

**CITY OF HAHIRA**  
**SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Work Session on September 3, 2024 with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Klay Luke, David Lindsey and Mayor Pro Tem Louise White. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, PWD Willie Jones, Police Chief Stryde Jones, Fire Chief David Thompson, MSD Jennifer Price and Attorney Rob Plumb were present.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

**A. JULY 30, 2024 WORK SESSION**

**B. AUGUST 1, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**A. THIRD MILLAGE RATE PUBLIC HEARING AND SETTING THE MILLAGE RATE (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated we had two Public Hearings on August 29<sup>th</sup> at noon and 6:00 p.m. as advertised, which is

required by law. It is time to set the millage and it was delayed this year but we have it now and need it to begin the budget process. Our budget is for the calendar year which is very helpful regarding the budget. We had 2 individuals attend the Public hearing and they were not residents. He gave handouts and explained the process. The advertisement shows an increase due to the increase in property assessments but I recommend leaving the millage rate at 4.969. Councilman Lindsey said thank you for explaining it all to us and I think we should leave it the same to help the Citizens, Councilman Luke and Mayor Pro Tem White said they both agree. We will have the third Public Hearing at the meeting on Thursday night with public input and vote.

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

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

## **DISCUSSIONS:**

### **A. FANCY GIRL FARMS-ADDITIONAL PARKING ON WEST PARK STREET (MIKE SUMNER)**

Mike Sumner of Fancy Girl Farms at 112 S Newsome Street stated he is here regarding expansion of parking. This is not an addition to the current Planned Development. This will come to you at later date and is for additional parking lot on the parcel behind Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church facing West Park Street. This has been going through the Planning and Zoning process and the Planning Commission. I have included maps

for your review. This is for information purposes only. Do you have any questions? None. He stated that Fancy Girl is planning to do soft opening on October 7, 2024 and hopes that all goes as planned. No questions.

## **DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:**

### **A. FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT TRAINING (PWD JONES)**

PWD Jones stated it is time after 10 years to reshoot the Flood Plan Maps. This is a training in Savannah that will be 40 hours for certification. The class is free but the lodging is not included. The cost is estimated at \$200.00 per night for a total of \$800.00. The class will be the last week of this month.

### **B. WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN RENEWAL-TTL-\$9,441-SPLOST VIII (PWD JONES)**

Our watershed protection plan required by the Georgia EPD needs to be updated every 10 years and TTL is the company that has been performing this work for us during this time. As a capital asset, it is eligible for SPLOST III funding. This is mandatory and is required under current regulation. We pay ongoing costs for monitoring.

### **C. SANITATION CONTRACT-DEEP SOUTH SANITATION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated for the last 15 years we have used private contractors. The sanitation provider Deep South will complete their initial 5-year contract at the end of 2024. It is now up to the Council if you would like to extend a new contract to the provider. The owner indicated that if the City is satisfied with the service he would be fine with the

continuation of the current contract. This would only change the current contract for the next 5 years with the same 3% increase for inflammatory adjustments. Staff recommends renewal of the contract with Deep South Sanitation.

**D. IT CONTRACT-VIRTUAL WORLD TECHNOLOGIES-\$68,400-GENERAL AND PROPRIETARY FUNDS (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated Virtual World has made a proposal for renewal of IT Services. Staff has spoken with department heads and we are recommending renewal. They are local and make it easy to come on premises for issues.

**E. GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY LOAN DOCUMENTATION-\$7,000,000 FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY, \$2000,000 FOR ENGINEERING ON REDRILL OF WELL #1 (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated the GEFA loan has approved both projects with May 1 as deadline. We will be required to hold \$386,590 in underwriting for the 30-year loan term. It will include a \$105,000 fee for origination paperwork. Once the documents are approved we will then have two months to pay the \$386,590 plus the \$105,000 for the reserve account and the origination fee. Depending on the availability of the funds these amounts will be funded through the Proprietary fund, SPLOST and the rainy-day funds in combination. If we receive the 10 million grant then we will be required to pay the 7 million. Staff recommends approval, this is something that we will need to do to satisfy EPD requirements.

**SET AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA:**

**None.**

**SET AUGUST CONSENT AGENDA:**

-Floodplain Management Training

-Watershed Protection Plan Renewal-TTL-\$9,441-SPLOST VIII

-Sanitation Contract-Deep South Sanitation

-IT Contract-Virtual World Technologies-\$68,400-General and Proprietary Fund

-Georgia Environmental Finance Authority Loan Documentation-\$7,000,000 for Wastewater Treatment Facility, \$200,000 for Engineering on Redrill of Well #1

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

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**