

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 2, 2006

Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Thursday, November 2, 2006, at 7:30 P.M. at the courthouse with Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu presiding..

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem, Temple Ogundu; Councils Rose Adams, Terry Benjamin and Wayne Bullard; City Manager, Jonathan Sumner; PWD, Donnie Warren; Police Chief, Terry Davis; City Attorney, Rob Plumb; Recorder, Marilyn Brady.

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called the meeting to order and said there was a quorum.

Police Chief, Terry Davis, led the assembly in the Pledge to our flag followed with the invocation given by Mr. Wilmon Stanley.

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

- A. October 9, 2006 Work Session
- B. October 12, 2006 Council Meeting
- C. October 18, 2006, Special Called Meeting

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, asked Council if there were any corrections? There were none. He called for a motion to approve the minutes. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, asked Council if there were any questions on the bills? There were none. He asked for a motion to approve the bills. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, asked if Council wanted to add anything to the Agenda. **Council Benjamin made a motion to add a short executive session after the regular meeting, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Wilmon Stanley, 308 S. Washington Street, wanted to know when were they going to hear about the election in March? Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, explained that Council had to approve the Board of Elections handling the March election. This is on the Agenda tonight.

Ms. Ouida Lane, 210 Randall Street, thanked Council for choosing her bid on repairing the courthouse chairs. She asked everyone to get along and take care of the citizens of Hahira. She encouraged everyone to attend the revival, for all churches, which will be held November 13 – 19.

## NEW BUSINESS

### A) Downtown Development Committee Report – Scott Purvis

Mr. Purvis stated that the committee had already had 3 meetings. Council had asked the committee to look at the hospital and make some recommendations. They came up with 6 recommendations for the hospital. (1) Use it as a retirement/senior center for an activity center. (2) Assisted Living Facility with a medical staff. (3) Entrepreneur incubator for small business owners to rent space for up to 3 years. (4) Demolish the current structure and build a multi-use complex which could be used as an auditorium, conference room. (5) Demolish the current structure and sell the lot as commercial property with strict guidelines adhering to the downtown trend. (6) Partner with a local hospital to turn the building into a convenient care facility.

The committee has narrowed a list of 15 goals down to 4 goals for members to work toward. (1) Establishing a publicity marketing and advertising campaign. (2) Creating more set seasonal events while keeping and expanding the current annual events. (3) Establishing a uniform landscaping theme. (4) Establish a facade grant program to improve the structure of current downtown businesses.

Mr. Purvis stated that he wanted to keep Council updated on what was going on and report quarterly.

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, introduced new City Manager, Jonathan Sumner.

### B) Approve Lowndes County Board of Elections Agreement to handle March Special Municipal Election of the City of Hahira

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called for a motion. **Council Adams made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Elections that the city is in agreement, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

### C) Approve GMA Mayor's Day Conference for elected officials and City Manager – January 20-22, 2006

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called for a motion. **Council Bullard made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

D) Approve Mayor's Day Christmas Motorcade December 13 @ 10 A.M.

Police Chief, Terry Davis, stated that the city would take gifts over for the patients at Southwestern State Hospital in Thomasville. Every year they recognize the city with the most participants and he is hoping to get more participants this year. Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called for a motion. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Mayor's Day Christmas Motorcade, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

E) Approve corporate table (10 people) at Chamber of Commerce annual dinner

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called for a motion. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

#### DISCUSSIONS ON DEPARTMENT REQUEST

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, asked that these be approved as a Consent Agenda.

Council Adams requested Items B & C to be removed from Consent Agenda.

A) Approve annual volunteer firefighters training reimbursement - \$4,190.00

Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett, asked Council to approve the reimbursement for the volunteer firefighters.

D) Approve corporate resolution for City Manager

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, stated that the City Manager needed to be added to the resolution.

E) Approve to rebuild one transmission for the Dodge 2500 - \$1,500.00

PWD, Donnie Warren, asked for Council's approval to get the truck back in operation.

F) Christmas decorations – Nov. 27, 2006

Council Adams stated that the Christmas decorations would be put up before Thanksgiving.

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, called for a motion to approve Items A, D, E and F.

Council Adams asked for discussion on Item C (Approve to purchase 2005 Ford Crown Vic Patrol car from Kansas Highway Patrol - \$14,600.00), which could be put under the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, discussed Item B (Approve request to purchase 17" flat screen monitor for front desk) Council Adams stated that proposal was too high and said they should wait for more proposals. Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, suggested tabling this and allow the City Manager to purchase it. **Council Benjamin made a motion to approve A, C, D, E and F and let City Manager find the lowest price for the flat screen monitor, seconded by Council Bullard. Councils Bullard and Benjamin voted yes. Council Adams voted no. Motion passed.**

## REPORTS

### A) Council

Council Bullard stated that everything was looking good.

Council Benjamin stated that they met with DOT officials and the DOT committee this morning. He thought that everyone would be pleased. He said that all the departments had been doing well.

Council Adams congratulated Helen Pettijean for her work with the fall festival. She welcomed Jonathan Sumner as City Manager.

Council Bullard welcomed Jonathan Sumner and thanked the Police Department for a safe Halloween.

### B) Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem, Ogundu, also welcomed Jonathan Sumner and new Police Officer, Todd Pitchford. He said that he was pleased with the new design that the DOT had made for Exit 29.

### C) City Manager

City Manager, Jonathan Sumner, stated that he was very appreciative of the welcome he had received and was happy to be a part of the city's staff.

**Council Benjamin made a motion to adjourn regular session and go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.**

After the executive session ended, **Council Benjamin made a motion to return from executive session to regular session, seconded by Council Adams. Vote was unanimous.**

**Council Benjamin made a motion to allow the City Attorney to address mediation requirements between Hahira and Lowndes County as pertains to House Bill 489, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.**

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

Meeting ended at 10:20 P.M.

---

Temple Ogundu  
Mayor Pro Tem

---

Marilyn Brady  
Recorder