**CITY OF HAHIRA**

**OCTOBER 1, 2020**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**6:00 P.M.**

**HAHIRA COURTHOUSE**

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**ESTABLISH QUORUM**: Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**INVOCATION: Pastor David Kennedy**

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

1. **SEPTEMBER 1,2020 WORK SESSION**
2. **SEPTEMBER 3, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

1. **HA-2020-08 SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST BY JERRY STOKER FOR DUPLEXES: 412-418 EAST LAWSON STREET (PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR)**

P & Z Administrator Martin stated this a request by Stoker Realty for a Special Exception to allow construction of 3 duplexes at 414-418 E Lawson Street. It is zoned Single Family Residential (R-10). The Planning Commission voted on 09-28-2020 for approval with no conditions. We reviewed the maps and photographs about 11 months ago with about the same proposal on Peters Street. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. The staff recommendation is for lot 4 only. Mayor Pro Tem Warren verified lot one was withdrawn and you are recommending lot 4 only. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the Special Exception. Ted Raker of 427 Edgewater stated that he lives in this area and he is not for it. There are narrow streets and deep ditches along Lawson Street and it is zoned single family homes. The residents are invested in the area and I do not see that it would be good for the community. You are trying to cram a lot into a small area. There is nothing unique about it and there will be too much traffic in a small area. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor. Matt Phelps the engineer said that he was here to represent the applicant. He said that he spoke to all the neighbors and this would not change zoning it would be a Special Exception. The duplexes would be all three in a row and they would all look different, the exterior of the front and the back is very shallow but wide. The units are needed and have been spoken for. He stated he is not sure about lot 1, they are working with the realtor. Councilman Benjamin asked why want to build duplexes instead of single family homes. Mr. Phelps said that people ask for them. The neighborhood is quiet and there is a demand for them, we have two already spoken for. Councilman Benjamin asked if there was any consideration to commit to build them like homes with one driveway and two doors. Councilman Barfield said I live right down the road, kids are walking on the street and it is overloaded from the apartments there now on the east end. I do not see the reason to expand. We would need to widen street and add sidewalk. The lots are small and enough for single family home, I do not get putting two families on one lot. I understand the need but I do not think it is the best interest of the citizens, they do not want this. Mayor Pro Tem Warren said I grew up in that area and I agree, the citizens do not want this. The Mayor stated people arewanting apartments, a temporary place to live but we have about 250 apartments in town now. I think they should all stay R-10, we have enoughapartments**.** The Mayor asked if any other discussion. None noted. **Councilman Barfield made a motion to deny HA-2020-08 which was seconded by Councilman Benjamin. Councilman Barfield, Councilman Benjamin, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Warren all voted in favor of the motion.**

1. **FY21 BUDGET FINAL ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated this is the last step with the FY21 Budget. It has been reviewed and it is in the final form. We had no public comment or questions. Does anyone have any questions? None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the budget. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the budget. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Warren made a motion to approve the FY21 Budget as presented which was seconded by Councilman Barfield. Mayor Pro Tem Warren, Councilman Barfield, Councilman Davis and Councilman Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:** None noted.

**REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

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

**DISCUSSIONS:**

1. **HAHIRA SQUARE-PARROTT FOUNTAIN (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated we are down to three designs. The fountain would be 16 foot tall and 25 foot wide. It was decided on Tuesday night that the fountain from picture 1 and the base from picture 2. I will submit to get pricing and installation cost and bring back to you.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **MS4/PLAN REVIEW-TINDALL ENGINEERING**
2. **CHIEF’S WINTER CONFERENCE**
3. **INSPECTIONS-BOBBY CHANEY**
4. **TRANSPORATION ACITVITY PROGRAM MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT-$47,616.55 TO GDOT FROM TSPLOST**
5. **2021 MEETING AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**
6. **2020 CHRISTMAS PARTY-DECEMBER 8**
7. **FY21 RETREAT-FEBRUARY 5**
8. **FY20 CHRISTMAS BONUSES & EXCESS SICK LEAVE**

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

**REPORTS:**

Mayor Pro Tem Warren stated he is happy to be here. I think we made a good decision on the Zoning request. Thank you to all.

Councilman Barfield said you can see that it all works the way it is supposed to. I get fussed at for making the town bigger, we need to keep it small. I appreciate the input of Matt Martin and Ted Raker for what he is doing for the DDA.

Councilman Benjamin thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve District I. I thank the Mayor and Council for the ability to debate and come up with solutions for the Citizens. I think we need to leave Single family homes in that area. Thank you to all departments for what you do. I know this would be Honeybee Week and you are all sad but I think next year it will be bigger and better. Thank you to the City Manager, City Clerk and the staff.

Councilman Davis said thank you for letting me be last. I like the process and I have enjoyed being a part of it for the last 7 years. Everyone has different ideas but we come and get the details of the project and listen to the Community. We are 99.5% right and we need to maintain neighborhoods, we have rules and stick to them. I would like to commend you all for the work that you do.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. I get enjoyment doing this job. I thank the department heads on what they do. 2020 has been a different year but I think we will come out better on the other side. Thank you to Carol, Lisa, Victoria and Jennifer for what you do.

Mayor Cain said that he agrees with all that has been said, I think we made the right decision. Thank you to the department heads, thank you to Matt Martin for his recommendation. I hope everyone has a good week.

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M.**

**ADJOURN.**

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**