

CITY OF HAHIRA
COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2018
6:00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting September 6, 2018 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Patrick Warren, Kenneth Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Mason Barfield. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Police Chief Terry Davis and PWD Donnie Warren. Councilman Terry Benjamin was not present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bruce Cain

INVOCATION: Pastor Mike Wells

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

- A. JULY 31, 2018 WORK SESSION**
- B. AUGUST 2, 2018 MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING #1-11:30 A.M.**
- C. AUGUST 2, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING**
- D. AUGUST 9, 2018 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

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

Mayor Pro Tem Barfield made a motion to approve the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Davis, Councilman Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- A. HA-2018-02 REZONING REQUESTS BY ORVIS MCNEAL ESTATE (PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR)**

P & Z Administrator Matt Martin stated that we have two separate requests as discussed at the Work Session on Tuesday night. The request is 64.32 acres and the 3675 would require annexation of 36.75 acres at R-21. The rest is R-15 and in the City. The request is to rezone all 64 acres at F-6, R-10 and R-15. There would be 138 lots with single family homes. This is a suburban area and at the perimeter of the City of Hahira and the request is for mix use. The Planning Commission met on August 27, 2018 and recommended approval of R-10 lots. They had no problem with the Annexation request. Mayor Pro Tem Barfield stated if we annex and zoning at R-10 for all, can the developer come back with different lay out or proposal? Mr. Martin said the door is always open they can come back with another proposal. The Mayor stated that is on a 12 month cycle, if the decision is denied then they would have to wait 12 months that is state law. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. None noted. The

Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor.

Tim Coombs of 307 W Lawson Street said I would like to point out that we missed out on an opportunity for a subdivision in previous years and it went to the County. We need to make it work, I hate to see Hahira turn it down and Lowndes County come in.

Dwight Bennett of 512 N Church Street said that he is property owner with adjacent property to that area. I would like to speak in favor of the Subdivision. It now has a farmer that dumps 20,000 lbs. of chicken manure there and it has a really bad smell 200 feet from the door.

Chris Connell of 5996 highway 41 North Hahira thanked everyone for being here and the opportunity to bring what his great grandfather started back in the early years to Hahira. I spent my childhood here, had my first business here selling boiled peanuts and hot dogs at the tobacco barn. I have put together the best plan that I can, the subdivision will meet the needs of the community and shines well on the family. I understand that no one here has any opposition to the project and I hope we can move forward.

Jerry Stoker of 4836 Oak Arbor Drive, Valdosta said he would be the developer for this project. It is a beautiful piece of property and I am honored to work on this project. The only opposition I am hearing is the R-6 (60 foot lots), this is the new generation of housing. The houses would be 1550-1750 foot the same type of houses on 80 foot lot. I have never seen had 10 ½ acres of green space to work with. Thank you for the opportunity.

Council remarks: Mayor Pro Tem Barfield said once the concept is approved, we will see the details lots laid out. Matt Martin said yes the lot size will not change, the roads will change and shift about 10%. The number of R-6 would not change. Barfield then said if all approved at R-10 then it would be annexed and zoned and they would move forward. They could come back and not delay construction with a more definitive plan. Chris stated that if you approve it tonight, this is 5 years in the making and not cheap then this is a big moment to move forward with the R-10. Councilman Warren said that he appreciated you coming and speaking to us, it is a unique and diverse plan. I am impressed. I think we should change to R-10 at minimum. Chris said we will lose some lots but given that this better matches what looks best and meets comprehensive plan. City Manager Sumner said we all struggle with R-6, we have a subdivision in the City that is R-6 and it was tough. Barfield stated there are other projects with diversity, a number of subdivisions have mixed density and it works. Councilman Warren said we have R-6, R-10 and R-15 in one subdivision. Councilman Davis said with the changing numbers this proposal accommodates possible larger lots, I think we should leave them all R-10 due to the concerns of all. I think R-10 across the board is the best way to go with the master plan. Mayor Pro Tem Barfield said you can say all R-10 and create a specific R-15 area. We have two choices we can go with all three zones or all R-10 across the board. Mayor Pro Tem Barfield said that he hates to lose the R-6 market. Councilman Davis said he is good with both options. **Councilman Warren made a motion to approve HA-2018-02 with R-10 zoning and Councilman Davis seconded the motion. Councilman Warren and Councilman Davis voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Barfield opposed the motion. The vote was 2-1.**

B. HA-2018-03 ANNEXATION REQUEST BY ORVIS MCNEAL ESTATE (PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR)

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Annexation request. None noted. **Councilman Warren made a motion to approve HA-2018-03 Annexation which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Barfield. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.**

C. FY18 BUDGET PRELIMINARY ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that we started working on the FY 19 Budget about 6 months ago. The Preliminary adoption is part of the process. We have advertised and received no comments about the budget. The formal adoption would be at the next month meeting.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in opposition of the FY19 Budget. None noted.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the FY19 Budget. None noted.

Mayor Pro Tem Barfield made a motion to approve the FY19 Preliminary Budget which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Mayor Pro Tem Barfield, Councilman Davis and Councilman Warren all voted in favor of the motion.

D. PUBLIC PARK HOURS-SUNRISE TO SUNSET TEXT AMENDMENT (FIRST READING-CITY MANAGER)

This originated as a request of Councilman Warren after discussion with the Police department.

We need to have defined hours for our parks. It would be sunrise to sunset hours. This is the first reading, if the vote is unanimous it will be approved and codified. **A motion was made by**

Councilman Warren to approve the Sunrise to Sunset text amendment which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Wilmon Stanley of 308 S Washington Street said that he would like to commend the Mayor, Council, City Manager and City Clerk on the job you are doing. District I citizens appreciate what you are doing to move this City forward. As a Vet I would like to remind everyone of the fundraiser for a new van. The old one is breaking down. I thank you for your previously discussed donation.

Aaron Strickland of 4906 Tracewood Circle said that he is a District 2 candidate for County representative. I would like to help make life better in Lowndes County and would like to see growth, prosperity and progress. We have three colleges and people graduate and leave for jobs, we need good paying jobs not politicians. I work for the Keep Valdosta Beautiful program and have for the last 18 years and I am also the director of the Azalea Festival. I am a dedicated person with proven leadership.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

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

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

DISCUSSIONS:

A. LAWSON RAILROAD FORCED CROSSING CLOSURE (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager gave a brief history of the Lawson Street Railroad crossing issue. After appeal to Dot for final decision we have been notified that they will close the crossing. It is set for September and the signs were posted last week. We are thankful that the STANFILL Street crossing has been improved and raised up.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. GCCMA FALL CONFERENCE**
- B. RESOLUTION TO COMMEND MICHAEL JACOBS, SGRC**
- C. VANS FOR VETERANS-\$1,000 DONATION**
- D. REAL ESTATE ACQUISITION-109 SOUTH WEBB STREET \$5,807.19**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Consent Agenda. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Barfield made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Davis, Councilman Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.**

REPORTS:

Councilman Davis said that he would like to thank everyone for coming tonight.

Councilman Warren said that he is pleased with the outcome tonight and it is a very good feeling. I think everyone is committed to the Subdivision project and it will all move forward now. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Mayor Pro Tem Barfield I would like to thank the directors in each department for what they do and thank you everyone for showing up. This is the first time I have had a nay vote, think outside the box, we need to attract retirees. I am glad that it will move forward and I am confident that it will be quality work. I appreciate everyone showing up and all the interest.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. I feel blessed to work with great staff who act professional and the dedication of the employees. I commend you for not passing by this opportunity of the annexation and subdivision.

Mayor Cain thank all the department heads, we have the best. He thanked Lisa, Carol, Victoria and Emily, I love working with you all. We have the best Council, this is the first time we have had a split vote, one time in 3 years.

Mayor Pro Tem Barfield made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Warren. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:40 P.M.

ADJOURN.

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN