

Minutes of Hahira Council Meetings for December, 2010

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
NOVEMBER 29, 2010
6:30 P.M.
COURTHOUSE**

Mayor and Council met for a Work Session November 29, 2010 at the Courthouse with Mayor Wayne Bullard presiding.

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Bullard, Councils: Mayor Pro Tem Adams, Ralph Clendenin, Bruce Cain, Terry Benjamin, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Attorney Rob Plumb, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Director Donnie Warren, City Clerk Belinda Chappell.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

A.) November 01, 2010 Work Session

B.) November 04, 2010 Council Meeting

Mayor Bullard asked if there were any questions concerning the minutes. There were no questions concerning the minutes.

REVIEW OF BILLS/ BUDGET OVERAGES:

Mayor Bullard asked if there were any questions concerning the bills. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she had questions concerning a bill that was paid to Griffin Waste Management on the inert debris charges for \$5004.44. Adams stated she needed to know the exact charges for the inert debris due to the error in coding the charges in the system. City Manager Sumner stated the charges were \$627.84 for the inert debris charges and stated in the future, the charges would be separated with the tickets for the dumping fees for better explanation of charges. City Manager Sumner stated the remaining charges were for the roll-off container services. Mayor Pro Tem Adams also questioned the bill from the City of Valdosta for \$750 dollars. City Manager Sumner explained this payment was made due to the City of Valdosta sending a check to Hahira in error back in November of 2006 and this was for reimbursement of the check. Adams questioned a payment made to Wiregrass Development. Director Warren stated this was for the rock that was needed to fill in some potholes on the streets. Adams stated a \$50 dollar check was reimbursed on the rental of the rec. center and questioned why this was made. Sumner stated \$50 dollars was reimbursed to the Brady family due to the heat not working at the center.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A.) Proposed Transfer Station (Mayor Pro Tem Adams)

Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she had several questions for the City Attorney regarding the transfer station. Adams was concerned with the meaning of the word amortization and would like for the City Attorney to explain the meaning of the word. City Attorney Rob Plumb explained the meaning of amortization was like calculating your mortgage payment, like the amount your borrowing and the interest

rate you would pay and how long of a term you would pay that amount. Plumb stated amortization showed what your monthly payment would be and how much of that payment was for interest and how much was principal. Plumb stated that Allgreen wanted a longer term lease to be able to recoup the cost of building the facility. City Manager Sumner stated an example was given to Council on the explanation of the investment amount, interest rate, and the term of the proposed investment. The amortization schedule showed the value of the facility from 5 to 20 years term of the proposed contract. Mayor Pro Tem Adams was concerned if Council could tie up future Council with debt on an investment such as the transfer station. City Attorney Plumb stated this was not just talking about property but also the assumption of debt for future Council. City Manager Sumner stated that Council incurs debt all the time in terms of revenue bonds and loans, but this was something that Council should consider before going any further with the discussion of the transfer station. Plumb stated that Council would not be just taking on debt, the City would also be getting improved property back from the investment. Councilman Cain stated he had a question regarding the lease agreement portion of the code. Cain stated it read after a 5 year term lease it could be renewed for an additional 5 years but after that it would have to go out for bid, is what he understood. City Attorney Plumb stated technically the City would need to put it out for bid now, before going any further with the proposed investment to be in compliance. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she was concerned with the dimensions of the property to be leased and thought it needed to be added into the lease on the exact amount of property that Allgreen would want to rent from the City for the transfer station. Adams also asked that the number of buildings that would be built on the property be included into the lease agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Adams had questions concerning the section on waste services in the lease. Adams stated she needed to know if Allgreen was going to let the Hahira citizens use the center free of charge. Adams was concerned if there would be tipping fees, pulls, etc that the City would have to pay. Mr. J.C. Gillenwater, a representative from Allgreen stated the City would have no fees to pay unless the City exceeded the cap that was placed on the tonnage, which would be determined at a later date. City Manager Sumner stated he and the representative from Allgreen could get together to try and come up with a number for the tonnage based on the population increasing in Hahira to determine where the cap needed to be. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she disagreed with charging the City after going over the cap and stated she felt it should remain free of charge. Adams stated she could not see how the City would go over 30 tons of debris in one month. City Manager Sumner stated if the City made it mandatory for the residents to provide a current water bill and driver's license to dump at the site it should cut down on the tonnage per month being dumped and then the City should not exceed the cap. An Allgreen representative commented on the example of the amortization schedule and sending the transfer station out for bid. Allgreen stated they were anxious to build the transfer station in Hahira and stated it was a win-win partnership for the City, as well as, Allgreen.

B.) Amendments to the FY2010 Budget (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated there were two amendments to the FY 2010 budget. Sumner stated there was one associated with the general fund and one with the Proprietary fund. Sumner stated the one in the General fund was for the Better Home Town in the advertising line item for \$6111 dollars, which was paid for through the business owners but still counted as an expenditure in the general fund. Sumner stated the amendment in the Proprietary fund was for the inert debris line item and \$15,000 dollars was needed to be added to amend the budget. Sumner stated the Special Revenue budget showed basically what was actually expended for 2010. Sumner stated the amendments were advertised per code in the newspaper. Sumner stated he would entertain any questions Council may have. Councilman Clendenin stated he was concerned with the Special Revenue Budget and how much was actually in the bank. City Manager Sumner stated that could be found in the bank statement for the Special Revenue account. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she had questions with the BHT amendment on why the City would deduct from the Police patrol budget to amend the BHT budget. Sumner stated there was more budgeted in the Police budget than what was spent and the reasoning was due to the fluctuation in personnel in the Police department, so the funds would not be expended for that department. Sumner stated the funds did not have to be moved from the Police department, they could be moved from any other department that had extra budgeted funds that would not be expended by the end of FY2010. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated that Council needed to review the BHT budget in January 2011 and maybe cut back on the advertising line item. City Manager Sumner agreed.

DISCUSSIONS:

A.) Transfer Station Lease (Mayor Pro Tem Adams)

See discussion in the Public Hearing section, (A)

B.) Transportation Enhancement Project (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council that this was discussed at the special called meeting and that nothing had changed since then. Sumner stated there was a cost associated with the project that was not discussed at the meeting and it was lower than what it was estimated two years ago. Sumner stated the total project cost estimate was \$310,000 and that 25% of that cost would be what Council would be committing to if the grant was funded. Sumner stated around \$75,000 would be the amount Hahira would have to commit to for the project. Sumner stated he would entertain any questions Council may have. Councilman Clendenin had a question concerning the piping of the project. Sumner stated he understand they would be putting the sidewalks further away from the ditch and would just be looking at using fill dirt for the project, if he understood correctly. Councilman Clendenin stated he was concerned with how many total feet the project would be. City Manager Sumner stated he would have that information for Council by the Thursday night meeting.

C.) Ethics Committee Appointments

a.) Mayor- Mayor Bullard nominated Mr. Wilman Stanley

b.) Council- Mayor Pro Tem Adams nominated Mrs. Marilyn Dye, Councilman Clendenin nominated Mr. Patrick Warren, Councilman Cain had no nominee and Councilman Benjamin had no nominee.

c.) Mayor and Council- Mr. Wilman Stanley, Mrs. Marilyn Dye and Mr. Patrick Warren.

D.) 2011 Health Insurance – Proposed Amendments to the FY2011 Budget (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council the amendments to the FY2011 were not required until December of 2011. Sumner stated there were representatives from Partners Health Benefit to explain the insurance premiums to Council. Mr. Ronny Blanton and Paul Watkins explained the health benefits to Mayor and Council and the competitive pricing for the insurance companies. Blanton presented Mayor and Council with a comparison sheet for the different insurance companies. Blanton stated he had received quotes from several companies and they were actually higher than the renewal price of Nippon Life Insurance. Blanton stated a quote from Coventry Healthcare was received and was cheaper, but Blanton explained the pros and cons of the company. Blanton explained Coventry was not in the network of several of the local hospitals or physicians, which the employees would be utilizing, but their rates were cheaper per employee. Blanton explained the difference in deductibles and co-pays for the employee if the insurance was needed. Blanton stated if Council wished to pay less for the insurance coverage for the employees, then the choice would be Coventry but the employees would not have as many hospitals or physicians in the network and if they wished to pay a little higher premium for the insurance and have hospitals and physicians in the network then Council had the choice of staying with Nippon Insurance. Councilman Clendenin had a question for Council. Clendenin stated did Council think the employees could pick up the \$100 dollar a month difference in the premiums. City Manager Sumner stated he would refer that to the department heads to answer. Director Warren stated his employees who were making just a little more than minimum wage could not afford to pay out an extra \$100 a month. Warren stated they would have to drop the insurance coverage if they had to make up the \$100 a month. Mayor Pro Tem Adams suggested the option of maybe raising the wages of the employees to cover the

employee paying the extra insurance premium. City Manager Sumner stated that self insurance is almost impossible to afford. City Manager Sumner stated maybe Council could decide on which insurance company to use by Thursday night at the Council meeting.

E.) Permit Pre-Application (Mayor Pro Tem Adams)

Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated to Mayor and Council that in the overlay district there had been two signs that were installed at businesses and there had not been pre-applications filled out for the permit to be pulled. Adams stated the permit office needed to be notified of any construction going on in Hahira, a pre-application was needed before any work was to be done. City Manager Sumner stated he would contact the permit office and make sure a pre-ap is present before any permits are issued.

F.) Special Called Meeting Advertisement Policy (Mayor Pro Tem Adams)

Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated to Mayor and Council that she appreciated City Manager Sumner presenting Council with a copy of the ordinance relating to the advertisement policy. Adams stated she would like for Mayor and Council to go the extra mile on posting the advertisement for the citizens of Hahira to be notified of the meetings. Adams stated she would like for the sign to be placed on the front door, as well as, the marquee for the special called meeting advertisement. City Manager Sumner stated this would be done for all future meetings.

G.) Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Table (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council the annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner was approaching and needed to know if Council would like to buy a table for 10 at \$350 dollars. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated the last few times people was not attending the dinner and the table was not full. Adams suggested buying individual tickets and whoever wished to attend could purchase a ticket. City Manager Sumner stated the individual tickets were \$35 dollars per person. Sumner stated Council could discuss this and decide whether to buy a table or purchase individual tickets by the Thursday night meeting.

H.) Moody Support Committee Contribution (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated the City of Hahira has donated \$1000 dollars for this support committee in the last several years and needed to know if Council wanted to continue with this donation. Sumner stated this was for a good cause and recommended this be funded again for this year. Councilman Clendenin stated the way the economy was at this time, he felt \$1000 was an expense the City could not afford. Mayor Pro Tem Adams agreed the \$1000 was alot of money at the time to spend on this contribution. Clendenin suggested maybe contributing \$250 dollars to the committee.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:

A.) Christmas Bonuses and Excess Sick Leave (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated this was discussed in the last meeting and was postponed. Sumner stated that nothing had changed and it was up for consideration again.

CONTRACT RENEWALS:

A.) Jessica Freeman (Chief Davis)

Chief Davis stated the City was required by law to have a probation officer and Jessica had done a great job for Hahira in the past in bringing in revenue to the City as the probation officer.

B.) Robert Mellott Tech Service Contract (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated Robert Mellott's contract for technical support was up for renewal.

C.) Griffin Solid Waste (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated it was time to renew the garbage contract with Griffin Waste Services. Sumner stated if the contract was renewed, the City would still have the 90 day notice in place to switch garbage services if they chose to do so. Sumner stated he was working on the RFP for bids on the garbage contract from other companies. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she would like to see a new contract drawn up to exclude the roll-off portion of the contract. Adams stated she would like to get away from the roll-off services with Griffin. Mayor Bullard asked if Council was willing to get away from the billing for the roll-offs and just continue the billing for the residential garbage pickup. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated if the City was no longer doing the roll-off services, then the City would not be billing for those services, it would be through Griffin Solid Waste.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Mayor, Wayne Bullard

City Clerk, Belinda Chappell

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2010
7:30 P.M.
COURTHOUSE**

Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting December 02, 2010 at the Courthouse with Mayor Wayne Bullard presiding.

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Bullard, Councils: Mayor Pro Tem Adams, Terry Benjamin, Ralph Clendenin, Bruce Cain, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Director Donnie Warren, City Clerk Belinda Chappell.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wayne Bullard

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Wayne Bullard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Wayne Bullard

INVOCATION: Councilman Terry Benjamin

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

A.) November 01, 2010 Work Session

B.) November 04, 2010 Council Meeting

Mayor Bullard asked if there were any questions concerning the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated she had a correction that was needed on thanking Councilman Benjamin and former Councilman Ogundu for their hard work on putting the ethics ordinance together and being involved in helping Hahira become a certified City of Ethics. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Cain made a motion, seconded by Councilman Benjamin, vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS/ BUDGET OVERAGES:

Mayor Bullard asked if there were any questions concerning the bills. Councilman Clendenin stated he had a question regarding the revenue statement on showing the SPLOST money in the general fund. Clendenin stated it was misleading showing the amount as revenue in the general fund. Clendenin stated if a person did not understand the way it read, it would seem that the City was ahead in revenue. City Manager Sumner stated all of the expenditures were booked through the general fund to help balance out those books and it payed for general fund capital expenditures per the referendums. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Clendenin made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Adams, vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A.) Proposed Transfer Station (Mayor Pro Tem Adams)

Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated there had been discussion in the past meetings explaining what a transfer station was and that the Public Hearing was for anyone wishing to ask questions regarding the transfer station. Mr. Wilmon Stanley residing at 308 Washington Street. Mr. Stanley addressed Mayor Pro Tem and Council with questions regarding where the transfer station would be located. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated it would be located at the old recycle center site. Stanley also asked how many days the transfer station is open for service. City Manager Sumner stated if was being discussed on whether to have it open 2 or 3 days per week compared to one day a week now for our recycle center. Marilyn Dye residing at 205 Redbird Place Hahira. Mrs. Dye addressed Mayor Pro Tem and Council with questions regarding the transfer station. Mrs. Dye was concerned if there was anyone with Allgreen to contact with specific questions about the transfer station. City Manager Sumner stated there was a representative from Allgreen she could contact by email or phone. Dye also had questions regarding the comment of the transfer station being a win/win situation for Hahira. City Manager Sumner stated that the City would benefit from the opening of a site to take yard debris and other waste to the site, also the City would be saving money by not staffing the site as the City does currently. Sumner stated the City would be bringing in revenue of a minimal \$600 a month by having the transfer station at that location. Mrs. Dye had several questions regarding the transfer station and stated she would contact the representative from Allgreen for the answers to her questions.

B.) Amendments to the FY2010 Budget (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council this was advertised in the newspaper per the code and the amendments were also available for public inspection, which no one had questioned. Sumner stated the three amendments were reviewed on Monday night at the Work

Session and he would entertain any further questions Council may have. There were no questions at that time. Mayor Bullard asked if there was anyone wishing to speak in favor of the budget amendments. There was no one wishing to speak in favor. Mayor Bullard asked if there was anyone wishing to speak against the budget amendments. There was no one wishing to speak against. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Benjamin made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cain, vote was unanimous.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Mr. Wilmon Stanley residing at 308 Washington Street Hahira. Mr. Stanley addressed Mayor and Council with the question of was Harvey's Grocery Store still on track to open by March 2nd. City Manager Sumner stated the target date for opening was still March 2nd2011.

DISCUSSIONS

A.) Removed

B.) Moved to Consent Agenda

C.) Ethics Committee Appointments

a.) Mayor- Mayor Bullard nominated Mr. Wilmon Stanley

b.) Council- Council collectively put together two nominations those being, Mrs. Marilyn Dye

and Mr. Patrick Warren.

c.) Mayor and Council -

City Manager Sumner stated Mr. Stanley was automatically appointed by the Mayor and that Mrs. Dye and Mr. Warren needed to be voted on separately by Council. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Clendenin made a motion to appoint Mr. Patrick Warren, seconded by Councilman Cain, vote was unanimous. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to appoint Mrs. Marilyn Dye. Mayor Pro Tem Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clendenin, vote was unanimous.

D.) 2011 Health Insurance (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council this was discussed on Monday night at the work session and there were two options that were competitive to what the City had for health insurance at the time. Sumner stated there was the option to renew with Nippon Life which was who the City had presently but there would be a slight increase in costs or the option of going with Coventry for comparable benefits with a slight reduction in costs but there were not as many hospitals or doctors in the network with Coventry. Sumner stated he would answer any questions Council may have. Councilman Clendenin asked if the deductible was cheaper with Coventry. City Manager Sumner stated the deductible was cheaper but the numbers of providers were not the same as Nippon offered. Councilman Clendenin asked if the City stayed with Nippon where were the funds going to come from to make up the difference in costs. City Manager Sumner stated the amendment to the budget would not have to be assessed until December of the next fiscal year. Mayor Bullard recommended staying with Nippon and City Manager Sumner stated the funds

could be found to cover the difference in costs. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Cain made a motion to stay with Nippon, seconded by Councilman Benjamin, vote was unanimous.

E.) Removed

F.) Removed

G.) Moved to Consent Agenda

H.) Moved to Consent Agenda

DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:

A.) Christmas Bonuses & Excess Sick Leave (City Manager)

City Manager Sumner stated to Mayor and Council this was postponed from last month's meeting and that nothing had changed. Sumner stated he would answer any questions Council may have. Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated when she had questions about the bonuses she was very concerned if the City had the money to spend, but most if it was due to how the Incode system reports were prepared. City Manager Sumner stated he was confident that the money was there for the bonuses. Councilman Clendenin stated he had a question for the department heads and if they had everything they needed for the year or did they have to scale back on things. Chief Davis stated his department scaled back but still provided the services needed to the citizens. Director Warren and Chief Bennett stated their departments scaled back as well but still provided the services to the citizens. City Manager Sumner stated capital expenditures were purchased for the different departments through SPLOST as per the referendums, which took care of some of the needs of each department. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion. Councilman Benjamin made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cain, vote was unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A.) Jessica Freeman Contract

B.) Robert Mellott Tech Service Contract

C.) Griffin Solid Waste Contract

D.) Transportation Enhancement Project

E.) Chamber of Commerce Annual Tickets

F.) Moody Support Committee Contribution

Mayor Bullard asked if there were any questions concerning the consent agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams asked if the Griffin Waste contract would include the new provisions of the 90 day notification and the exclusion of the roll-offs with the renewal of the contract. City Manager Sumner stated the new provisions would be included. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to

approve the consent agenda. Councilman Cain made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clendenin, vote was unanimous.

REPORTS:

Councilman Clendenin thanked all the department heads for doing a great job throughout the year. Clendenin thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Clendenin congratulated all the new members of the Ethics Committee.

Councilman Cain thanked all the department heads for working hard and doing a great job with the budget they had to work with. Cain thanked the City Clerk, City Manager, Mayor and Council for doing a great job. Cain congratulated the new members of the Ethics Committee and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Councilman Benjamin thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Benjamin thanked all the departments for the job they had done for the year and for doing a great job with staying within the budget. Benjamin thanked the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, City Clerk and Office staff for a job well done this year. Benjamin congratulated the new members of the Ethics Committee. Councilman Benjamin wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams thanked Marilyn Dye and Wilmon Stanley for being willing to serve the community on the Ethics Committee. Adams thanked Director Warren for decorating the City for the holidays and the upcoming events. Adams thanked the department heads for doing a wonderful job throughout the year. Adams thanked Emily Newkirk for the wonderful job she had done for the City and wished her luck on her journey. Adams thanked her fellow Council members and Mayor for the job they do. Adams invited everyone to Church Street Coffee to meet and greet Mr. Jason Shaw and Sam Olenes. Adams wished everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and that everyone always remember the reason for the season.

City Manager Sumner thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve. Sumner thanked the department heads for doing a great job and staying within the budget for FY2010. Sumner thanked everyone for attending the meeting and thanked Emily Grace Newkirk for the tremendous job she had done for the City over the past two years. Sumner wished everyone a Merry Christmas and happy holidays.

Mayor Bullard thanked Emily Newkirk for the wonderful job she had done for the City. Mayor thanked the department heads for another great year of staying within the budget. Mayor thanked Council for backing him up on everything done in Hahira. Mayor congratulated the new Ethics Committee members. Mayor thanked the City Manager, City Clerk, and all office staff for a job well done.

Emily Grace Newkirk, the Downtown Development Coordinator gave a farewell speech to Mayor, Council, Department Heads and staff on her great opportunity to work for the City of Hahira and stated she appreciated each and everyone, and would miss Hahira dearly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to come out of the regular meeting and enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Councilman Benjamin made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clendenin, vote was unanimous. Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to come out of executive session and enter back into the regular meeting authorizing the Mayor to sign the affidavit saying the only thing discussed was personnel matters. Councilman Benjamin made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cain, vote was unanimous.

Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Benjamin made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clendenin, vote was unanimous.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Mayor, Wayne Bullard

City Clerk, Belinda Chappell

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