

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 4, 2007

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in a regular meeting on Thursday April 4, 2007 at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse.

PRESENT: Mayor Wayne Bullard, Councilman Temple Ogundu, Terry Benjamin, Ralph Clendenin, and Rose Adams. Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Public Works Chris Stevens, City Clerk Diane Bellflower. Absent: City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Attorney Rob Plumb.

Mayor Wayne Bullard declared a quorum established

Establish Quorum Wayne Bullard.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Wayne Bullard.

Invocation Mr. Willmon Stanley.

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

February 26, 2007 Work Session
March 1, 2007 Council Meeting

Council Ogundu stated that there were two corrections that needed to be changed.

1. Page 1 Council Ogundu led the Pledge of Allegiance instead of Mayor Wayne Bullard.
2. Page 2 Typing error.

Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to accept the minutes with the corrections Council Ogundu requested. **Council Ogundu made a motion to accept, seconded by Councilwoman Adams, Vote was unanimous.**

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to approve the bills, **Council Ogundu made a motion to accept, seconded by Council Adams, vote was unanimous.**

Council Assignments:

Mayor Wayne Bullard issued council assignments:
Fire Department- Rose Adams

Water-Sewer-Sanitation- Terry Benjamin
Recreation-Nutrition-Streets- Ralph Clendenin
Police Department- Temple Ogundu
Administration- Mayor Wayne Bullard

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

None

PUBLIC HEARING: HA-2007-04 Variance Request by Myron Crowe
(Minimum Rear Yard Setback) Ann Marie Wolff

Ms. Wolff stated that the request by Myron Crowe was for Beeline Mobile Home Park located on E. Stanfill St. This Mobile Home Park has been in Hahira for many years. The applicant would like to eventually bring in newer manufactured homes but would like not to be held to the 20-foot rear yard setback requirement. The Hahira Zoning Ordinance requires a rear yard setback of 20 feet. The applicant was requesting a variance of 15 feet, resulting in a five-foot rear yard setback. Upon visual inspection of the lots, none of the existing homes appear to meet the 20-foot rear yard requirement or even the requested 5-foot distance. The existing distance from the rear property line appears to be approximately 3.5 feet. Based on the criteria, staff did not believe a true hardship is demonstrated and thus a variance is as warranted. Based on the information gathered, staff found the requested variance inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and recommended denial. Staff believed this was a good time for Mr. Crowe to bring the park up to today's standards as far as the set backs go. Councilman Benjamin asked Ms. Wolff about a hardship, she stated that variances are suppose to be granted in the case of a demonstrated hardship only. Staff did not feel that this was a true demonstrated hardship, so that's why it was recommended for denial. Mr. Myron Crowe 500 Coleman Drive Hahira, Georgia stated that his city has a mobile home park that has been here for 25 years or longer. He did not realize that when he moved one mobile home out and another one in that he couldn't do this. He stated that he would like to change the request. He stated that he had one hardship case at 101 Cloey Lane. Mr. Weldon moved the mobile home in and did not have the money to move it. The mobile home was already tied down and was about 3 to 3 1/2 feet from the lot just like all the other mobile homes. He stated that he would like to remove the request for four of the lots leaving 101 Cloey, which was where Mr. Weldon was. He would like to request that this variance be granted where the mobile home sits. He stated that there was no one in opposition where the location was. Crowe asked Council to remove the four I'd originally asked for and to grant the one due to a hardship case. Mr. Weldon spoke on behalf of his family and stated that he would appreciate if they would let him keep the mobile home where it is at now. He stated that he did not have the money to move it again. He stated he had nowhere else to go. Pastor Leonard Harnage spoke on behalf of the mobile home park and Mr. Weldon stating that he has never had any problems with the mobile homes that are backed up to his property line. He stated that the people who live there are good people and they have never given him any trouble. He stated Mr. Weldon spent about \$1250.00 on moving and setting this mobile home up. These people have been staying at this home with no water, no power and no food. Jessica Crowe of 500 Coleman Drive stated that she would appreciate if Council could help

the Weldon family out. Mr. Eldon Moore of 403 E. Stanfill Street spoke in disapproval of the request. He wanted to know who was responsible for keeping the park clean. He stated that it should be the person who owns the mobile home park. Diane Bellflower of 104 E. Main street invited every one to join the city for the clean up day on Saturday April 21, 2007. Councilman Ralph Clendenin asked Mr. Crowe how many mobile homes in the park he presently owns. He stated he owned some of them. He stated he just bought four new mobile homes and put them in the back section of the park. Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion of accept the variance. **Councilman Terry Benjamin made a motion to accept the one variance for 101 Cloey Lane only. A variance for 101 Cloey Lane only for the life of the existing mobile home in place for the hardship case. Seconded by Council Ogundu.** Councilwoman Adams asked Ann Marie Wolff if the mobile home in question had obtained a correct building permit. Ann Marie Wolff stated to councilwoman Adams that the mobile home was put on the wrong lot. Councilwoman Adams wanted to know why and asked why the mobile home could not be moved now and put on the correct lot. Mr. Crowe stated that it would cost another \$1200.00 to \$1300.00 to do this. Council Ogundu stated that this family did not have enough money to move this mobile home again. Council Benjamin stated that granting this variance would not cause substantial detriment to the public good or impair the purposes and intent of this ordinance. Council Ogundu agreed with Councilman Benjamin. **Opposed by Councilwoman Adams, Motion carried.**

DISSCUSSIONS:

A. Honor Flight:

Mr. Buddy Johnson and his associate gave a presentation of the Honor Flight South Georgia. They showed a short video on how this trip would benefit veterans and Give them a trip to Washington D. C. to see the WWII Memorial. He also stated that they could use volunteers. He also stated that the veterans with physical conditions also get to go on this trip. He stated that they have the money for the first flight for the local veterans. This trip is free for them. The cost includes all transportation and their food. It also includes snacks on the flight. The volunteers that go pay there on way, which is \$300.00. The day that the first flight leaves will be May 19,2007 at 9:00 A.M. from the Valdosta Airport. **Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to give \$2500.00, Councilwoman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clendenin. Vote was unanimous.**

B. Removed.

C. Adoption of Solid Waste Management Plan:

Ann Marie Wolff explained to council that the process and purpose of The Greater Lowndes Solid Waste Management Plan is an opportunity to ensure future solid waste management needs are anticipated and appropriately planned for. It was prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Solid Waste Management set forth by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. **Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to accept this Adoption of Solid Waste**

Management Plan. Council Ogundu made a motion to accept this plan, seconded by Councilwoman Adams. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that he had two proclamations to read. He asked Chuck Kent of Judy Ann Drive to come and read the first one. Mr. Kent explained to the Council members and the citizens of Hahira how they host a food drive for the National Association of Mail Carriers. The day for this will be on May 12, 2007. He stated that citizens put food out at their mailbox on Saturday May 12 2007 and that the mail carrier would pick it up. May 12 2007 will be the National Association of Mail Carriers Food Drive Day.

Mayor Wayne Bullard read the Proclamation and asked all citizens to participate.

SECOND PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Wayne Bullard recognized the volunteers for the City of Hahira. He presented them with a certificate. Mayor Wayne Bullard read the Proclamation.

D. Approval of the 2005 Audit:

Mayor Wayne Bullard asked the council for a motion to accept the 2005 Audit. **Councilman Terry Benjamin made a motion to approve the 2005 Audit, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

E. Consideration of Storm Water Ordinance:

Mayor Wayne Bullard requested that we table this issue until we hold a public hearing. Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to postpone this issue. **Councilman Ogundu made a motion that we postpone this issue, seconded by Councilwoman Adams, vote was unanimous.**

F. Agreement on Pick-In Park:

Mayor Wayne Bullard requested a motion of the agreement of the Pick-In Park. **Councilman Benjamin made a motion that we sign the agreement on the Pick-in Park, seconded by Councilwoman Adams. Vote was unanimous.**

G. Surplus of Hospital Property:

Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that we have decided to put the hospital up for bid. We will put this in the paper for advertisement. **Councilman Clendenin made a motion to advertise this, seconded by Council Benjamin. Councilwoman Adams stated that**

before this is advertised she thinks all of council should look at this issue. The vote was unanimous.

H. Resolution- Fire Safety Standards: (Chief Bennett)

Fire Chief Dwight Bennett discussed with Council what the Resolution-Fire Safety Standards was. It was for Hahira to accept responsibility for all fire inspections within the city limits of Hahira, including title 25 buildings, such as schools, Daycare Centers, Motels, Etc. **Mayor Wayne Bullard read the Resolution for Fire Safety Standards, and asked for a motion to accept this Resolution. A motion was made to accept this Resolution by Councilman Benjamin, seconded by Councilman Ogundu, Opposed Councilman Clendenin. Motion carried.**

DEPARTMENT REQUEST:

Bids on Fence:

Chris Stevens with the Public Works Department stated that Council had several quotes for the fence that needs to be replaced. He stated that we have three bids for the cost of installing the fence. Chris stated that the approximate length of the fence is 2800 feet. Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that we had three bids and they were Borderline Fence Company at \$ 23,179.00, Becton Fencing at \$ 22, 657.00 and Custom Fence & Construction at \$21,990.00. Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that Mr. Becton of Becton Fencing had done some work for the city before. **Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to accept Becton Fencing to install the Fence. Councilwoman Adams made a motion to accept, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.** Councilman Ogundu thanked Councilman Benjamin for all his had work and effort to make this happen.

PURCHASE OF TWO FIRE HYDRANTS:

Chris Stephens with the Public Works Department stated that the city needed to purchase two fire hydrants. Chris stated the city had a fire hydrant blow up. One of the fire hydrants by the Vet Clinic needed to be replaced because it does not work. The other one needed to be replaced so the City can have it back in inventory. The price on one fire hydrant with a six-inch gate valve is \$1562.00. Councilman Clendenin stated that he thought any thing the city purchased in the amount of \$500.00 or over needed to be sent out for bids. Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that we needed to purchase these fire hydrants immediately. Councilwoman Adams also stated that she believed we need to go ahead and purchase these fire hydrants now. Mayor Wayne Bullard asked for a motion to go ahead and purchase these two fire hydrants. **Councilman Benjamin made a motion that we purchase these two fire hydrants from Lanier Municipal Supply, seconded by Councilman Ogundu, vote was unanimous.**

REPORTS:

A. Council

Councilwoman Adams welcomed our new council member Ralph Clendenin.

Councilman Benjamin also welcomed Councilman Clendenin. He also thanked Chris for getting the quotes together for the fence. He stated that if any Council member has a problem with his department to please come to him first and then we can go to the Department Heads and address the problem. He asked the citizens to remember the cleanup day April 21, 2007. He also stated that we need to inform all citizens about keeping the grass cut, junk cars moved, etc.

Council Ogundu also welcomed Councilman Clendenin. He also stated that the city has protocols to follow and he would appreciate if all Council members would come to him first with any problems concerning his department. Council Ogundu also stated that several weeks ago he attended a Municipal Finance and Audit class and it was very good. He encouraged all Council members to attend this class. He also stated that new construction is coming along very rapidly and they are keeping the subdivisions very clean and this was appreciated.

Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that he has been working on putting a pipe in on Hall Street and Newsom Street. He has the letters signed, and as soon as more signatures are received the ditch will be filled in. He thanked everyone for attending.

Councilman Temple Ogundu made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

Wayne Bullard, Mayor

Diane Bellflower
City Clerk

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 2, 2007
WORK SESSION
6:30 PM HAHIRA COURTHOUSE

Mayor and Council of the City of Hahira met for a work session on Monday April 2, 2007, at the Hahira Courthouse with Mayor Wayne Bullard presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Wayne Bullard, Councilman Temple Ogundu, Terry Benjamin, Ralph Clendenin, Councilwoman Rose Adams, City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Public Works Director Donnie Warren, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

A. February 26, 2007 Work Session

B. March 1, 2007 Council Meeting

Councilwoman Adams asked the City Manager if John Williams had followed up on taking down the old signs. City Manager Jonathan Sumner said that he would follow up on this issue and let council know. Council Temple Ogundu asked that the minutes be changed on page one. Council Ogundu led the Pledge of Allegiance not Mayor Bullard, and on page 2 there was a typing error.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS (WAYNE BULLARD)

PULBIC HEARING:

- A. HA-2007-04 Variance Request by Myron Crowe (Minimum Rear Yard setback) Ann Marie Wolff

DISCUSSIONS:

- A. HONOR FLIGHT:

ard stated that Representatives from this organization would be making a presentation to Council on Thursday night.

B. Presentation on Bike and Pedestrian Plan (Dan McGee)

Mr. McGee stated that in January they hired a consultant for the South Georgia Regional Development Center to assist with a comprehensive Bike and Pedestrian Plan for Valdosta and Lowndes. A meeting was held on March 15, 2007, at City Hall Annex. Over sixty people attended which let them know the interest in wanting to promote safe bicycle paths and multi purpose trails and things of that nature.

C. Adoption of Solid Waste Management Plan:

City Manager Jonathan Sumner stated that Ms. Wolff would be at the Council meeting on Thursday night to address and questions or issues you have concerning the Solid Waste Management Plan.

D. Presentation for Volunteer Week: (Wayne Bullard)

Mayor Wayne Bullard will present certificates to the volunteers on Thursday night at the Council meeting. This group of volunteers includes the people that help Ann Hagood and Helen Petitjean.

E. Approval of 2005 Audit:

Tommy Griffin with the firm of Gary Zeigler spoke with Council about the 2005 Audit. He stated that the City has had a huge increase in assets compared to 2004. The biggest item is the decrease in cash reserve for the city. Councilman Benjamin some of this could be discussed at the retreat. Councilman Ogundu asked was it mandatory that the city accepts the audit. Attorney Rob Plumb stated the city just has to respond to it. Attorney Rob Plumb stated that this is an independent audit and it is going to get filed weather the city accepts it or not.

F. Consideration of the Storm Water Ordinance:

City Manger Jonathan Sumner stated to Council that in their packets under item 9F they would find the response to a directive that was given to staff back in December for a draft storm water management. Jonathan stated that if Council would like to consider this it is for your possible approval on Thursday night, or consider it for another month.

G. Agreement on the Pick In Park:

City Manager Jonathan Sumner explained this was an agreement between the City and the Colemans with respect to the use of the Pick-In Park. It is a standard agreement. It mainly is for the Honey Bee festival.

H. Surplus of Hospital Property:

City Manager Jonathan Sumner stated that the total of Smith Hospital property was appraised at \$975,000. The apparent choice is between conducting a similar subdivision to the past action, or selling the entire property on open market. Mayor Wayne Bullard stated that he would like to see the city sell this property to one person, then take the money and build a new police station and a community center.

G. Resolution-Fire Safety Standards:

Chief Bennett discussed with Council what the Resolution Fire Safety Standards was. It was for Hahira to accept responsibility for all fire inspections within the city limits of Hahira, including title 25 buildings, such as schools, Daycare Centers, Motels, etc.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST:

A. BIDS ON FENCE:

Chris Stephens with the Public Works Department stated that we have three bids for the fence. The first bid was Custom Fence for \$21,990.00; Becton Fencing was \$22,657.00 and Borderline fence for \$23,179.00. Chris stated that the approximate length of the fence is 2800 feet. Council asked Chris to clarify the bids for Thursday night.

B. Purchase of Two Fire Hydrants:

Chris Stephens with the Public Works Department stated that the city needs to new fire hydrants. The fire hydrant by the vet clinic needs to be replaced because it does not work. The second one we need to keep in inventory. We had a fire hydrant to blow up several weeks. Ago. The price of the fire hydrant is \$1562.00.

C. Purchase of Storage Containers:

Chief Bennett stated that he would like to purchase some storage containers. A storage container for fire practice.

Wayne Bullard, Mayor

Diane Bellflower, City Clerk