

CITY OF HAHIRA
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2019
6: 00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

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

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. JUNE 4, 2019 WORK SESSION**
- B. JUNE 6, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Chris Hopianic of 112 Union Street Cecil Georgia stated that she moved here about 8 months ago and she has a tour business for the last 13 years. She is now in Savannah Georgia and Tampa Florida. She said that she was here to offer business for Hahira area, she would like to help people know the real history of Hahira and she is a family friendly business. She now has Savannah Ghost Hunter Tours.

Wilmon Stanley of 308 S Washington Street said he would like to give thanks and gratitude to Chief Davis and staff. Over the last 30 days they had a call to his nieces house and sister in laws house and I thank you for contacting me. I would also like to thank the Fire department for all their help when my kitchen caught fire. They all do a good job and I thank them all.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

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

DISCUSSION:

A. DEMOLITION OF OLD FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING-\$14,000-CPEI

City Manager Sumner stated this was discussed on Tuesday night, the quotes are in your packets. You voted on the asbestos abatement at the May meeting and now the quote for the demolition is \$14,000. I would like to point out that this is not SPLOST VII eligible and is not budgeted but can be done by amendment to the General fund. The balance of the general fund is 192,000 which is down at this time, the account should start to increase in October with property taxes starting to come in at that time. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. Councilman Warren stated the abatement is \$3,100 is this all separate. Sumner stated yes they would do abatement first and then the demolition. Councilman Warren asked if the DDA has a plan for this property once it is cleared. Sumner stated that this arose at the March DDA meeting when discussion of City properties came up. We have the building on Lowndes Street which is old public works building but the City needs to keep this space for storage in future. IT was suggested that the City tear down the old Fire department building and put in a parking lot. Mayor Pro Tem Davis said the DDA was looking for projects to come about not deed the land to the DDA, they would like to demolish the building and put in parking. Sumner stated that the next scheduled DDA meeting is set for September 2019. Councilman Benjamin asked Mayor Pro Tem Davis if he had concerns. He stated no but Councilman Barfield said the development of the Downtown Square is the vision and we may have to take on some of the funds. Councilman Barfield said I think this project should be done, spend the \$14,000 and get it down. November 5, 2019 we will find out about SPLOST VIII and go from there. City Manager Sumner stated we will pay for Hahira Square out of SPLOST VIII no General fund. Councilman Warren asked if the building was condemned. No it is owned by the City and needs a lot of repair. Councilman Warren said he would like to go into the building. Councilman Barfield said I think we should table it until next month. The Mayor asked the Fire Chief do you think CPEI would honor the bid for 90 days. He is not sure but can check with them. Councilman Warren said I think we should let people know this is going to happen. It seems we have several options. We can auction off the property and let people be aware, I think we should postpone and revisit in August. **Councilman Barfield made a motion to table until the August meeting which was seconded by**

Councilman Benjamin. Councilman Barfield, Councilman Benjamin, Councilman Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Davis all voted in favor of the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. HARDWARE & SOFTWARE UPGRADES \$2,526-IT PROVIDER-SPLOST VII**
- B. SWING SET FOR CITY PARK \$1,943 LOWES-SPLOST VII**
- C. FIRE DEPARTMENT GENERATOR \$20,906 ANDERSON POWER, BARFIELD GAS-SPLOST VII**

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

REPORTS:

Councilman Warren thanked everyone for coming out tonight and I think the Ghost tour is interesting and I think we should work on it and hear more. We have had a lot of car break in on Facebook. Please do not keep valuable in vehicles and lock your vehicle. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I missed the fireworks this year but I do not plan to miss them next year.

Councilman Barfield thanked everyone for getting out in this heat to come tonight. There has been a lot of attention on the Women's Soccer team and I am proud of them. The young lady that picked up the flag that they walked on was from this area and I am proud of her. I do understand there is a problem with equal opportunity with equal pay but I do think they can think of a more positive way to express ourselves. Thank you for the opportunity to be here tonight. Thank you.

Councilman Benjamin thanked everyone for coming out tonight and for the opportunity to serve District 1. The Fire department and Police department respond very fast and I appreciate them. I appreciate all the employees in this place that we love. My hat is off to the Mayor and Council, this is not an easy job but it is always with healthy debate and I say thanks to all.

Councilman Davis said I appreciate the work that you all do for the City and thank you for coming out tonight.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and thank you to all the department heads for the work they did at the 4th of July celebration. And thank you to the Mayor and Mrs. Davenport for the work they do at the Farmers Market we have downtown every Saturday. IT will be budget season for the next few months, we will not get the numbers for the next few weeks regarding the digest so we will have to delay to the September meeting. Thank you to all the staff, Mayor and Council.

Mayor Cain thanked the department heads, I feel like I have been raising my kids and now they are grown up. We have very informative department heads. Ms. Davenport is on the radio at this time promoting our City events. Thank you to Jonathan and staff for the good job they do.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN