kingston and David Faircloth. He thanked all of the voters who elected him.

MAYOR

Mayor Crowe congratulated Shannon Kingston, David Faircloth and Justin Ply. He also welcomed Rob Plumb as the new City Attorney.

Council Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:15 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

February council meeting canceled

Council Meeting

March 9, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Tuesday, March 9, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Works Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Pope Langdale.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman M.C. Nelson, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mr. Wilmon Stanley.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

Mayor Crowe swore in Wayne Bullard, Councilman for District 3.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF JANUARY 8, 2004 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGETARY OVERAGES

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills and the budget overages.

PLANNING COMMISSION

- A. Adoption of amended Joint Ordinance for the Greater Lowndes County Planning Commission reflecting the current membership for 10 appointees and amending other sections as shown – Anne Marie Wolff

Mayor Crowe stated that this would be brought up again at a later meeting.

- B. Approval of MOU between Metropolitan Planning Organization and the City of Hahira for the Greater Lowndes Urban Transportation Study

Charles Durr, Planning Commission representative, reported on the MOU and asked for the city's approval to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Greater Lowndes Urban Transportation Study, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

HONEYBEE COMMITTEE – Ms. Landrum

Ms. Landrum of the Honeybee Committee asked for Council's permission to use the sidewalks, the area behind the caboose, the courthouse for registering vendors, the Recreation Center for the Kick-Off breakfast and the Honeybee Queen's reception, closing Lowndes St. to Lawson Street, and the services of the city, for the upcoming festival. She also asked that the banners should be put up about the middle of August and the flags put up about a week before the festival. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

2004 COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor Crowe reported on the assignments.

Council M. C. Nelson - Water/Sewer

Council Terry Benjamin - Culture/Recreation

Council Temple Ogundu - Streets/Sidewalks

Council Wayne Bullard - Public Safety

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

A. Purchase approval of Chop Saws (2)

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to purchase two (2) Chop saws, one to be used in Public Works Department and the other for the Fire Department. Cost of the two saws is \$1,700.00. **Council Benjamin made a motion to purchase the chop saws as requested, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

B. Adopt Fire Department SOGs

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, asked Council to adopt the Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). **Council Benjamin made a motion to adopt the Standard Operating Guidelines for the Fire Department, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

C. Approval of Fire Truck Purchase

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, asked for Council's approval to purchase a new fire truck. Cost of the truck and equipment would be \$158,592.00. This would be a lease purchase for 10 annual payments with zero down for the first year. **Council Nelson made a motion to purchase the fire truck, seconded by Council Ogundu. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

D. Approval of Safety Grant request for 7 bullet proof vests

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to purchase 7 bullet proof vests for the Police Department at a cost of \$4,400.00. **Council Bullard made a motion to purchase the 7 bullet proof vests, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

E. Cintas ReviveR Provider Police Grant Application

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to apply for the grant for free defibrillators. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

F. Approval of Service Truck for Fire Department

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested the approval to purchase a 1995 ambulance from Regional EMS for use as a fire service/rescue truck. Total cost of truck, with paint, lettering, brackets, etc. would be \$8,400.00. **Council Nelson made a motion to purchase the truck for \$8,400.00, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

G. Repair of truck for Water/Sewer Department

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to repair the 1990 Chevy one-ton truck. Cost for a rebuilt engine and transmission would be \$4,200.00. There would be a one-year warranty. Funds for this project would come from the sale of surplus property. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

H. Approval to Bid for Purchase of New Truck and Asphalt Roller

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to bid for a new ¾ ton truck and a new asphalt roller for the Public Works Department. He requested approval from Council to allow the sale of surplus equipment and use the monies to purchase new equipment. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve the bids and sale of equipment, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

I. Increase Ramona Robison's work hours

City Manager, Janice Logue, requested increasing Ramona Robison's work hours from 25 per week to 35 hours per week. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

J. Approval to bid employee insurance

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval to bid insurance for city employees. **Council Ogundu made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Agreement for execution of Certificate of Ownership and Agreement for LARP

Mayor Crowe reported that the agreement for LARP includes .09 miles on Johnson Street.

B. Approve 2004 Newly Elected Officials Institute attendance

Mayor Crowe reported that this was to approve Councilman Ogundu to attend the Institute in Athens.

C. Approve \$300.00 payment for Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting Dinner

Mayor Crowe reported that this was to approve \$300.00 payment for the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting Dinner.

D. Approve reimbursement checks and hotel for Mayor's Day

Mayor Crowe reported that this was to approve reimbursent checks and hotel for Mayor's Day in Atlanta.

E. Change allowing Accounting Clerk or City Manager authority to make necessary line item amendments to budget within departments with approval of Mayor

F. Approval to amend code concerning compensation of elected officials

Mayor Crowe stated that this had been advertised in the paper several times in January.

G. Approval of Beer and Wine License Application

Mayor Crowe reported that this was for approval of a Beer and Wine Application for Akins Petroleum. Police Chief, Terry Davis, stated that the investigation had been done and was approved.

H. Approval of Sam's Club Credit Card

Mayor Crowe stated that the credit card would be for Public Works Director, John Thursby, City Manager, Janice Logue, Better Hometown Director, Kimberly Hart, Finance Clerk, Ramona Robison and Mayor Crowe.

I. Approval to participate in the Great American Cleanup on April 17

Mayor Crowe reported that the Great American Cleanup would be on April 17. There will be other plans on this.

J. Appointment of Hubby Brooks to the Valdosta-Lowndes County Recreation Advisory Board

Mayor Crowe reported that Mr. Brooks would like to continue on the Advisory Board.

K. Appointment of Ms. Jeanette Clanton as the Commissioner of the Housing Authority of the City of Hahira

Mayor Crowe reported that Ms. Clanton had agreed to serve on the Housing Authority Board.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Crowe stated that Item #8 "MAYOR PRO TEM" which was to be discussed, has been removed from the agenda. This afternoon he received a copy from the City Attorney stating that Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin have filed a law suit against Mayor Crowe and the City of Hahira concerning this, however, no action was taken.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

1. Charles Kent, 404 Judy Ann Drive stated that he wanted to address the mis-representation that they are receiving in District 2. He said that in the last three months, he did not feel that he had gotten the representation that was promised in November and thereon, culminated by a law suit that Mayor Crowe just read, which does not go along with what he feels to be, and many others in the community feel to be the actual works which should be going on at the City Council. It's a place where we are supposed to work together to make our community a better place to live, not to argue out individual agendas and to try to make our own personal feelings for me. This does not represent this district. It does not represent the individuals that he knows as his neighbors and he thinks it is a travesty in that. We have more pressing things that are going on that should be addressed, things that really matter to the people in this community. We have a condemned house on the end of Judy Ann Drive. It's been there for five years. It's been a subject of police work for transients and possible drug deals made at this place, yet it stands vacant and nothing is being done with that, and it stands just two doors from our representative. He should take heed of the position that he has taken and not try to argue out his personal agendas.
2. Shannon Kingston, 507 Frances Street, stated that she wanted to address Temple tonight. She spoke to Temple and said that he had stated in January that he promised us several times that he would not let us down in District 2 and she felt like so far he has let us down. She felt that whatever personal or health problems, if it is going to keep us from having fair representation, she would asked him to step down.
3. Carol Jacobs, 402 E. Stanfill Street, asked Council about putting in a sidewalk on Stanfill Street. There are many people who walk and there is a lot of traffic coming from 122 going to 41 north. Some areas have deep ditches and are unsafe. Some parts of the street are more narrow than other areas. She asked the Council to please inspect the area and consider putting in sidewalks.
4. Brenda Diah, 405 Claudia Drive, stated that she was a new resident of Hahira and enjoyed the calm, easy living in Hahira. She stated that she was concerned about a development going in across the street from her residence. Many of her neighbors are also concerned. She wanted to know

if the property would be able to handle 140 to 150 homes. One of her major concerns is the water and sewer. She asked when did the Planning Commission see the plat for the subdivision and did they approve it and when did the city see the plat and did they approve it? Mayor Crowe stated that Mr. Minchew is in the process and it will go to the Planning Commission for their review. The County Engineer and Mr. Rockmore from the Health Department will look at it. That has not been done yet to his knowledge, but it will have to be done before any homes can be built.

5. Floyd Rose, Valdosta, Georgia, apologized as he stated that when he signed the paper, he thought it was a sign in sheet.
6. Ramona Robinson, 304 Railroad Street, District 1, stated that she had listened to others speak on their dissatisfaction in representation and she would like to add her voice to them. She has not always agreed with her district representative, but she felt as though he was making an attempt at doing an excellent job. This year, since the first of the year, she has been very disappointed and cannot understand what the goal is in refusing to represent and making a political agenda instead of doing the business of the City of Hahira. It has reached a point, as an employee of the city, her job has been affected, and her performance has been affected and she is very unhappy. She felt that it was her right to complain and express how she felt about it.
7. Ralph Clendinen, 202 S. Hagan Bridge Road, stated that he had contacted the city recently requesting a copy of an impact study on the planned development on Hagan Bridge Road. He wanted to know what impact on the water and sewer systems for this development was going to cost taxpayers and why the city hasn't annexed the property for the taxation.
8. Freeman Rivers, 204 S. Hall Street, stated that the council meeting was not held on Thursday for lack of a quorum. In reading the Valdosta Daily Times, there was not a quorum when the city elected or voted on a City Manager. In talking about District 2 Councilman about asking him to step down, he also said that the City Manager should step down. He stated that he was disappointed. He wanted citizens to stand up.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Benjamin welcomed Wayne Bullard back as Councilman. He thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting. There are several issues, whether considered frivolous or unheard of, there are things in our charter that are conflicting and to disregard a charter that they gave an oath for, that is frivolous. They have found things in the charter that just don't add up and to get clarity and to seek understanding of it. He stated that if you can't understand that, you can't understand anything and he didn't think anyone set out to destroy the city or council. The truth is what everybody is after. Several codes of the charter are not clear.

Council Ogundu congratulated Wayne Bullard for being elected. He stated that he was here to serve the people of Hahira. He said that he would refuse to violate the oath which he solemnly swore and supported the charter and ordinances of the City of Hahira. He also stated that he refused to use the city for personal financial or political gain. He assured the citizens that his positive energy and determination will be invested in working with the Mayor and Council. He wanted every citizen to know that he and his family had received threats and harrasments of all kinds and at the appropriate time and place these individuals will be brought to justice.

Council Nelson had no report.

Council Bullard thanked the voters for their support. He also thanked his opponent, who ran a good race. He stated that he hoped to do a good job and would serve the city and citizens of Hahira to the best of his ability. He stated that he had talked with Mr. Langdale of the D.O.T. who informed him of a program that was available for installing sidewalks. He will be going to Atlanta soon and would need the paperwork to take with him.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager, Janice Logue, had no report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Crowe reported that the charter and ordinances of the City of Hahira have been followed in every area and they will continue to be followed. He hoped that the law suits would go away. The cost to the city for the cancelled March meeting was about \$300.00, which included City Attorney fees and others. He asked Council if they are sick or can't come to the meeting to please notify them.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion to adjourn. **Council Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

April 8, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, April 8, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Works Director, John Thursby; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

ABSENT: Police Chief, Terry Davis and Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman Benjamin, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Councilman Wayne Bullard.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MARCH 9, 2004 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) HA-2004-01 Joey Parker – Variance to the rear yard setback

Sherry Davidson of the Planning Commission reported that Joey Parker requested a variance to the Zoning Ordinance Rear Yard Setback requirement. The subject property is located at 202 E. Lawson Street. The applicant is proposing to expand the rear of the house and add an open carport. He is requesting a variance of 20 feet, 2 inches. The proposed layout is compatible with the adjacent residential properties, which also have reduced rear yard setbacks. Staff found the request compatible and recommended approval. The Planning Commission also found it compatible with the surrounding development and recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition of the request to speak. There was no response.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

(B) HA-2004-02 Text Amendment to the City of Hahira Subdivision Regulations (Sections 2, 4, 5 and 7) as it pertains to Review and Approval Process

Sherry Davidson of the Planning Commission reported that the proposed amendment would accomplish two significant tasks. First, it will remove the required Planning Commission meeting from the plat approval process. Staff and the Planning Commission believe that as long as a subdivision plat meets the standards set forth in the local development regulations, there should be no need for the Commission to make recommendations for approval or denial of such plats. Second, it will incorporate language to meet new approval criteria as established by the Georgia General Assembly in 2003. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe called for those in favor of the amendment to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe called for those against the amendment to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the text amendment, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

(C) HA-2004-03 Text Amendment to the City of Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 5-1.2) as it pertains to Special Exception

Sherry Davidson of the Planning Commission reported that this amendment will eliminate unnecessary duplicate zoning processes by allowing special Exceptions and Rezoning to be heard and approved in conjunction with one another. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the text amendment to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the text amendment to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the text amendment, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

(D) HA-2004-04 Text Amendment to the City of Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 13) as it pertains to Amendment

Sherry Davidson of the Planning Commission reported that some errors were made when the Zoning Map was adopted in 1996. When these errors have come to light, it has been necessary to correct them by taking the property back through the rezoning process. It has also been brought to staff's attention that, if the ordinance specifically allows it, in the case of a bona-fide error in the map, staff can legally make administrative corrections as long as the error can be documented. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the Text Amendment to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the Text Amendment to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Text Amendment, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

End of Public Hearing

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Freeman Rivers, Sr., 204 S. Hall Street – He stated that he had hoped that more people would have come to the meeting than last month. He stated that from time to time the Honey Bee Festival was mentioned and that was all well and good but the other problem that is going on in Hahira other than the Honey Bee Festival, people speak on that. He wanted it to be known that, also a former city official, city Mayor, that knows the situation, but won't speak publically at the City Council. Also he did not see the Mayor Pro Tem on the Agenda and wondered what action Council was going to take. What the Council attempted to do last month was wrong, but his problem with that in reference to the Mayor Pro Tem, the Councilmen in District 3 and District 4, knowing what was going on, should not have put it on the agenda and for that reason it's been tainted. The reason that he said it was the current Council in District 3 and District 4 should not ever be considered in their terms as Mayor Pro Tem. To let something like that happen, or attempt that, he would think they would at least step down, and even the Mayor and City Manager, who say they are going over something, but how long is wrong going to go on. He stated that he knew that they were public servants but his problem is that the people that know it and allow it to go on. Sometimes it's not the wrong that goes on, it's the people who see it, know it and allow it to go on.

Ouida Lane McKinney, 210 Randall Street, stated that as far as her lawsuit with the city, it was only to repair her car from a city tree limb falling on her car, breaking the windshield and denting the door frame. Her car has been repaired by the city's insurance and the lawsuit has been dropped. This should have been done from the beginning when she approached her city councilman, but other things happened. It is sad to say that she had to get a lawyer to get her car repaired. She hopes that the Mayor and Council has learned to treat all citizens as people and as they would have liked to be treated. Due to all the agony and chaos going on since Mayor Crowe has been elected to represent Hahira citizens as the Mayor of Hahira, she and other citizens in the community are asking Myron Crowe to resign from office as Mayor of the City of Hahira. She asked for his resignation to be effective immediately. This will surely ease some of the madness that is going on with the city as far as the city charter which has been over the years understood and followed. You take an oath when sworn into office and the citizens of Hahira take that very seriously. They know and she knows that noone in the past has had a problem with misunderstanding the city's charter.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

- A. Attend Personnel/HR Assistants Workshop and Laws and Standards (Audit Compliant) Training

City Manager, Janice Logue, requested approval for her and Ramona Robison to attend two workshops, the first workshop would be on personnel/HR Assistants which would be held in Tallahassee, Florida on May 20-21. Cost would be \$399.00 per person. The other would be on audit compliance training, which would be held in Dublin, Georgia on May 12-13. Cost would be \$249.00 per person. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

B. UPC Water Tank Maintenance Contract

Public Works Director, John Thursby, recommended approval of a maintenance contract for the new water tank in the industrial park with Utilities Services for \$8,156.00. This is not a budgeted item. **Council Benjamin made a motion to enter maintenance agreement with Utilities Services, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

C. Increase Tap Fees

Public Works Director, John Thursby, recommended increasing the water and sewer tap fees to \$750.00 per tap plus cost of material. **Council Bullard made a motion to increase the water and sewer tap fees to \$750.00 each, plus cost of material, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

D. Approval to purchase curbside and rear load containers

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to purchase 70 curbside containers for \$3,500.00 from Consolidated Disposal and 3, 4, 6, and 8 yd containers not to exceed \$10,000.00 from Boone Welding in Ocala, Florida. This is a budgeted item. **Council Nelson made a motion to purchase the curbside containers and rear load containers, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

(E) Approval for Grant Funding Expenditure for (8) Air Packs, Thermal Image Camera and Miscellaneous Equipment

City Manager, Janice Logue, speaking for Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, who is out of town on a training session, asked for approval to purchase the equipment with funds from the FEMA Grant, which would be for \$27,670.00 for 8 air packs, 4 self-contained breathing apparatus carbon cylinders, 10 vented hoods, 1 hydrant wrench. \$12,853.00 for 7 sets of gear, 8 pails of AFFF foam, 2 spanners, 8 gloves, 12 flashlights, 8 helmets, 10 sets of boots. \$9,500.00 for a thermal image camera. Total would be \$50,023.00. The FEMA Grant is for a little over \$60,000.00. There would be about \$10,000.00 of the grant money left, if approved. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

E. Amend Outside Burn Ordinance

Mayor Crowe reported on the ordinance. City Manager, Janice Logue, read the amendment. Mayor Crowe stated that this was the first reading of the amendment. It will be brought up again at next month's meeting.

Nomination of Jeff Rumminger to the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization

Mayor Crowe asked Mr. Rumminger if he would accept the nomination. Mr. Rumminger stated that he would.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Great American Clean Up Day

Mayor Crowe reported that at the last work session, this was discussed. They decided to postpone the Clean Up Day for now and later it will be rescheduled.

B. Strategic Planning Session

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the Strategic Planning Session would be at Austin's Steak House in Valdosta on Friday, May 7, 2004 from 9AM until 6 PM.

C. Employee Appreciation Day

Mayor Crowe reported that the Employee Appreciation Day would be planned by Mona Robison and Shannon Kingston. They will let everyone know when it will be scheduled.

Mayor Crowe read a letter from the Southeast Agency on Aging commending Ann Hagood on a job well done. Mayor Crowe then presented a plaque to Ann Hagood, Nutrition Program Director, for recognition of her work in the Nutrition Program.

Mayor Crowe also presented a plaque and a gift certificate to Chris Stevens, for recognition as Employee of the Quarter.

REPORTS

Council Nelson had no report.

Council Bullard thanked Chris Stevens for his work. He thanked Public Works Director, John Thursby, for the work done on the sidewalk on West Main Street.

Council Ogundu reported on the new houses built on S. Nelson and Judy Ann Drive. He stated that the Work Session should be on Monday's so that the council will have time to work on the issues before the Council Meeting on Thursday.

Council Benjamin thanked Public Works Director, John Thursby on the work on the sidewalks. Spring is coming up, keep up the good work.

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the codification of the City's code book has been completed and sent to Tallahassee to Municipal Code Corporation. Work is being done on revising the personnel handbook, an employee evaluation system, and financial policies.

Mayor Crowe reported that the Work Session had been moved to Wednesday this month due to his absence but the regular time would continue to be on Monday. He apologized for the inconvenience.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Crowe called for a motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. **Council Nelson made a motion to enter into an Executive Session, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Special Meeting

April 15, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2004, at 2:00 P.M. at City Hall to meet with insurance representatives on their proposals for employee insurance.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Courtclerk Bobbie Dumas.

Mayor Crowe stated that the purpose of the meeting was to gather information on insurance for city employees.

(!) Mr. Steve Durden of Georgia Municipal Association presented his quote for insurance to council. He stated that if the city decided to go with them, the employee I D card would say "Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia", but the actual insurance will be with GMA. He presented three PPO's (Preferred Plan Org):

- (1) 908300 90% in network/83% out of network with \$300.00 deductible
- (2) 9081000 90% in network/80% out of network with \$1,000.00 deductible
- (3) 806500 80% in network/60% out of network with \$500.00 deductible

This quote will be good for 60 days.

2. Mr. Ronnie Blanton of Life of the South stated that the home office was located in Nashville, GA. Their insurance covers life and health employee benefits and financial services. The three companies presented were Starmar, CBSA (Corporate Benefits Services of America), and Principal.

(3) Mr. Jerry Deloach of Principal Insurance Company presented his proposal for insurance to council. He stated that, until he has specific information, he would have to get a "best case scenereo" and a "worst cast scenereo" quote. Once the medical information is put into place with the underwriters, they will do a medical rating on the information. He presented council with copies of the reports.
3. Mr. James Gaskins, representative of Met Life Insurance, Douglas, GA., presented his proposal for insurance. (*Discussion on tape)

Council discussed the proposals and decided to contact other cities of the same size and get information on their insurance coverage.

Council Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

The Special Meeting ended at 4:00 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

May 6, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, May 6, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Works Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman Bullard to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Councilman Terry Benjamin.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF APRIL 8 (Regular Meeting) AND APRIL 15 (Special Meeting), 2004 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) HA-2004-05 Billy Holtzclaw – Rezoning request

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission reported that the applicant requested rezoning .41 acres from Single-Family Residential (R-10) to Light Manufacturing (M-1) for the purpose of relocating his existing business, Clinch County Glass. The surrounding area is a mixture of light industrial, commercial and residential uses. Although there are two residential uses on the west side of this block, the majority of the block is currently vacant. The property is currently used as an open-air storage shed. Staff and the Planning Commission found it consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and recommended approval.

Council Benjamin asked about a fence. Mr. Sloan stated that there is a condition that the property to the west shall be buffered with a fence unless otherwise specified in the Hahira Tree and Landscape Ordinance.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak.

Mr. Billy Holtzclaw, 307 Forest Avenue, Valdosta, GA., stated that they are currently working out of the Coombs Air Conditioning building and parking their trucks at night under the shed across the street on the property owned by Mr. Raymond Stalvey. He stated that they wanted to clean up the three lots and build a new building. They would also put up a fence on the property as specified.

Mr. Raymond Stalvey, Rt 2, Box 254, Hahira, GA, stated that it had always been Commercial and any work Mr. Holtzclaw did with the property would be an improvement.

Mayor asked for those against the request to speak. There was no response.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the zoning request and the 6 foot fence, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

(B) HA-2004-06 Charles Bennett – Annexation/Rezoning Request

Alan Sloan, of the Planning Commission, reported that the request is to annex and rezone about 21 acres from Agricultural Use (A-U), Highway Commercial (C-H) and Flood Hazard (F-H) County to Highway Commercial (C-H) and Single-Family Residential (R-10) City for the purpose of developing a residential subdivision. The property is undeveloped and is located on Union Road, north of Hahira, across from Howard's End Way and with frontage on I-75 as well. The proposed residential area is compatible with existing residential development pattern in the area. The portion proposed to remain C-H is to the rear of the property and lacks access to the road through the property. There are wetlands located on the property. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak. Mr. Bill Kent, with ASA Surveying, speaking on behalf of Mr. Bennett, asked to postpone the request for one month, in order for Mr. Bennett to do more research and to decide on a course of action. Mayor Crowe asked Mr. Kent for a letter to that affect.

(C) HA-2004-07 J.C. and Catherine Cowart – Annexation/Rezoning Request – Postponed

(D) HA-2004-08 Text Amendment – Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 10A "Manufactured Homes")

Alan Sloan, of the Planning Commission, reported that in December, 2003, upon recommendation of the Planning Commission, the City of Hahira adopted new regulations for Manufactured Homes. It has, since, been brought to staff's attention that some of the new regulations are not practical in their application. Given the new information, it is now staff's sincere belief that some of the requirements may place undue hardships on citizens desiring to reside in a manufactured home. These items were brought to staff's attention after the new regulations. Therefore, staff has prepared an amendment to the new regulations to address these issues by removing the five-foot height limitation on the utility pole, which is not allowable according to Georgia Power standards, and removing the requirement that the landing be attached to the manufactured home structure. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed text amendment.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the text amendment to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition of the text amendment to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the text amendment, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

(E) HA-2004-09 Text Amendment – Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 10A "Wetlands Protection Districts") (1st Reading)

Alan Sloan, of the Planning Commission, reported on Section 10A "Wetlands Protection Districts". Staff has prepared a text amendment removing this section from the Zoning Ordinance and adopting the same regulations as a stand-alone ordinance and placing the enforcement responsibilities under the City Engineer. This will require three readings by the City Council. In order to keep the regulations in effect, it will be necessary to make the approval of this item effective immediately after the adoption of the stand-alone version. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed text amendment.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor, or in opposition, to speak. There was no response.

F. 2nd Reading of proposed change to Outside Burning Ordinance

City Manager, Janice Logue, read the ordinance on Outside Burning.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the ordinance to speak. Mr. Wilmon Stanley, 308 Washington Street, stated he was for the ordinance. He asked how he could get a permit to burn. Mayor Crowe stated that he would have to call the Georgia Forestry Commission for the permit to burn.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the ordinance to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the change to the Outside Burning Ordinance, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

End of Public Hearing

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER STACI PRUETTE

Mayor Crowe called on Staci Pruette to come forward and be sworn in as a new police officer for the Hahira Police Department. He welcomed Staci and her family and thanked them for coming.

EXECUTE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF HAHIRA AND HAHIRA/LOWNDES COUNTY
COMMUNITY OUTREACH CORPORATION – Marshall Ingram

Marshall Ingram reported on the Community Outreach Program which includes tutorial services for students who need the support.

Mayor Crowe asked Council if there were any questions. None responded. He asked for a motion to approve the agreement.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the Community Outreach Corporation to use the Community Center, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval to attend July 28 training classes in Athens – Janice Logue

City Manager, Janice Logue, requested permission for Mona Robison and herself to attend a training session given by the GMA in Athens on July 28th. Cost would be \$175.00 each.

B. Approval to change 5 fire hydrants – John Thursby

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to replace 5 fire hydrants that parts cannot be found. The replacement would have to be done after 12:00 a.m. to allow for the water to be cut off to install each hydrant. The cost per hydrant would be \$1,750.00. Total cost would be \$8,750.00.

- C. Approval for garbage collection (South Georgia Motor Park) –John Thursby

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval for the city to pick up garbage at the South Georgia Motor Park in Cecil. Total fee would be \$180 per month.

- D. Approval to send 2 people to training – John Thursby

Public Works Director, John Thursby, requested approval to send Chris Stevens and David Thornton to a training session for water and wastewater collection. This is a budgeted item.

- E. Approval to hire part-time summer help – John Thursby

Public Works Director, John Thursby, recommended approval to hire two part-time summer laborers. It is a budgeted item.

Also approval to hire a part-time person to do filing and general record keeping for the PWD. This is not a budgeted item.

- F. Approval to spend \$46,364.00 in GEMA ODP grant money – Dwight Bennett

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested approval to spend \$46,364.00 in GEMA grant money.

- G. Approval to purchase \$3,322.00 in equipment – Dwight Bennett

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested approval to purchase equipment for the recently purchased service truck.

- H. Approval to sell 3 old air pacs for \$250.00 per unit – Dwight Bennett

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested approval to sell the three air pacs to Pine Valley Fire Department for a total of \$250.00 each and to use the money to purchase an AED for the Fire Department.

- I. Approval to attend 2004 TAC Conference – Terry Davis

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to send Bobbie Dumas to the TAC Conference on August 23 through 25th. This is a budgeted item.

- J. Approval to attend 2004 Chief's Summer Conference – Terry Davis

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to attend the conference on July 25th through 28th.

- K. Approval to purchase 2 used police cars – Terry Davis

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to purchase 2 used police cars for \$21,000.00. This is a budgeted item.

- L. Approval to hire part-time help – Terry Davis

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to hire someone part-time in the Police Department. This had been discussed with the Public Works Director, John Thursby. The part-timer would help in both the Public Works and Police Departments.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion on the Consent Agenda.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Strategic Planning Session

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the Strategic Planning Session is planned for Friday, May 7, 2004 at Austin's Steak House in Valdosta starting at 9:00 A.M. until 5 P.M.

B. Employee Appreciation Day

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the Employee Appreciation Day would be held on Wednesday, May 26, 2004 at the Community Center.

C. Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon

Mayor Crowe reported that the Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon would be scheduled sometime during the final week of school and would be held at the Baptist Church.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that there were four bids received of which only one gave a definitive

Quote. The quote was from the Georgia Municipal Association. She recommended going with GMA. The annual cost would be \$96,768.00. The cost for July through December 31 would be \$48,384.00. This is not a budgeted item. Mayor Crowe stated that the insurance would start on July 1st for employees only. Next year they would put it in the budget.

Council Benjamin made a motion to cover 6 months and make provisions in next year's budget, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No response.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Council Benjamin reported that the subdivisions were coming along. He looked forward to the rest of the year.

Council Ogundu reported that at March 9, 2004, Council Meeting, a constituent brought to his attention a vacant house located at 415 Judy Ann Drive. After the meeting he made some phone calls and found out that the inspector of the City of Hahira Housing Division filed a lawsuit on December 2, 2003 against the property owners. On February 6, 2004, the Judge of the Municipal

Court of Hahira rendered a decision and that decision was communicated on February 6 to the city. The decision was for the city to demolish or burn down the house.

Council Nelson reported that the sidewalks were being built on N. Church Street. More houses are being built in Audubon Heights.

Council Bullard commended Marshall Ingram on his job with the Outreach Program. He stated that a memorial service would be held on Memorial Day, May 31, at 11:00 A.M. at the Courthouse. Everyone is invited to attend.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the Strategic Planning Session would be tomorrow and the department heads had been working on their plans.

MAYOR

Mayor Crowe welcomed Stacie Pruitte to the City of Hahira Police Department.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion to enter into an Executive Session.

Council Nelson made a motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss legal matters, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

Regular Council Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

After the Executive Session, Council entered into a regular session.

Motion was made to allow Mayor to execute documents for the lease/purchase of the new fire truck. Motion was made by M.C. Nelson, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Council Benjamin to adjourn, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

June 10, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, June 10, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Terry Benjamin and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; PWD, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on PWD John Thursby, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Commissioner Richard Lee.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MAY 6, 2004 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Ogundu stated that on page 1, paragraph 4, a mistake was made on first and last name – (listed as Wayne Benjamin, should have been Terry Benjamin).

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) HA-2004-06 Charles Bennett – Annexation/Rezoning request

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission reported that the request was tabled last month at the applicant's request. They are ready to continue with the request to annex and rezone 20.96 acres from A-U, C-H, and F-H to C-H and R-10 Residential City for the purpose of developing a residential subdivision. The property is undeveloped and is located on Union Road, north of Hahira, across from Howard's End Way and with frontage on I-75. The front portion of the property is what they are proposing to develop as residential. There are wetlands through the property that cut off access to the rear. The rear of the property is to remain C-H and is not included within the proposed lot layout. Staff and Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked if there were any questions. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak.

Bill Kent, 105 W. Central Ave., Valdosta, GA., stated that he was there to represent Mr. Bennett and to answer any questions concerning the development.

Mayor Crowe asked how many lots were they proposing. Mr. Kent stated that, right now, there are 18 lots showing on the conceptual plan and with the R-10 zoning, they may be able to add a few more. Mayor Crowe explained that, if approved by council, the developer would be responsible for the lift station needed and would have to follow all subdivision guidelines as set forth in the City of Hahira. Mr. Kent stated that he understood.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition of the request to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Ogundu. Councils Benjamin and Ogundu voted yes. Councils Bullard and Nelson voted no. Mayor Crowe voted yes. Motion was approved.**

(B) HA-2004-07 J. C. and Catherine Cowart – Annexation/Rezoning request – Request withdrawn

Mr. Sloan stated that the request had been withdrawn.

(C) HA-2004-09 Text Amendment – Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 10A "Wetlands Protection Districts") (2nd Reading)

Mr. Sloan reported that this was adopted several months ago as a part of the Hahira Zoning Ordinance and this is the second reading. The city charter requires two readings and at the next meeting it can be voted on. They recommended approval of the text amendment immediately after the adoption of the stand alone ordinance.

Mayor Crowe asked for those wishing to speak in favor or in opposition of the amendment to speak. There was no response.

(D) HA-2004-10 James D. Cone – Special Exception to establish an accessory structure on a separate lot; Variance to front yard setback

Mr. Sloan reported that the applicant is requesting a Special Exception to establish three accessory buildings on an adjacent lot in a Light Manufacturing (M-1) zoning district. The applicant is also requesting a variance to the front yard building setback. The property is located in the Hahira Business Park on Sonny Rogers Memorial Drive. The applicant proposes to use the buildings for lumber storage. The Staff would like to see screening along the front of the property to shield the proposed structures. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the conditions that a wooden privacy fence be constructed between the two buildings and that the applicant comply with the Hahira Tree and Landscaping Ordinance.

Mayor Crowe called for those wishing to speak in favor of the Special Exception.

Mr. Jimmy Cone, 1806 Plum Street, Valdosta, GA. , stated that he was representing the owners and would answer any questions. He stated that the back of the buildings would be used as the fencing.

Mayor Crowe called for those wishing to speak in opposition of the Special Exception.

There was no response.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion from council. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Special Exception, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

(E) HA-2004-11 Text Amendment – Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Sections 5-1, 9-1, and 9-2 "Home Occupation and Home Business Signs"

Mr. Sloan reported that the Hahira Zoning Ordinance has allowances for Home Occupations and Home Businesses, which are small, extremely low-scale businesses operated out of the business owner's home. There was very little on restrictions on signs for Home Businesses. It is Staff's opinion that a 12 square foot sign is too large to allow by right in an established residential neighborhood. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Text Amendment.

Mayor Crowe called for those in favor of the Text Amendment to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe called for those in opposition of the Text Amendment to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Text Amendment, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

End of Public Hearing

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval to attend August 20 training workshop in Macon

City Manager, Janice Logue, requested approval to attend a one-day training workshop for Ramona Robison and herself. Cost would be \$199.00 per person.

- B. Approval to implement 3% cost of living raise

City Manager, Janice Logue, requested approval to implement a 3% cost of living raise for city employees starting on July 1, 2004.

- C. Approval to purchase \$1,600.00 in AED for rescue truck

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested approval to purchase an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) for the rescue truck. \$750.00 would come from the sales of the air packs.

- D. Approval to attend August 12 Training Workshop in Valdosta

PWD, John Thursby, requested approval to send Chris Stevens to a Training Workshop in Valdosta on August 12, 2004. The cost would be \$199.00. This is a budgeted item.

- E. Approval to attend July 14-18 APWA Annual Meeting

PWD, John Thursby, requested approval to attend the APWS Annual Meeting. Cost would be \$99.00 for lodging. This is a budgeted item.

- F. Approval to purchase uniforms

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to purchase new uniforms for the Police Department at a cost of \$4,000.00. This is a budgeted item.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Execute ordinance for employee health benefits through Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System (GMEBS)

Mayor Crowe reported that this was for approval to execute the ordinance on health benefits for city employees through GMA.

B. Execute Land Application System (Sprayfield) Agreement

PWD, John Thursby, reported on the agreement on the Land Application System. He recommended continuing with Mr. Rick Whitman.

C. Execute Water and Sewer System Capacity Study Proposal with Stevenson and Palmer Engineering, Inc.

PWD, John Thursby, reported on the proposal.

Mayor Crowe asked if there were any questions from council? Council Benjamin wanted to know if the GMA would send representatives to discuss the employee health benefits. City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that it would have to be requested.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

(A) Temporary shelter for fire truck

Mayor Crowe reported on the need for a temporary shelter for the new fire truck that has been ordered. He asked for council's approval to lease Mr. H. M. Barfield's property located on South Church Street for six months at \$200.00 per month.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve a 6 month lease starting in July, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

B. Authorization to pursue plans to recognize the Drew brothers

Mayor Crowe requested approval to authorize the Better Hometown Director, Kimberly Hart, to pursue plans on signs to recognize the Drew brothers.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Crowe called on City Attorney, Rob Plumb, to speak on a lawsuit against the city. Mr. Plumb recommended paying \$1,500.00 to settle the lawsuit. **Council Benjamin made a motion to pay \$1,500.00 to settle the lawsuit, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Joe Duggan, Hahira, Ga., complained about the Hahira Police Department (Comments on tape)

County Commissioner, District 2, Richard "Dickie" Lee, invited everyone to attend the groundbreaking services of the new Hahira Recreation Facility which will be on Tuesday, June 15th at 10 A.M.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Council Nelson reported that there was a lot of building going on in his area.

Councilmen Bullard, Ogundu and Benjamin had no reports.

B. CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked council to look over the new employee handbook and vote at the next council meeting to implement it.

C. MAYOR

Mayor Crowe reminded everyone to remember June 15th as groundbreaking of the new recreation facility.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion to adjourn. **Motion was made by Council Bullard to adjourn, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

July 1, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, July 1, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; PWD, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Police Chief, Terry Davis, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mr. Wilmon Stanley.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF JUNE 10, 2004 COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) HA-2004-12 Annexation/Rezoning Request – Myron Crowe

Mayor Crowe called on Mayor Pro-Tem, Ogundu, to preside during this request. Mayor Pro-Tem, Ogundu, stated that he would like to make a motion to postpone for the second time these and all future annexations and rezonings in the City of Hahira until such a time when we see one feasibility study from Stevenson and Palmer which would tell us what our capacity is. The City has paid last month, \$10,000.00 to Stevenson and Palmer to do a study as a result of the growth that we are having in Hahira to see if infrastructures we have at present are capable of carrying the 400 new units. There was no second to the motion.

Alan Sloan of the Lowndes County Planning Commission, stated that this was a request to annex and rezone 2.2 acres from Agriculture Use (A-U/County) to Single-Family Residential (R-6). The subject property is located on the east side of Hall Street in southern Hahira. The applicant is requesting rezoning so that the property will be contiguous with the remaining portion of the property. The applicant intends to develop the property as a residential subdivision. The purpose of the request is to make the entire property consistent in order to develop a residential subdivision. The subject property is part of a larger 30-acre parcel, which is already within the City of Hahira and currently zoned R-6. The staff and the Planning Commission found it consistent with the remaining portion of the property and recommended approval.

Mayor Pro-Tem, Ogundu, asked if there was anyone in favor of the request? There was no response. He asked if there was anyone in opposition to speak. Ouida Lane, 210 Randall Street, asked Council to wait until the feasibility study is completed before adding on more houses to the present water and sewer system.

John Adams, 611 Hodges St., stated that he was opposed to the request and thought it should be studied more.

Council Nelson made a motion that 2.2 acres of Agricultural Use (County) be annexed into the city and rezoned as R-6 Residential making it consistent with the rest of the part, seconded by Council Bullard. Council Benjamin stated that it should be studied further, due to the expected growth and the impact on the water/sewer system. Mayor Pro-Tem, Ogundu, stated that the city had paid \$10,000.00 to Stevenson and Palmer Engineering last month to do a study in reference to a projected growth. The study will be completed within 90 days. It was his opinion, that the current infrastructure for water and sewer would be incapable of handling the 150 units that the council has already approved, also the 80 units for Dr. Ben Moye and an additional 20 approved last month. It would be too much for the system to handle. He believed that in order for annexation to come in, the houses must be an R-10 and there should be an additional request for rezoning. A couple of months ago the city did a 5-year strategic plan. At the time, he said that the growth should be 80% residential and 20% commercial. He did not want to create an increase in taxes. He said that the city should wait three months for the study to be completed or the city would definitely regret it. **Council Bullard and Nelson voted yes. Council Benjamin voted no. Motion passed.**

(B) HA-2004-09 Text Amendment – Hahira Zoning Ordinance (Section 10A "Wetlands Protection Districts") (Final Reading)

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission reported that this was the final reading of this version. They are proposing to remove the Wetlands Protection Districts from the Zoning Ordinance and adopting this as a "stand alone" ordinance. There are no changes to the wording and language of the regulations except they would be enforced by an engineer that the city would choose at the time, as needed, instead of the zoning office. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition to speak. There was no response.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the Text Amendment, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

C. HA-2004-13 Variance Request

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission reported that the applicants (Jeff and Jan Rumminger) are requesting a variance to the front yard setback requirements. The subject property is currently zoned Single-Family Residential (R-15) and is located at the southeast corner of E. Coleman Drive and Fry Road in southeast Hahira. The applicants are requesting a variance in order to situate their proposed house facing the northwest corner of the property. Granting this variance would allow the applicants to situate their home site facing the northwest corner of the subject property. This request is not out of scale with the surrounding development. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak. Mr. Jeff Rumminger, 203 S. Hagan Bridge Road, stated that because of the odd shape of the lot, they were trying to maximize the back yard potential because of the width of the yard. By situating the house in the corner, when the original drawings and the plat were laid out, Coleman Street was considered the front and given a 60 foot setback. The standard setback for the sideyard is 30 ft. From Fry Street side was 55 feet. He is requesting Fry and Coleman Streets to have 50 ft. setbacks, so that they are even and as they position the house on the lot they would like to be able to move the house further into the corner if they need to, so that they can maximize the back yard.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to allow the variance, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

(D) HA-2004-14 Text Amendment – Hahira Subdivision Regulations (Sections 4-1.3 and 4-2 "Preliminary Plats and Final Plats")

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission reported that the text amendment was prepared in order to address some issues that have been raised during the review of subdivision plats. First, when staff receives a plat for review, it is necessary for the reviewer to be able to locate the property within the GIS database. Second, many times a variance has been granted for the property being platted, which the reviewing staff is unaware of. If a variance has been granted, the applicant needs to supply that information when submitting a subdivision plat by placing a note denoting such variance on the plat. Third, the current zoning needs to be on the plat. Fourth, in recent years, non-conforming lots have been created by default when a subdivider would subdivide property by only showing the lot being created and not showing any information on the parent tract. This is not in keeping with the spirit and intent of the local Zoning and Subdivision regulations. Staff has normally tried to check this using the GIS system, which is only a graphic depiction and the dimensions are not normally as accurate as surveyed information. Therefore, while surveying the tract is not necessary, information relating to size and remaining frontage of the property is

necessary to prevent the parent tract from being reduced below the minimum size and frontage requirements. Finally, many plats that are submitted use as their point of reference to a corner of a land lot. Public rights of way and road or street centerlines are more accurate and more readily available and visible in the field. Using these would provide a more accurate point of reference, which the GIS system could use to better depict newly surveyed property. Staff recommended approval. The Planning Commission recommended postponing the request until the August meeting to allow for further study.

Council Benjamin made a motion to table it until September's meeting, seconded by Councilman Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

End of Public Hearing

OTHER BUSINESS

A. ZONING ISSUES (R-6)

Mayor Crowe asked Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission, to give a report on R-6 Zoning, as this was brought up by Councilman Ogundu at the Work Session.

Alan Sloan of the Planning Commission stated that the Comprehensive Plan provides for a variety of housing types for all income levels that would be convenient to employment, shopping and services. R-6 allows for the lower income level of affordability for houses, which should be available.

Mayor Crowe stated that, after talking to the City Attorney, there would be no vote at this time but may be discussed at another time.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Crowe called on John Franklin, City Employee, to come forward. He asked for a round of applause to honor Mr. Franklin for 45 years of dedicated service to the City of Hahira. He also presented him with a plaque and a check for \$4,500.00, which was for \$100.00 per year of service. Mayor Crowe congratulated Mr. Franklin on a job well done.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

(A) Approval to visit the City of Winder and the City of Americus to evaluate their Safety programs and Water/Sewer billing systems

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval to visit the cities of Winder and Americus. She and Ramona Robison, John Thursby and Chief Terry Davis would travel to Winder. This would be an overnight stay. Cost would be \$57.00 per room. The trip to Americus would be for one day.

B. Approval for 10% increase for forfeitures and fines add-on fees

Police Chief, Terry Davis, asked for approval to increase the forfeitures and fines to 10%.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Expenditure for Employee

Mayor Crowe asked for approval for the expenditure for City Employee, John Franklin.

B. Execute Drinking Water Contract

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that this was a 3-year contract. Cost would be \$3,825.00 per year for the three year period (July 1, 2004-June 30, 2007).

C. Execute Landfill Agreements

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that the agreement would be with Onyx Pecan Row Landfill. The cost per ton of garbage would be \$22.10.

D. Approve Lion's Club use of Recreation Center one night per month

Mayor Crowe stated that he had received a letter from Tommy Stalvey, of the Lion's Club, asking for approval to use the Recreation Center every third Tuesday in the month for their meetings. Their present location is not large enough, as their membership is growing.

E. Execute Intergovernmental Agreement for Zoning Administration Services

City Attorney, Rob Plumb, briefed council on the Intergovernmental Agreement. The basic intent of the agreement is for the cost of zoning services to be more fairly distributed among the parties based on how much of the service they use and the amount of fees they generate.

F. Execute Abandonment of Six Groundwater Monitoring Wells proposal

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that GEO Sciences has been monitoring 7 wells. They recommended no further action from City Hall. EPD recommended no further action is required for the referenced release and requested a submittal of a Completion Report and Certification, documenting that the monitoring wells have been properly abandoned by July 23, 2004. One of the wells is located across the street from City Hall. This well is still being monitored and EPIC will oversee its abandonment when notified to do so by the Georgia EPD. Cost for abandoning six groundwater monitoring wells and documenting their findings would be \$1,851.40.

A. Approve acceptance of the donation of old Smith Hospital

Mayor Crowe reported that the owners of the old Smith Hospital have proposed to donate the property to the City of Hahira. They have a 60-day window in which they will have to get approval from the city to accept the donation. This will start the process of accepting the property and then the City Attorney would work out the details of the agreement.

B. Street Closure on July 3rd for Wedding

Council Terry Benjamin, reported on a request to close a part of Wright Street on July 3rd for a wedding.

C. Approve expenditure for GMA Conference

Mayor Crowe reported that the expenditures for the GMA Conference would need to be approved.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Approve purchase of two additional generators for lift stations

Mayor Crowe reported on the generators. These will be paid for by SPLOST funds.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

B. Building Inspection Program

Mayor Crowe stated that this was to give information on the inspections program. Council will not make a decision at this time. He asked that this be tabled until the next meeting.

Council Ogundu stated that he had questions. His question was the issue on liability. If one person is responsible for structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, air conditioning and substandard housing inspections, there will be room for undue influence and failure. He is still researching the issue.

Mayor Crowe asked if anyone wanted to speak. Mr. John Bailey, 5561 Sumner Road, Hahira, Ga., stated that he would like to see the inspections in Hahira.

Mr. John Adams, 611 Hodges St., Hahira, Ga., stated that the city adopted the Southern Building Code and would be responsible.

Mr. Scott Purvis, 410 N. Church St., Hahira, GA., stated that he was opposed to this. He hoped the city would continue to use the City of Valdosta inspections.

Councilman Ogundu stated that he would like to see a copy of the resume.

Mr. Wilmon Stanley, 308 Washington St., Hahira, GA., stated that he agreed with Scott Purvis. He thought that one person would not be able to handle all of the different jobs.

Council Bullard made a motion to table it, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (None)

REPORTS

A. Council

Council Benjamin stated that he was glad to see everyone here. He reported that the GMA Conference which Mayor and Council attended recently was very informative. He stated that there was much talk about the Hahira website.

Council Ogundu congratulated John Franklin on 45 years of service to the city. He commended the Public Works Department for a job well done on 415 Judy Ann Drive. He also commended former Mayor, John Adams, as webmaster of the Hahira website.

Council Nelson had no report.

Council Bullard commended John Franklin for his 45 years of service to the City. He also said that the city was progressing and he appreciated the work that the Public Works Department does.

B. City Manager

City Manager, Janice Logue, also mentioned the recognition of the Hahira website and commended John Adams. She also commended John Franklin for his 45 years with the city.

C. Mayor

Mayor Crowe reported that he did not see the water and sewer as a problem, but as an opportunity for growth.

Council Bullard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

August 5, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, August 5, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard and Temple Ogundu; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

ABSENT: Councilman Terry Benjamin and Public Works Director, John Thursby.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Councilman Wayne Bullard.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF JUNE 30TH WORK SESSION; JULY 1ST COUNCIL; JULY 19TH SPECIAL MEETING; JULY 29TH 8:30 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) City of Hahira Millage Rate Increase

Mayor Crowe reported that this was the third meeting on the millage rate. Council suggested that the rate remain the same at 5.38, which it has been for the last three years.

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone in favor of the request? There was no response

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone in opposition of the request. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to keep the rate at 5.38, seconded by Council Nelson. Councils Bullard and Nelson voted yes. Council Ogundu voted no. Motion passed.

(B) City of Hahira Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Ordinance
(1st reading)

Mayor Crowe reported that this was the first reading of two on the ordinance. This ordinance will be posted at City Hall. Persons interested can get a copy of the ordinance.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in opposition to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe stated that there would be no vote at this time.

End of Public Hearing

HONEYBEE COMMITTEE

Ms. Adeline Landrum and Carol Jacobs asked for council's approval to have a street dance after the Honey Bee Festival is over. The dance would be held at the parking lot beside the Courthouse on Saturday, October 2, 2004 beginning at 7:00 and would end at 10:30 P.M.

Council Nelson made a motion to allow them to have the street dance from 7:00 until 10:30 P.M., seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Crowe called on Courtclerk Bobbie Dumas to come forward. She was given a plaque in recognition

as Employee of the Quarter.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

- A. Approval to increase weekly bank draft from \$7,500.00 to \$8,750.00 to cover weekly payroll

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that due to an increase in salaries and employees, the weekly bank drafts are not enough to cover the amount of the payroll. The bank draft needs to be adjusted to \$8,750.00 per week.

- B. Approval to attend Local Government Financial Reporting

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval to send Ramona Robison to the class, which would be held on October 18 and 19. Registration would be \$179.00 and there would be a two night stay.

- C. Approval to purchase additional computer

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to purchase a new computer for his office.

- D. Approval to attend Laws and Standards class in Savannah

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval for her and Ramona Robison to attend the class in Savannah on September 9 and 10.

- E. Adopt current NFPA Life Safety Codes

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, asked council to adopt the NFPA guide. Without adoption, the city cannot issue any citations for violations.

- F. Approval to spend \$2,755 FEMA Grant money to purchase lap top computer and hazardous materials software

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, requested approval to purchase a lap top computer and software with the FEMA Grant money.

- G. Approval to proceed with options for Smith Hospital

Mayor Crowe reported that the city is in the process of accepting the donation. At this time, council has not made any plans on what to do. The city is not authorizing spending any money at this time. The official date that they will present the deed to the city will be on next Tuesday at 2:00 P.M.

- H. Approval to increase tap fees

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval to increase tap fees from \$750.00 to \$1,500.00. Council Nelson made a motion to go with \$1,000.00. No second to motion. After discussion, Mayor Crowe recommended taking item H (Approval to increase tap fees) off of the Consent Agenda.

Council Ogundu made a motion to approval items A through G, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

Council Nelson made a motion to change from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Council Nelson voted yes. Councils Bullard and Ogundu voted no. Motion declined.

Council Ogundu made a motion to wait and put it on the Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

A. Approval to increase Police Officers pay

City Manager, Janice Logue asked for approval for an increase in Police officers pay. The city is a training ground for police officers. They are sent to the police academy for training, which costs a lot and takes a lot of time and effort out of the Police Department to have them trained. The city requires a three year contract. They can buy the contract out. Chief Davis researched salaries and found that Hahira was the lowest paid in the area. He also did a cost analysis of time and money to interview and go through the process of hiring the new officers. They studied the information and decided to bring the current police officers up \$1.50. That would start the new police officers at \$10.00 per hour. The additional cost through the end of the year would be \$3,781.00 to amend the budget on salaries. Chief Davis asked that he be taken out of the equation for the raise, but asked them to give it to the police officers and courtclerk.

Council Bullard made a motion to table it until next month, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted yes. Council Ogundu voted no. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Beer and Wine License Application

Police Chief, Terry Davis, stated that he did a background check and recommended approval.

B. Approve LARP Listing

Mayor Crowe stated that there were six streets listed.

C. Approve Employee Handbook

Mayor Crowe stated that approval of the handbook would have to be subject to the City Attorney's approval..

D. Approval to solicit Sidewalk bids

Mayor Crowe stated they would continue with the sidewalk project on North Church Street and hopefully it would be completed before the Honey Bee Festival.

E. Approval to send Notice of Intent to Annex BP Station

Mayor Crowe stated that the BP Station located just over the overpass has never been annexed into the city.

A letter sent to the owners will have to be approved and in 30 days the city will proceed with the annexation process.

Chief Davis stated that the BP Station has a county beer and wine license. This would be an issue for Mayor and Council when they start to annex the property.

Councilman Ogundu stated that he wanted it on record that minorities could bid on the Sidewalk Project. Mayor Crowe stated that the city would advertise and whoever answers the advertisement will be considered.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Discussion on Building Inspections/Permits

Mayor Crowe reported that this was discussed at last month's meeting and he wanted to clarify some of the things that were discussed. He stated that he had mentioned a name for the Building Inspector and a citizen in the audience gave an indication that we should watch out for that person. Two weeks ago he met with the Building Inspector in Valdosta and asked about the person and was informed that he was one of the finest Building Inspectors in the state. He also stated that an issue on liability came up. A citizen said that we would be liable. A builder said that we would not be liable. Mike Martin said there was no liability, other than negligence on the Building Inspector and in that case, it would not come to the city. The only way it would be a liability to the city would be for the city to persuade the Building Inspector to do something he is not supposed to do. Mayor Crowe recommended to Council that they make no decision at this time on Building Inspections but do something to help the builders out. The Building Inspections Department in Valdosta agreed to do the Pre-Aps in their office. They would need a copy of the current business licenses. They would send us a copy of the completed Pre-Aps.

Council Bullard made a motion to put the pre-applications with the City of Valdosta, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

B. Approve Georgia Power Lighting Proposal

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that 24 lights would cost \$914.00 to install. Monthly rates would increase \$211.42.

Council Nelson made a motion to table it until next meeting, seconded by Council Bullard. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted yes. Council Ogundu voted no. Motion passed.

BUDGET PLANNING SESSION

Mayor Crowe reported that the Budget Planning Session would be held on August 25th at Austin's Steakhouse in Valdosta starting at 8:30 A.M.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Crowe asked Chief Davis if there was anyone on the list. He stated there were none.

REPORTS

COUNCIL

Councilmen Ogundu and Bullard had no reports.

Council Nelson commended the Better Hometown and Honey Bee Committee for the breakfast served at the Courthouse for the tobacco buyers.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, seconded Councilman Nelson's commendation on the BHT and Honey Bee Committee for preparing and serving the breakfast to the tobacco buyers.

The five-year plan is in draft and anyone who wants to look at it can come by her office.

She received a letter on the city's re-codification project and they are releasing the information for typesetting.

MAYOR

Mayor Crowe also thanked the BHT and Honey Bee Committee.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion to enter into an executive session. **Council Nelson made a motion to enter into an executive session, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

Meeting ended at 8:15 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

September 2, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, September 2, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Police Chief, Terry Davis; PWD, John Thursby; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman Nelson to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Councilman Terry Benjamin.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF AUGUST 5, 2004 COUNCIL MEETING

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Text Amendment – Hahira Subdivision Regulations- Section 4-1.3 and 4-2- "Preliminary Plats and Final Plats"

Anne-Marie Wolff, Associate Planner, of the Planning Commission stated that this item was postponed at the June Planning Commission meeting to allow staff time to meet with the surveying community. There are four issues: (1) Tax Map and Parcel Numbers – When staff receives a plat for review, it is necessary for the reviewer to precisely locate the property within the GIS database. The proposed amendment will require the Tax Map and Parcel number be included in the Letter of Intent submitted with the subdivision plat. (2) Variances – Often, a variance has been granted for the property being platted, which the reviewing staff may not be aware of. Staff is requesting that if a variance has been granted for the subject property, and is applicable to the proposed subdivision, the applicant place a note describing such variance on the subdivision plat. (3) Zoning – The current zoning needs to be on the plat. Though the zoning may change at a later date, having it noted on the plat would provide the historical information as to what development standards applied to the property at the time of subdivision. (4) Parent Tract Info – While surveying the entire parent tract is unnecessary, information relating to the size and remaining frontage of the property should be shown to prevent the parent tract from being reduced below the minimum size and frontage requirements. Ms. Wolff stated that the 5th item was Points of Reference, which staff is still working towards a compromise for this issue. An additional text amendment will be presented in the near future addressing issue 5 and the exempt plat portion of issue 1. Staff requested approval of the proposed amendment to address the above noted four issues. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to accept the Text Amendment, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

- B. City of Hahira Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance (2nd reading)

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the ordinance to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the ordinance to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

C. BP Annexation

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the annexation to speak. Police Chief, Terry Davis, spoke in favor of the annexation, as there is water and sewer services and police protection already at the location.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the annexation to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to annex the BP Station into the city, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

End of Public Hearing

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Mayor Crowe stated that Mr. Jeff Rumminger, of the Advisory Board, was supposed to come tonight and speak on a survey that will be put out in Lowndes County. He will come to the next meeting with the information.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval to attend Annual GA Rural Water Association Conference

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval for PWD, John Thursby and herself to attend the GRWA Conference which will be held in Helen, GA. on October 24 – 26. Cost would be \$150.00 registration per person.

B. Approval to change line item budget to program budget

City Manager, Janice Logue, asked for approval to change the line item budget to a program budget, which would be easier to read.

C. Approval to increase tap fees

PWD, John Thursby, asked for approval to increase the tap fees from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00 and to charge the contractor for costs that exceed \$1,000.00.

D. Approval to purchase tractors

PWD, John Thursby, asked for approval to purchase a used John Deere 2550 tractor for \$7,000.00. The money would come from surplus property sales that was done in May of this year.

PWD, John Thursby, requested approval to purchase two rotary mowers to replace the old mowers. One is a 10' pull type mower and one is a 6' lift type mower. Cost for the mowers are \$1,800.00 for a Bush Hog #286 and \$5,311.00 for a Bush Hog 3210-04.

E. Approval to accept bid proposal for UV Lighting (contingent upon S & P approval)

PWD, John Thursby, requested approval to accept the bid proposal for UV Lighting. The cost for this would be \$48,900.00.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST

A. Approval to increase Police Officers Pay

Police Chief, Terry Davis, stated that he had done a study on the area police departments and found that Hahira was the lowest paid in the area. He asked to increase the new policemen's salary \$1.00 per hour, then in 6 months increase it by .50 cents. Other officers would get the .50 cents increase.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the increase, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Beer and Wine License Application

Mayor Crowe stated that this was approved last month but the advertising was not done. This is for the Stuckey/Blimpie located at 1300 GA Hwy 122 West.

B. Railroad Property Lease Agreement

Mayor Crowe reported that council had approved to pursue a maintenance lease agreement.

C. Approve inspection of Smith Hospital

Mayor Crowe asked for approval for an asbestos study on the building. Cost would be \$1,500.00.

D. Quarterly Newsletter

Mayor Crowe asked for approval for a quarterly newsletter. He stated that this would be an opportunity for the city to inform citizens as to what was going on in the city.

Council Ogundu made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Benjamin. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Wilmon Stanley, 308 Washington Street, Hahira, GA, stated that there were three departments vital to the city, the Utilities, Fire and Police Departments. He stated that we couldn't keep good police officers without good pay. He hoped that the Mayor and Council would continue doing the best job they can do.

Police Chief, Terry Davis, reported that the Masonic Lodge, Methodist Church and Baptist Church would be open for evacuees from Florida who are needing a place to stay until hurricane "Frances" is gone.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Council Benjamin reported that he was glad to see everything moving along.

Councils Ogundu, Bullard and Nelson had no reports.

(B) MAYOR

Mayor Crowe reminded everyone of the Honey Bee Festival coming up.

Mayor Crowe recognized Lowndes County Commissioner Richard Lee, who won the Republican nomination for Commissioner. Mr. Lee mentioned that the North Lowndes Recreation Facility was progressing along.

B. CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that in the next few weeks the Public Works Department would be busy getting ready for the Honey Bee Festival.

Mayor Crowe called for a motion to enter into an executive session. **Council Benjamin made a motion to enter into an executive session, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.**

Meeting ended at 8:15 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

October 7, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, October 7, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Police Chief, Terry Davis; PWD, John Thursby; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation by Mayor Crowe.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2004 COUNCIL MEETING

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. Ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Hahira regarding budget form and content

City Manager, Janice Logue, read the ordinance.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the ordinance to speak. There was no response.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the ordinance, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

End Public Hearing

ACCEPT PROPOSED 2005 BUDGET

Mayor Crowe read the budget message. **Council Ogundu made a motion to accept the proposed 2005 budget, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval to purchase 800 mhz radio for Engine 3 using \$3,590 of FEMA Grant Money

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, asked for approval to purchase the radio.

(B) Approval to spend the remaining FEMA grant money (\$1,035) and \$6,067 of matching funds from the city to purchase additional Turnout gear, gear bags, 1 power saw, hand lights, fire foam, foam educator and other misc. equipment

Fire Chief, Bennett, asked for approval to spend the remaining grant money and matching funds for the equipment.

- (C) Approval to purchase new truck

PWD, John Thursby, requested approval to purchase a new Dodge truck for \$18,769.00.

- A. Approval to submit Letter of Application to 2005 Georgia Law Enforcement Delegation to Israel

Police Chief, Terry Davis, requested approval to submit a letter of application for a two-week training session in Israel. All expenses, including hotel, would be included. If selected, he would waive the winter training session in Atlanta.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve DOT Agreement for I-75 Interchange Lighting

Mayor Crowe asked for approval to sign an agreement with DOT for I-75 interchange lighting. The city would pay for monthly electric charges, which would be about \$673.60. The total yearly cost would be \$8083.20.

B. Approve Street Lighting Proposal and Tennis Court Lighting

Mayor Crowe asked approval for street lighting for different areas in the city. Cost of materials would be \$914.00. The proposed monthly fee would be \$140.94. This would be for 15 fixtures and 3 poles. Also included would be two lights for the tennis courts at the Middle School. Cost for the lights would be from \$400 to \$500.

C. Approval for the City to accept credit cards as a method of payment

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that the rent for the machine would be \$15.00 and \$20.00 for each printer. The city would need two machines and printers. This would be on a trial basis. At this time, no surcharge will be charged. In talking with other cities, they had an increase of 10% when they started using the credit cards.

(D) Approve October 20th Training for Councilman Ogundu

Mayor Crowe stated that the training session would be held in Tifton. The cost would be \$125.00, plus gas expense.

Council Benjamin asked to add a light at the end of Sargent Street. Mayor Crowe called for a motion and to include a pole and another light for Sargent Street.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Crowe asked for approval to purchase the property on Owens Street that is beside the old shop building. The cost of the lot would be \$18,000.00. Lot size is 60x100 and faces Owens Street. City will provide survey and place privacy fence between property once Fire Department is built.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the purchase of the property and proceed with the survey of the property, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR PLANS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS

Mayor Crowe asked for approval to request bids for plans for the Fire Department, which would include renovations on the brick building, plans for the actual Fire Department, and the layout and site plan. **Council Bullard made a motion to proceed with the bids, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT SIDEWALK BID

Mayor Crowe stated that the Council had previously approved the sidewalk project for the Public Works Department to do. This is the extension of the current sidewalks from N. Church to the city limits. The project started with sections completed and some uncompleted, due to the Public Works Department being overloaded recently. They advertised for bids. Two bids were received. The low bid was from Tricon Construction for \$28,163.00. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve Tricon finishing the sidewalks, seconded by Council Nelson.** (Discussion on tape) Council Ogundu and Benjamin voiced their concerns on the cost of the project and wanted the Public Works Department to finish the project.

Mayor Crowe called for a vote on the motion. **Councils Nelson and Bullard voted yes. Councils Ogundu and Benjamin voted no. Tie Vote; Mayor Crowe voted yes, breaking the tie. Motion passed.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Marshall Ingram, 411 Sargent Street, complained about a sewer problem in the street close to his house. Raw sewerage has been overflowing for some time and the smell in the area is bad. He asked that the city have the problem fixed as it is a health hazard for citizens. This has been going on for several years.

Mayor Crowe called on PWD, John Thursby, to inform the citizens on what is being done in this situation. Mr. Thursby stated that the City Engineers had been contacted on this. The city had made an effort in doing something about it. The water needed to be processed faster. The old pumps did not pump enough, so they increased the size of the pumps, increased their capacity and put the pumps on separate lines. This was still not enough. The city engineers were contacted again. Lime was put out in the area to kill bacteria and the smell. They will be talking with the EPD next week and see what can be done.

Mr. Gene Godfrey, minister of Newsom Street Church of Christ, also complained about the sewer problem. There was flooding in their fellowship area. He was concerned for church members and their families. He asked the city to have something done.

Kathy Ingram, 411 Sargent Street, was concerned about the field behind their house and asked that it be maintained better as it is an eyesore and a safety hazard.

Geneva Hutcherson, 204 Wright Street, stated that the drains needed cleaning out. She also asked about getting the field cut across from her house.

Wilmon Stanley, 308 Washington Street, stated that he agreed with Mr. Ingram and the minister about the sewer problem and the smell. He stated that it was an eyesore and a health problem. He stated that he would appreciate the city's help and concern in this matter.

Richard Lee, District 2 Commissioner, stated he applauded each and every one who came tonight and voiced their concerns and also applauded the Mayor and Council for their work. He mentioned the recent hurricanes and the problems caused by them. The work on the recreation facility has slowed but will continue to progress. He mentioned the growth in the area and the need for water and sewer and the possibility of using city water.

Mr. John Page, 5755 Coleman Road, candidate for State Representative, District 176, addressed Mayor and Council and the audience. He stated that he wanted to support Hahira and to be here to listen and asked citizens to call.

Mr. Rusty Griffin, 3821 Skipper Bridge Road, Valdosta, Ga, candidate for Senate, District 8, addressed Mayor and Council and the audience.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Councilman Benjamin thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He also thanked the city departments for their work during and recent storms, also during the Honey Bee Festival.

Councilman Ogundu thanked the people for speaking tonight. He also thanked the Honey Bee Committee on the festival, the Police and Water/Sewer/Sanitation Departments for their help during the festival. He offered condolences to Councilman Wayne Bullard on the loss of his aunt.

Councilman Nelson sympathized with Mr. Ingram and the neighbors who had the sewer problem. He stated that the city would continue to work for a solution. He thanked the Honey Bee Committee for the festival; He met with some neighbors and Dr. Moyer to discuss a water problem in Audubon Heights subdivision.

Councilman Bullard reported that there was a good turnout for the Honey Bee Festival and he thanked the Public Works and Police Departments for their work. He thanked the candidates who were present tonight for coming; He spoke on the sewer problem that Mr. Ingram and others had suffered recently and promised to do all that he could do.

B. CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that the 5-year Strategic Plan was available at City Hall. Those who are interested can come in and read it or pay for a copy; She stated that this was her first Honey Bee Festival and she enjoyed it very much; She thanked Public Works for their work in cleaning up after the festival. Also the city will be picking up trash from the storm that happened just before the festival.

C. MAYOR

Mayor Crowe also thanked the Public Works, Police and Fire Departments for their work during the festival; He thanked the people who came tonight and spoke about their problems, and told them that he would be meeting with EPD next week and would be looking for a solution; He talked about ISO ratings in the city; He reported that the house at 202 Railroad Street was getting an "Extreme Makeover" and those who were interested could go by and see what was going on. The family has been out of the house during this time and will be returning by limousine on Friday at 5 P.M. WALB-TV will be filming the event.

Council Benjamin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:55 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Council Meeting

November 4, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, November 4, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Police Chief, Terry Davis; PWD, John Thursby; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; Finance Director, Ramona Robison; BHT Director, Kimberly Hart; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman Ogundu, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by Councilman Bullard .

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF OCTOBER 7TH COUNCIL MEETING; OCT 29TH PUBLIC HEARING

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

A. Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Relocation

Mayor Crowe stated that this was not a new license for Remi Tessier, but a relocation of his business. The present location is 1018 W Ga Hwy 122 and the new location will be 1012 W Ga Hwy 122 which is the building of the old Steakhouse Grill.

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone in favor of the request? No response.

He asked if there was anyone in opposition of the request? No response.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

B. HA-2004-15 Annexation/Rezoning request by City of Hahira

Jason Davenport, Associate Planner of the Planning Commission, reported that the applicant is requesting to annex and rezone 1.184 acres from Highway Commercial (C-H) County to Highway Commercial (C-H) City. The general character of the area is highway commercial. The property is the BP Station, located on the west side of I-75. The Planning Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the annexation/rezoning request to speak. There was no response.

He asked for those in opposition of the annexation/rezoning request to speak. There was no response.

Mayor Crowe stated that this was approved at a previous council meeting, but the city wanted to have the Planning Commission's recommendation before going ahead.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the annexation/rezoning request, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

SPECIAL GUESTS

A. HONEYBEE COMMITTEE

Ms. Adeline Landrum and Honeybee Committee members thanked the city for their help during the Honey Bee Festival and presented a handmade quilt to the city in appreciation. The quilt was made by Mary Ingram and Dorothy Jordan.

B. NICK LACEY – E911 CENTER DIRECTOR

Mr. Lacey spoke on Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning. City Manager, Janice Logue, attended the first meeting. He asked council to appoint someone to be on the policy committee.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve purchase of new software application system

Mayor Crowe called on Finance Director, Ramona Robison, to report on the system. Ms. Robison stated that the system would provide information that a larger city would have. It would provide immediate access to Mayor/Council, city employees and the public, for financial information. She recommended approval to purchase the system.

Council Ogundu stated that he had talked to personnel at the City of Winder, who are using the system, and they were very impressed with the program. He also called Union City and was told that the benefit of the system would outweigh the cost to the city.

B. Approve RFP for Audit Services

Mayor Crowe stated that for the past 15 years the city has been using the same accounting firm and audit system. He recommended putting the audit services up for bid on an annual basis. The current auditors would be able to bid on the services.

C. Approve new Dec. Work Session & Council Meeting Dates

Mayor Crowe reported that the December Work Session and Council Meetings would change from Dec.6 and 9 to Nov. 29 and Dec. 2.

D. Approve Finance Training for 2005

Finance Director, Ramona Robison, asked for approval to attend finance training classes which would start in January and end in April with 16 of the required 18 credits available. Cost of the training would be \$2,500.00. One course would be left until it could be made available. This is in

the 2005 budget. They would be willing to defer the payment and allow registration before the classes are filled.

- E. Approve 3-day training class for Bobbie

Police Chief, Terry Davis, asked for approval to send Municipal Courtclerk, Bobbie Dumas, to a 3-day training class December 10 through 12.

- F. Approve bid for Fire Department

City Manager, Janice Logue, reported that three bids were received. She and Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, recommended going with Richard Hill Associates.

Council Ogundu made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Appoint and approve new Pension Committee Secretary

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that this was usually done at the first of the year. City Clerk, Marilyn Brady, had been doing this for the past several years. She recommended appointing Finance Director, Ramona Robison as the new Pension Committee Secretary.

- B. Approve purchase of equipment for \$4,900.00

Mayor Crowe stated that this was for two generators, air compressor, pressure washer and trash pump. Cost would be \$4,900.00.

- C. Approve Christmas Tree Recycling Program

Public Works Director, John Thursby, stated that the tree recycling program was for citizens to bring their old Christmas trees to a designated area for recycling.

- D. Approve participation in Mayor's Christmas Motorcade

Police Chief, Terry Davis, reported that the Mayor's Day Christmas Motorcade would be on Wednesday, December 15th. He asked citizens to donate gifts to be given to the patients at Southwestern State Hospital.

- E. Drew brothers signs and recognition

Mayor Crowe asked for approval for four signs for each entrance into the city, which would recognize J.D., Tim and Stephen Drew. Total cost would be \$1,200.00.

- F. Purchase brick from old school

Mayor Crowe asked for approval to purchase 2500 bricks at a cost of \$725.00 from the old school.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

CITY OF HAHIRA CREDIT CARD ORDINANCE #04-10

City Manager, Janice Logue, read the Credit Card Ordinance, which would be effective November 5, 2004.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the credit card ordinance, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE GOV. & GROWTH CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA FOR COUNCIL OGUNDU

Mayor Crowe stated that there were some questions at the Work Session on this. There are two sessions that Mayor/Council attend every year, one in Atlanta and another in Savannah. His thoughts were for Council Ogundu to substitute this session for one of the other sessions. The city would pay for the registration for the sessions.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the conference in Atlanta, seconded by Council Ogundu. Discussion followed. Councils Benjamin and Ogundu voted yes. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted no. Mayor Crowe voted no, breaking the tie. Motion denied.

APPROVE 2005 BUDGET

Mayor Crowe read the ordinance.

Council Ogundu made a motion to approve the 2005 Budget, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Freeman Rivers, 204 S Hall Street, mentioned that in the Honey Bee Festival book, Council Ogundu was not listed as Mayor Pro Tem. This may have been an oversight. He also stated that in other cities, "Citizens to be Heard" is not at the last of the agenda list. He stated that racism is still alive. He referred to Council Ogundu's request for a training session in Atlanta, which was denied.

RECOGNITION

A. Thank you letters for Police and Fire Departments

Police Chief, Terry Davis, read a "thank-you" letter recognizing Patrolmen James Kessel and Brian Quinlan for their assistance during an emergency on I-75. He also read a letter from Ron Borders to Sgt. Shannon Kingston congratulating her on her accomplishments.

City Manager, Janice Logue, read a "thank-you" letter to the Hahira Fire Department for their help during the hurricane, in which the lady's house became flooded.

B. Fire Chief appointment as Vice-President of District 8 GA Firefighters Association

Mayor Crowe reported that Hahira Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, had been appointed Vice President of District 8 GA Firefighters Association by Chief Rice of the Valdosta Fire Department.

C. Years of Service Awards 5/10/20 years

Mayor Crowe presented a plaque to Lt. Gerald Lunger of the Police Department for 5 years of service to the City of Hahira.

Also Patrolman James Kessel was presented a plaque for 10 years of service to the City of Hahira.

Also LAS Operator, Donnie Warren and City Clerk, Marilyn Brady, were presented plaques for 20 years of service to the City of Hahira.

D. Employee of the Quarter

Mayor Crowe announced the "Employee of the Quarter" was David Thornton. He was presented a plaque and a \$50.00 certificate to a restaurant of his choice.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Council Nelson reported that the sidewalks were coming along. There has been some trouble with water in Audubon Heights Subdivision.

Council Bullard had no report.

Councilman Ogundu thanked the city employees for their service. He thanked the Honey Bee Committee for a job well done. The new homes are being built and are very beautiful.

Council Benjamin thanked the city employees and those who came to support them. He thanked all of the departments for their work.

B. CITY MANAGER

City Manager, Janice Logue, thanked Mayor and Council for their support. She also thanked department heads for their support.

C. MAYOR

Mayor Crowe thanked the City Manager for her work. He also thanked city employees and the Honey Bee Committee for their work..

Council Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

Amended November 4, 2004 minutes

APPROVE GOV. & GROWTH CONFERENCE IN ATLANTA FOR COUNCIL OGUNDU

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the conference in Atlanta, seconded by Council Ogundu.

Benjamin said the class filled up in two hours the last time it was offered this year and it is not offered next year.

"If we're willing to spend money in other areas I think we can certainly send money to further the education of the council, especially when it comes to the city" Benjamin said.

Ogundu said with the City of Valdosta growing toward Hahira, Hahira's elected officials need to be prepared for further growth.

"My father used to tell me that there are three keys to success" Ogundu said. "These three keys are preparation, preparation, preparation".

Ogundu said that Crowe and the other councilmen have not taken this class yet, therefore one of them needs to.

"At least one of us should go and get the knowledge" Ogundu said. "The blind should not lead the blind".

Councilman Wayne Bullard said he was for the class but the city shouldn't have to pay for Ogundu's hotel room.

Ogundu then repeatedly asked Bullard if he ever had to pay for a hotel room he was staying in while he attended a conference that would benefit the City of Hahira.

Bullard said he hadn't in the nine years he had been attending conferences but he only attended two conferences a year and not three.

"I'm for the education, I'm for the class, but I feel it ought to come in the place of one of the other three day-four night conferences we have next year" Crowe said.

Crowe then said he would be in favor of the motion that would allow Ogundu to attend the conference if he swapped it with one of the next year's conferences or if he kept both of them next year and the city just paid the registration fee for the Government and Growth conference.

Mayor Crowe called for a vote.

Councils Benjamin and Ogundu voted yes. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted no. Mayor Crowe noted no, breaking the tie. Motion denied.

Myron
Crowe
Marilyn Brady

Mayor
City Clerk

Council Meeting

December 2, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, December 2, 2004, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; Police Chief, Terry Davis; PWD, John Thursby; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; Finance Director, Ramona Robison; City Attorney, Rob Plumb.

ABSENT: City Clerk, Marilyn Brady

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on Councilman Nelson, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by Councilman Benjamin.

Mayor Crowe welcomed visitors.

Mr. Richard Parham, Randall Street, presented the city with a framed diploma that was given to Horace Overstreet on May 10, 1918.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF NOVEMBER 4TH COUNCIL MEETING

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes and go back and amend the portion concerning the Gov. & Growth class, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. HA-2004-16 Variance to the City of Hahira Subdivision Regulations specifically Section 5-6.9

Right-of-Way Extension – Charles Bennett

Mr. Jason Davenport of the Planning Commission stated that Mr. Bennett had requested a variance to the property. Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone in favor of the variance request. Mr. Bill Kent, ASA Engineering, 105 W

Central Ave, Valdosta, GA said that he was representing Mr. Bennett and would answer any questions.

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone wishing to speak in opposition. There was no response.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the variance, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone wishing to be heard. Mrs. Eula Copeland, 210 Branch Street, said that she was here to speak on behalf of some of the citizens in the community. She said that some things were going on with the council that shouldn't be. She stated that she believed in City Government and the Mayor and Council are elected officials and it grieves her heart, when she looks around and sees certain things happening among the Mayor and Council. She said that they should leave their personal disagreements outside the door and when they come in they should have a mind to do the work for the city government which they were elected to do. She stated that they expected the Mayor and Council to be civil to one another when they are inside the courthouse. Their emotions are expressed in their faces and voices and even show it in their walk. She said that she respected them but did not always agree with them.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve 2005 Council Meeting Schedule

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the schedule.

- B. Approve 2005 Holiday Calendar

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the holiday calendar.

- C. Approve Holiday Schedule Change from ½ day Dec. 24th and Dec 27th to ½ day Dec 23rd and Dec 24th

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that the change would be to accommodate the sanitation pickup which would start on Monday morning after Christmas. After New Years Day holiday, sanitation service will begin as usual.

- D. Approve City Employee Christmas Bonuses

Mayor Crowe asked for approval of employee bonuses in the amount of \$5,670.58.

- E. Approve 2004 Excess Sick Leave Pay

Mayor Crowe asked for approval of excess sick leave pay in the amount of \$2,976.44.

- F. Approve Fire Department Training Pay

Mayor Crowe asked for approval of the Fire Department training pay in the amount of \$5,025.00 for the volunteers and \$710.00 for Justin Ply, Assistant Fire Chief.

G. Approve Chief's Winter Conference in Atlanta

Police Chief, Terry Davis, asked for approval of the winter conference in Atlanta, if his application for a winter conference in Israel is rejected. He is required to attend two conferences each year, one in the summer and one in the winter. Cost of the Atlanta conference would be \$500.00.

H. Approve Public Works Department to proceed with engineering evaluations on the overflow problem

PWD, John Thursby, asked for approval for the engineering evaluations on the overflow problem. Council Ogundu asked if the Council could be notified when they meet with the engineers.

I. Approve De-chlorination Equipment

PWD, John Thursby, asked council to approve the equipment. Cost of the de-chlorination unit and the chemicals would be \$1,500.00 to get started.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Council Benjamin recommended sending a letter to the Newsom Street Church of Christ and Mr. Marshall Ingram regarding the engineering evaluations. Vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve corporate table (10 people) at Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner \$300 – January 25th

Mayor Crowe asked for council's approval for the corporate table at the Chamber of Commerce Annual dinner.

B. Approve January 22-24, 2005 Mayor's Day Conference in Atlanta

Mayor Crowe asked for council's approval for the Mayor's Day Conference.

C. Approve FEMA and GEMA grant re-imbusement for hurricane

Mayor Crowe asked for council's approval to approve FEMA and GEMA grant re-imbusement.

Council Ogundu made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE EXECUTION OF EPD CONSENT ORDER

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that the consent order from EPD was sent due to the fact that there have been some inaccurate and incomplete reports. We have a contract with a laboratory. There were some months that the reports were late, incomplete or inaccuratae. The EPD did not notify the city until July 2004. They are going back a year and the city will be charged a fine of \$6,626.00 for a problem that the city was not aware of. They are also requesting a Standard Operating Procedure, which the city engineers, Stephenson and Palmer Engineering, has already provided to them. Within thirty days they are requesting written procedures and schedules for checking secondary flows instrumentation calibration on a routine basis, which, right now we do not have a schedule for. Beginning August 1, 2004, any penalty will be \$2000.00 per month for anytime that the city is late, inaccurate or incomplete reporting. Within 60 days from the third month in which the city violates the modified permit monthly average flow, the city shall submit

to EPD a Corrective Action Plan and schedule. The city has to have a corrective action plan and schedule to them within 60 days after this consent order and the modified permit is signed. Then within 60 days of receipt of the wasteload allocation approved by the EPD, which is what the city is waiting on. For year round surface water discharge submit to EPD in writing the city's proposal for addressing its future wastewater needs based on the approved wastewater allocations.

Mayor Crowe asked for council's approval to execute the consent order.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the consent order, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Council Ogundu wanted to know who was responsible. PWD, John Thursby, stated Poythress Environmental Service. Council Ogundu requested that a letter be sent to the company to see if the city can recover some of the fine money. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE FRANK'S CREEK PROJECT

Mayor Crowe reported that the city paid for an "in-depth study" of the water and sewer capacity with Stephenson and Palmer Engineering, dated September 2004. It was a comprehensive study. They looked at the potential growth in the area. They talked with some developers who are looking at some areas and would like to be annexed into the city. They found out that the city's water was fine. An additional 170 homes can be connected to the sewer without being in violation. When they met with the EPD in Atlanta, they found errors in the study that Stephenson and Palmer Engineering made. They had made a couple of minor errors that the EPD brought up at the meeting. They were unsure about the 170 water taps. Once the city executes the consent order, they are going to change our flow and then the city will be able to get the number of taps that we should get under this study.

Mayor Crowe asked PWD, John Thursby, to explain the monitoring and how we are going to accomplish this with the change. He stated that the problem exists because with the first treatment, we changed the monitoring so that all of the water that is treated is monitored. The flow that was going into the treatment pond, which is the secondary treatment of the plan. What we propose, or want to do, is change it from that monitoring point back to the original monitoring point with discharge through the Land Application System. It doesn't make any difference how much water we put into the holding pond, it makes a difference in how much water we put back into the environment. All of the water flowing out of the holding pond that could violate our permit is storage water. If we go to the Land Application System, it will let more water discharge. That will increase the amount of water flow.

Mayor Crowe stated that part of the problem is that during the wet months, November through April, a portion of the wastewater is directed to the constructed wetlands and then is discharged into a tributary of Frank's Creek. We are not able to discharge there on a 12 month period. We can put water on our Land Application System. Stephenson and Palmer Engineering, on their report, stated that the city would have to meet with EPD to discuss permit modifications, of which the city is doing. Once this is done they will change the permitting. Then Plan B stated that the city should plan to upgrade to accommodate additional flows to the treatment system. After talking with EPD, Stephenson and Palmer Engineering and another Engineering firm, we are going to need to discharge into Frank's Creek. We have a construction cost estimate to go to Frank's Creek. Approximate cost would be \$301,514.88. This is only a projection. We have spent \$10,000.00 on the study. The recommendations are there. We are going to get our permit change with execution of the consent order. We are going to be in a bind if we don't start this project. He asked for council's approval for the engineering phase of looking into going to Frank's Creek, although we will have our permit modified once the consent order is executed.

Council Ogundu made a motion to table it, seconded by Council Benjamin. Discussion followed. Council Benjamin asked if the city was looking for bids on the engineering. Mayor Crowe stated that this was basically a bid from Stephenson and Palmer. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE HAGAN BRIDGE ROAD SIDEWALK PROJECT

PWD, John Thursby, reported on the sidewalk project from Hagan Bridge Road to Claudia Drive. The sidewalk is set too close to the road. This is a traffic hazard. His plans are to install 18" pipe past the existing sidewalk to the road that they are proposing to put in. Put in a sidewalk on Claudia Drive up to Grace Street so that children will not be in the road. The cost would be around \$4,500.00.

Police Chief, Terry Davis, stated that the sidewalk definitely needed to be moved over.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve the sidewalk project, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

RECOGNITION

A. Thank you letter from Nspire Magazine

Mayor Crowe reported that this was a thank you letter from Nspire Magazine editor, Cindy Bardes, thanking the city for their help in the recent home makeover. The house that was remodeled is located on Railroad Street and the owner is David Ferrier. He asked that everyone support this magazine.

REPORTS

A. COUNCIL

Council Benjamin wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Council Ogundu congratulated Mayor and Jessica Crowe on their recent announcement on expecting their first baby.

Council Ogundu stated that last month, the council rejected his offer to attend a Govt. and Growth Conference in Atlanta. He felt that this would benefit the City of Hahira and he took it upon himself to attend the class. This was a very informational class.

Council Bullard wished everyone a happy holiday. He also stated that the ditches were looking good and complimented the Public Works Department. He invited those who could to join the American Legion and also to ride in the upcoming Christmas parade.

Council Nelson stated that there was a water problem in Audubon Heights. Water was flowing across Highway 41, causing a problem. Dr. Moye met with PWD, John Thursby to find out what needed to be done. The sidewalks have been completed on North Church Street.

Council Bullard stated that he had heard from many citizens who enjoyed the newsletter that was sent out.

B. City Manager

City Manager, Janice Logue, stated that the Christmas Parade would be on Saturday the 11th at 5:00 P.M., also a Christmas Bazaar would be held downtown starting at 10:00 AM and Open House starting about 3:00 P.M. They are hoping that the train display will be put up in the courthouse, but have run into some problems. She also stated that she had heard from citizens on the newsletter that was put out by the BHT and asked for support of the newsletter from local businesses through advertising. She wished everyone happy holidays.

C. Mayor

Mayor Crowe asked citizens and businesses to support the newsletter.

Mayor Crowe called on Police Chief, Terry Davis, to report on the Mayor's Day motorcade. Chief Davis stated that he and Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, are accepting donations of cash and gifts to be taken to Southwestern Hospital in Thomasville for the Mayor's Day motorcade.

Mayor Crowe stated that it was a blessing for him to go there each year. He also said that some of the local churches were sending donations.

Mayor Crowe stated that Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, was working on lowering the ISO rating in the city.

Mayor Crowe asked for a motion from council to enter into a short executive session.

Council Nelson made a motion to enter into an executive session, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Ramona Robison
Acting City Clerk

Special Council Meeting

December 20, 2004

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, December 20, 2004, at 9:30 A.M. at City Hall with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager, Janice Logue; City Clerk, Marilyn Brady; PWD, John Thursby; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe reported that "Citizens Wishing to be Heard" should be on the Agenda. He asked if there was anyone wishing to speak. There was no response.

APPROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING

Mayor Crowe called on Mr. Richard Hill, architect, to give his proposal. Mr. Hill stated that he appreciated the opportunity to speak to council on the new Fire Department building. He presented a set of drawings for council to review. The survey was made by Stan Folsom. They have been working to get the drawings ready for bid. Site plans were studied.

Mayor Crowe asked council if there were any questions. He then called for a motion to approve the completion of the plans and put it out for bids. **Council Nelson made a motion to proceed with the bid process, seconded by Council Ogundu. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

APPROVE UV LIGHTING PROPOSAL

PWD, John Thursby, recommended Georgia Power Company to put in the transformers. He said that the cost would not exceed \$5,000.00, and possibly would be no charge.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve Georgia Power to install the UV lighting and not to exceed \$5,000.00, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE FRANK'S CREEK PROPOSAL

Mayor Crowe reported on the proposal. Stephenson and Palmer Engineering cost would be 14% and Lovell would be 8%.

Council Nelson made a motion to go with Lovell for the Frank's Creek pump station, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Motion was amended to go with Lovell for Frank's Creek pump station and send the city two letters of recommendation, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE SARGENT STREET SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT

PWD, John Thursby, stated that he did not like the proposal from Stephenson and Palmer. He recommended to let Lovell do the study. Cost would be \$5,500.00.

Council Ogundu made a motion to let Jeff Lovell come and do the study, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE TEXT AMENDMENT ON SUBDIVISION REGULATION

Mayor Crowe reported on the text amendment. He suggested that the RDC study this.

Council Benjamin made a motion to enter into an executive session, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

The Special Meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

The Special Meeting re-opened after the executive session at 10:45 A.M.

Mayor Crowe asked for council to approve pay raises for the Department heads at 6%.

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Heads pay raises at 6%, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Crowe asked for council to approve a pay raise for Kimberly Hart, Better Hometown Director at \$10.00 per hour.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the Better Hometown Director's pay raise to \$10.00 per hour, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

Council Benjamin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

The Special Meeting ended at 11:00 A.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Marilyn Brady
City Clerk

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