

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL

WORKSESSION

AUGUST 3, 2015

6:30 P.M.

COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Work session August 3, 2015 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

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

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

- A. JULY 6, 2015 WORK SESSION**
- B. JULY 9, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the minutes. None noted.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the bills. None noted.

DISCUSSIONS:

A. DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS)

Councilmember Davis said that as discussed at the July meeting the first step in forming a DDA would be to create a map. City Manager Sumner said that we have a map that was created a long time ago and the Mayor and City Manager reviewed the map and updated. Davis said that he understands the next step after discussion of map is to appoint a board and to talk about criteria and qualifications. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the map. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said so this was created by the City Manager and Mayor and does not include a lot of residential area in it. City Manager Sumner said the effort was to create recognizable areas by streets and include commercial property, North and South Church Street and East and West Main Street. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin asked if the business owners had been contacted and said that he thought to set up an authority of this nature that 51% would need to be contacted and agree. City Manager Sumner said that this is not a taxing action, if the body decided later to make it taxable then you would have to have 51% and a referendum. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said so we have no taxing authority at this time. City Manager Sumner said yes that is correct. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said that he thought the Railroad property should not be included in the DDA map. Councilmember Davis and Councilmember Barfield asked what the fear was in having the property in the DDA map. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said that the DDA can take over the property. City Manager Sumner stated that the DDA does not have the power to take the property from the City. The City can transfer property if they desire but no the DDA cannot take the property over. Councilmember Davis said if we take it out will that make things more difficult. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin said that he thinks we

should redo the map and take that property out. Councilmember Barfield said well if we take that out then do we go back and take all our buildings out. Councilmember Barfield talked about moving the lines around other properties. Councilmember Davis said do we want to take the properties out of map, he understands the point and states that it can always be changed. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin asked what is the next step, document to show the map and interview people. City Manager Sumner said you must have a map and members and that would enact the DDA and stated that we have a sample resolution that can be used. There was more discussion regarding the lines for the map. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin asked what is the Central business district. Sumner said from Main to I-75 and 122. He stated that the borders can be what the Council wants it to be. Councilmember Barfield asked if the lines will need to connect. City Manager Sumner said yes it needs to be continuous. The Mayor stated we will have more discussion on Thursday night.

DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:

A. POLICE DEPARTMENT SALARY INCREASE (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner said the starting salary for the police department is unworkable. We are having a problem recruiting officers because of the starting pay. The starting wage is low and it needs to be adjusted. The total cost of the impact will be \$3703.00. Councilmember Davis asked if it is within our proposed budget. Sumner said yes it is. Councilmember Benjamin said the last time we talked about this was in 2002 which was 13 years ago.

B. FY 15-16 COLA (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager said this a request for 3% COLA for the remaining City employees. IT is included in the FY15 budget.

C. W/S EXCAVATOR TRAILER-SPLOST VII-(PWD WARREN)

PWD Warren stated that we need a trailer for the excavator. He stated that we have had the old trailer for 15 years and he does not feel that it is safe to carry the excavator. The cost of the new trailer will be about \$3,500.00.

D. GEORGIA RURAL WATER FALL CONFERENCE (PWD WARREN)

PWD Warren would like to attend the Georgia Rural Water Fall Conference. It is a 3 day conference and it keeps up his certification and it is for information purposes.

SET AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:

AUGUST COUNCIL AGENDA

-DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

AUGUST CONSENT AGENDA

-POLICE DEPARTMENT SALARY INCREASES

-FY 15-16 COLA

W/S EXCAVATOR TRAILER

-GEORGIA RURAL WATER FALL CONFERENCE

FY16 BUDGET WORKSHOP I:

City Manager Sumner said this is the first workshop to review the budget. He stated that he thought we could hold the millage rate at 4.75 which is the lowest that it has been. He stated that he has not received the rate information but is expecting it in the next 2 weeks. He said that from what we understand that it will be around September 1. He said that once it is received we will have to have public hearings, advertise and have a Special Called Meeting. He stated that he will send the information to Mayor and Council as soon as he receives it. City Manager Sumner reviewed areas of the budget and asked if anyone had any questions. None noted. He stated that if anyone has any questions to please call or email him as needed. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. None noted.

The Mayor reminded everyone of the Back to School Bash on August 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Councilmember Barfield to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Barfield all voted in favor of the motion. Councilmember Benjamin recused himself from the discussion.

A motion was made by Councilmember Barfield to come out of executive session which was seconded by Councilmember Davis. Mayor Pro Tem Clendenin, Councilmember Barfield and Councilmember Davis all voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURN

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN