

**CITY OF HAHIRA**  
**JANUARY 9, 2025**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting on January 9, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Klayton Luke, David Lindsey, Mason Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Louise White present. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Fire Chief David Thompson, Police Chief Stryde Jones and PWD Willie Jones were all present. City Clerk Lisa Mashburn was not present.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Josh Owens

**COUNCIL ELECTION FOR MAYOR PRO TEM (MAYOR CAIN)**

**Councilman Luke made a motion to nominate Louise White as Mayor Pro Tem which was seconded by Councilman Barfield. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Luke and Councilman Barfield all voted in favor of the motion.**

## **COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS (MAYOR CAIN)**

Councilman Barfield- Water/Sewer/Sanitation

Councilman Luke- Police Department

Councilman Lindsey-Fire and Planning

Mayor Pro Tem White- Parks and Recreation/Streets

## **REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

### **A. DECEMBER 3, 2024 WORK SESSION**

### **B. DECEMBER 5, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Freeman Rivers 204 S Hall Street thanked the Council for the addition of the Juneteenth holiday to the City schedule of holidays. He stated he was a poll worker at the Recreation Center and said that it needs to be updated. We had issues with the plumbing and feels the building needs some updates.

## **REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

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

## **DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:**

### **A. VEHICLE PURCHASE-DODGE RAM \$64,287-CASS BURCH-SPLOST VIII (PWD JONES)**

PWD Jones stated after the discussion on Tuesday night at the Work Session I have pictures of the truck for you. The lift gate will need to be added. The cost of the lift gate is included in the price. Councilman Lindsey said I think we should cool off on this for now, I do not think we should approve this with all the vehicles that we have now. Mayor Pro Tem White said I think we should go ahead and get 1 ton truck, we can do more with it and get a smaller truck at a later time. Councilman Luke said what about the hot box. We need to get prices and consider that the 1-ton truck is more suitable for the hot box. Councilman Barfield asked what the main reason for the truck is now. PWD Jones said he wanted to start with this one, we have two trucks in the budget. We

need this for heavy duty staff, when we pull the 14,000 lbs. trailer, we need a truck that will stop. I started with the lesson but we need one ton to put all the equipment on and have it ready to go to the job. City Manager Sumner said we have the money for it and we have two trucks in the Capital budget. Councilman Lindsey said I cannot justify purchasing this truck with all the other vehicles that we have. **Councilman Barfield made a motion to postpone which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Barfield, Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

### **A. ENGINEERING COST ESTIMATES FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS-SPLOST VIII-**

- 1. EAST COLEMAN STREET FROM SOUTH NELSON STREET TO LAWSON FARMS ROAD**
- 2. NORTH HALL STREET FROM WEST MAIN STREET TO WEST STANFILL STREET**
- 3. WEST PARK STREET FROM SOUTH CHURCH STREET TO RAILROAD TRACK**
- 4. WEAVER STREET FROM EAST GRACE STREET TO EAST COLEMAN STREET**

## **B. POLICE CHIEFS WINTER CONFERENCE**

### **C. STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT**

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

#### **REPORTS:**

Councilman Lindsey thanked everyone in his District for being here and for discussion. Thank you to the Mayor , Council and Department heads.

Councilman Barfield said he wanted to make sure everyone knows how he feels about his job. We put a budget together to help directors to get the jobs done. We have hundreds of things to do in the City but we go to the directors and put a budget together to make certain they have what they need to get the job done. When you start and then do the shell game that can break down stability of what a budget is all about. We all have a list of things that need to be done and we can debate on what is priority. I just want to be sure I support the water/sewer/sanitation department, they need good equipment to get the job done. If things are not running it

cost you money. I will support them because I appreciate what they do.

Mayor Pro Tem White said we will be sure that Willie gets his truck and we made sure that all employees got the raise this year too. We are all trying to do a lot but we do not have as much money as we did last year, we are in the negative. We need to get a better truck to be sure it will hold up longer and put the rec center off for now. We may have to go up on the Rec center prices to repair. We need to be sure the directors get what they need because we cannot do anything without the employees. We will do our best to get everyone what they need without raising taxes.

Councilman Luke said it is an honor and privilege to serve and work with the Mayor, Council and City Manager. I appreciate all the directors and employees; I understand after many years public service is not easy. I think we will give Willie the best tools that he needs to do the job and do it right. Thank you to all the directors and I will support what you need. I am thankful to be here tonight and serve.

City Manager Sumner thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to the department heads, we made it through another season.

Mayor Cain said thank you all for coming tonight and to the department heads, they do a fantastic job and I

appreciate all of them. I agree with Councilman Barfield, whatever you put in the budget stick with it. I appreciate the Council doing the best for the City. If we remodel the Rec Center, it will take 6-8 months because we have to do a lot of plans and we have to make it wheelchair assessable and that takes time. This will give us time to find the money to do the work.

**ADJOURNED.**

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

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**