

**HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**JANUARY 9, 2014**

**7:30 P.M.**

**COURTHOUSE**

Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting January 9, 2014 at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Ralph Clendenin, Mason Barfield, Kenneth Davis, Mayor Pro Tem Terry Benjamin, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, PW Director Donnie Warren and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Cub Scout Michael Sumner, Webelos Den, Pack 415

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Mike Wells, Northbridge Church

**OATH OF OFFICE:**

- A. Councilman, District 1 Terry Benjamin sworn in by Karen Camion (sister).
- B. Councilman District 4 Mason Barfield sworn in by Elizabeth Barfield (spouse) and witnessed by his mother Ms. H.M. Barfield.
- C. Mayor Bruce Cain sworn in by Judge Vernita Lee Bender and witnessed by Billie Cain (spouse).

**RECOGNITION OF SERVICE:**

- A. Ms. Rose Adams-Council, District 4 as not present to receive recognition and plaque.

- B. Mr. Wayne Bullard, Mayor received recognition for his 7 years of service as Mayor of Hahira. Mayor Cain said that it was a privilege to work with him and thanked him for all the hard work that he did for the City of Hahira. He was presented with a plaque.

**COUNCIL ELECTION-MAYOR PRO TEM:**

The Mayor asked for a nominee for the Mayor Pro Tem Seat. Councilmember Barfield nominated Terry Benjamin for Mayor Pro Tem. **A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to have Councilmember Terry Benjamin serve as Mayor Pro Tem which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

**COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS for 2014:**

Mayor Cain stated that every year each Councilmember is assigned to oversee different departments in the City. The assignments are as follows: Councilmember Clendenin Parks & Recreation and Streets; Councilmember Davis Fire Department and Planning & Zoning; Councilmember Barfield Police department and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin water/sewer and sanitation.

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:**

- A. **December 2, 2013 Work Session**
- B. **December 5, 2013 Council Meeting**
- C. **December 11, 2013 Special Called Meeting**

Mayor Cain asked if anyone had any questions or correction to the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin stated that no corrections were noted. **A motion was made by Councilmember Barfield to accept the minutes as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Clendenin and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**TRUCK TRAFFIC RESTRICTION ORDINANCE:**

City Manager Sumner said to update this is an ordinance requested by Councilmember Clendenin regarding truck traffic in residential areas. City Attorney Rob Plumb summarized the ordinance stating that it will restrict large trucks more than 6 wheels from residential areas from S Nelson to Hwy 122 and S. Hagenbridge to Hwy 122 with the exception for local delivery only. He said this will stop thru trucks from going through the residential area. City Manager Sumner said that this is a first reading. He said that if everyone votes in favor there will be no more readings for this ordinance. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against. None noted. The Mayor then asked if anyone wished to speak in favor. None noted. **A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to accept the truck traffic restriction ordinance which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

None noted.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

City Manager Sumner stated that all questions regarding the budget and amendments a have been answered and completed for the 2013 budget. He then asked if anyone had any questions. None noted.

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

**DISCUSSIONS:**

**A. W/S BOND REFINANCING (AMERIS BANK)**

Jason Glass from Ameris Bank said that he is here to update the Mayor and Council on the discussion from Monday night and to discuss the options re bond refinance. He stated no increase to interest or the amount. Mr. Glass stated that a loan of \$995,000 with time of 28 years down to 20 years and lower interest rate would have a total interest saving of \$580,000 and annual savings of \$5,400. City Manager Sumner said that he had discussion with Mr. Lee of Ameris Bank that day and that he learned that Ameris would require a rate increase for cash flow perspective of possible \$3.00 to base

charge for each resident. Sumner said that staff recommends we hold over to the February meeting and Jason Glass said that he wanted more information from the City and that the delay could increase the interest rate and the City not see the same savings. **Councilmember Barfield made a motion to postpone until February meeting which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **H. GDOT INTERCHANGE LIGHTING CONTRACT**

City Manager Sumner said that this was held over from Monday night and to summarize that it was for the Exit 29 redesign. He said that the construction schedule was to start the project in 2016 to be final in 2019. He stated that the exit 22 contract was approved and now they are seeking approval for the City to approve the lighting for exit 29. Sumner stated that they would install the lighting for exit 29 and that the City would have to pay the approximate amount of \$25,000 per year for the lighting. He said that the stated mandates what they install and that the question regarding different light size would not save money but that they need a commitment the City will pay for the lighting power. Councilmember Barfield said this information is needed to do the infrastructure and stub it out for the overpass. HE stated that he is sure it is needed to go ahead with the infrastructure. Sumner said that he attended a meeting regarding this and that there will be other meetings in regards with the design at a later time. He said that we need to commit and they will put it in the plans and that other modifications will be made later. Councilmember Barfield stated that there is such a slope there and that he thinks we need better lighting. **Councilmember Barfield made a motion to accept the GDOT Interchange lighting contract which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Clendenin and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **DEPARTMENT REQUEST:**

##### **B. CITY MANAGER/DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

City Manager Sumner stated that he would like to provide information to Mayor and Council in a format that they would like for it to be in. He stated that we like to keep Mayor and Council informed via email or phone and asked what they thought of the weekly format that we have now.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin stated that a lot of the information is repetitive and that he thought a bi-monthly report would be sufficient. **A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin to do a bi-monthly report which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. SANITATION SERVICES CONTRACT
- B. FIRE TRUCK RFP
- C. ODOM BUILDING ARCHITECT RFP
- D. AGENDA SUBMISSION/PACKET DISTRIBUTION/DEPARTMENT REQUEST FORMS
- E. GMA CITY OF ETHICS RE-CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION
- F. BARFIELD SIDE STREET CLOSURE PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
- G. CLERK'S WINTER CONFERENCE
- H. GCCMA SPRING CONFERENCE

**Councilmember Clendenin made a motion to accept the consent agenda which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Cain all voted in favor of the motion.**

**REPORTS:**

Councilmember Clendenin said that it is nice to see a full house tonight. He said that he wished the Mayor and new Councilmember's good luck and hope that they can all work together. He stated that there are a lot of activities planned and for everyone to please try to attend. He recognized the former Mayor.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin thanked all for coming out and for the opportunity to serve the citizens of District 1. He welcomed the new Mayor and Councilmember's and said that he was looking forward to working with each one of them in the upcoming year. He thanked the former Mayor Wayne Bullard and said that he had done a lot of good for the City of Hahira. He also thanked former Councilmember Adams and said that she

too had done a lot of good things for the City and that she always had the City of Hahira at heart. He said that he was looking forward to a great 4 years.

Councilmember Davis said thank you to all the citizens and to Mayor and Council. He said that as a new member he is looking forward to working with this good group of people.

Councilmember Barfield thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve this City. He said that he sees a lot of familiar people, many have watched him grow up and that he is looking forward to paying back what I owe. He said that he will work with staff to move forward and that as a former Councilmember in another City that the true power is in the audience here tonight. He then said if you see something that needs to be done let us know. He said that this City is small enough to express ourselves and encourage us so that we can move forward.

City Manger Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and that he would like to recognize former City Manager Scott Purvis and former Mayor Myron Crowe who are here tonight with us. He said that he has been with the City for the last 8 years and that we are all family oriented. He said that he loves to work and live in the City of Hahira. He thanked the department heads and said that it was a pleasure to work with them. He said he has never had a boss like the former Mayor Bullard and said that he considers him to be a friend and mentor. He thanked Councilmember Adams for her service and for always giving 110%. He said she always drives us to do better. He said that he is pleased and thinks that the City is in good hands.

Mayor Bruce Cain thanked everyone for coming tonight and said that you in the audience keep us all straight. Thank you to former City Manager Scott Purvis and former Mayor Myron Crowe for coming out tonight. He then thanked all department heads for their hard work.

Mayor Bruce Cain asked for a motion to adjourn. **Councilmember Barfield made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Clendenin and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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Mayor Bruce Cain

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City Clerk Lisa Mashburn.