

**Council Meeting
November 4, 1999**

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, November 4, 1999 at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse.

PRESENT: Mayor John Adams; Councils Bob Harris, Jesse Griffin, Arnold Williams and Beverly Martin; City Manager, Susan Doner; Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Utilities Director, John Thursby; Fire Chief, J. C. Plair; Lt. Terry Davis; City Attorney, Willie Linahan.

Mayor Adams called the meeting to order, then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Griffin gave the invocation.

Mayor Adams welcomed all visitors and established that a quorum of council was present.

Council Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 1999, as printed, seconded by Council Harris. Vote was unanimous.

Council Williams made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Council Martin. Vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Mr. Mike Morgan of the South Georgia RDC reported on the CDBG application. The grant, if awarded, will be used for construction of new single family houses for low to moderate income citizens, and for public facility project dealing with drainage and street improvements within a designated target area.

Mr. Ronnie Dudley of Stevenson and Palmer Engineering, Inc. stated that plans were to add curb and gutter on W. Park Street from the railroad tracks to the end of Housing Project and to add parking spaces in front of the Housing Project. Also on the east side of Sargent Street they will replace culverts and cover up the ditch.

City Manager, Susan Doner, read the resolution on the CHIP Grant. Council Griffin made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Williams. Vote was unanimous.

Mayor Adams read the resolution for the CDBG. Council Martin made a motion to adopt the resolution for the CDBG Grant, seconded by Council Harris. Vote was unanimous.

(B) John Bailey Rezoning Request:

Mr. David Dunn of the South Georgia RDC reported on John Bailey's request to rezone .344 acres (15,000 sq ft) from Manufacturing (M-1) to Multi-family Residential (R-6). Property is located on south side of S. Church St. two lots to the south of East Coleman Dr. Mr. Bailey is proposing to build 2 single-family residences. The Planning Commission's recommendation was for approval, with the condition that a joint access easement (20' x 10") be provided for a shared driveway between these two lots.

Mayor Adams called for those in favor of the request to speak. Mr. John Bailey, 5561 Sumner Road, Hahira, GA., spoke in favor. He stated that the lots were too small for manufacturing. He agreed to the shared driveway.

Mayor Adams called for those in opposition to the request. There was no opposition.

Council Harris made a motion to recommend approval as has been read, seconded by Council Griffin. Vote was unanimous.

END

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

(A) Employee Appreciation:

City Clerk, Marilyn Brady was given a plaque for 15 years of service to the City of Hahira. Mayor Adams expressed his appreciation for her dedication and knowledge of the City's affairs.

(B) Planning Commission appointments:

Mayor Adams recommended appointing Brian Sumner for a three year appointment to the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission, and Lee Odom for a five year appointment. Council Griffin made a motion to approve these two appointments to the Planning Commission, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(C) Recommendation to reorganize Police, Water/Sewer and Street Departments:

Mayor Adams reported that at the Budget Meeting, Chief Blue had made a request to reorganize the Police Department. This would involve the elimination of four Police Dispatcher/Jailer positions upon starting with the County 911 system in July 2000. All four dispatchers will remain employed with the City; two will become certified police officers, one will become the Court Clerk, and the fourth will be transferred to the Administrative Department as a utility billing clerk.

Public Utilities Director, John Thursby, recommended separating two departments, Street and Water/Sewer and adding two new employees. All Public Works employees will then be assigned to a specific department. Council Williams made a motion to reorganize the Police Department, Street and Water/Sewer Departments, seconded by Council Martin. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(D) Water and Sewer rate increase ordinance:

Water and sewer rates will be increased in 2000 to pay for the wastewater treatment upgrade required by an EPD consent order. The rate increase is required by USDA Rural Development as part of the financing of the project. Mayor Adams read the ordinance for the water/sewer rate increase. Council Harris made a motion to adopt the ordinance as is, seconded by Council Williams.

Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(E) Street light additions:

Mayor Adams recommended that streetlights be installed on Hodges Street, Hagan Bridge Road at Coleman, Wright Street and Jacquelyn Street. Council Griffin made a motion to install lights as needed, seconded by Council Martin. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(F) Webb-Miller Park recommendation:

Mayor Adams reported on the recommendation. Council Martin made a motion to put bathrooms in Webb-Miller Park and repair or replace playground equipment, seconded by Council Williams. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(G) Clanton and Parham abandoned alley request:

Mayor Adams reported on a request by Mr. Leland Clanton, 216 E Park St. and Mr. Richard Parham, 217 Randall St., to allow the city-owned alley located between their

houses to be divided between them. This would extend the property line five feet (5') north for the Parham's, and five feet south for the Clanton's. Council Griffin made a motion recommending honoring their request, stipulating that the City will not be responsible for the alley, and that the property owners would be responsible for any related expenses, such as legal or surveying costs. The motion was seconded by Council Williams. Vote was unanimous.

(H) Recommendation to increase Mayor and Council salary:

After discussion, Council Williams made a motion recommending increasing the Mayor's salary to \$6,000, and increasing Council's salary to \$2,000 each. The motion was seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Motion was tabled until next month.

(I) GMA Certified City of Ethics Program:

Mayor Adams read the resolution. Council Harris made a motion to adopt the resolution as read, seconded by Council Martin. Vote was unanimous.

(J) City-owned vehicle policy:

Mayor Adams read the policy. Council Griffin made a motion to adopt the policy as read, seconded by Council Williams. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(K) Request for contribution to Blue Angels Memorial Fund:

Mayor Adams recommended donating \$100.00 to the fund. Council Griffin made a motion to grant it, seconded by Council Martin. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(L) Resolution to apply for new GMA Master Lease Program:

City Manager, Susan Doner, reported that this would replace the resolution we now have. Mayor Adams read the resolution. Council Martin made a motion to pass the resolution, seconded by Council Williams. Vote was unanimous.

(M) United Way Drive:

Mayor Adams reported that there would be a presentation next Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. for all City employees. Council Griffin made a motion to repeat the request, seconded by Council Harris. Vote was unanimous.

There were no Council reports.

City Manager had no report.

Mayor Adams reported that the GMA District meeting would be in Adel on Wednesday, November 17 at 12:00. He stated that Joel Hunnicutt had won the election in District 2. Candidate was disqualified for District 3, as it was discovered that he lived in District 1.

There being no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

John F. Adams, Mayor
Brady, City Clerk

Marilyn