

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 3, 2005

Mayor and City Council met in a regular session on Thursday, March 3, 2005, at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen M. C. Nelson, Wayne Bullard, Temple Ogundu and Terry Benjamin; City Manager/City Clerk, Janice Logue; PWD, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, Dwight Bennett; City Attorney, Rob Plumb; Recorder, Marilyn Brady

Mayor Crowe called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Mayor Crowe called on PWD, John Thursby, to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by County Commissioner, Richard Lee.

Visitors were welcomed.

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MINUTES: Feb. 3rd COUNCIL MEETING

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.

REVIEW OF BILLS

Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) HA-2005-02 REZONE/ANNEX 9.25 ACRES INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF HAHIRA & TO REZONE FROM A-U (AGRICULTURAL USE) TO R-15 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) – GARY MINCHEW

Anne Marie Wolfe of the Planning Commission stated that the applicant is proposing to annex and rezone 9.25 from Agricultural Use (A-U) to Single Family Residential (R-15). The property is located south of downtown Hahira. It is bounded by Fry Road and South Hagan Bridge Road. The Staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked if there was anyone in favor to speak. Mr. Gary Minchew, 908 Moss Way, Valdosta, GA, presented several maps and explained his plans for the annexation.

City Manager/City Clerk, Janice Logue, read a letter from Mr. Larry Fry who spoke in favor of the rezoning/annexation. He was concerned about the paved road not being able to hold up to the heavy traffic. It was his understanding that Mr. Minchew knows about this and if there is any expansion of the road that it would come from the other side of the street and not his mother's property.

Mayor Crowe called for those in opposition to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the rezone/annexation, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted yes. Councils Ogundu and Benjamin voted no. Mayor Crowe voted yes, breaking the tie. Motion passed.

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

HONEYBEE COMMITTEE

Ms. Adeline Landrum, Chairman of the Honeybee Committee and Ms. Carol Jacobs requested permission to use the sidewalks and closing the streets for the next Honeybee festival, which will be held October 3rd. through 8th. They also asked for the city employees help. **Council Nelson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.**

PROCLAMATION

Several members of the Teen Explosion were present. Nigel Camion, President of Teen Explosion, stated that they were a group of teenagers from the area. Their focus is on expressing the idea of being drug and alcohol free. Joe Rogers read the Proclamation, with Mayor Crowe reading the last paragraph declaring March 18th. & 19th. of 2005 as "Drug and Tobacco Free Days in Hahira".

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Ms. Melba Locher, Shiloh Road, Hahira, GA, mentioned the need for assisted living homes in the Hahira area. Mayor Crowe stated that there would be something said about this at the meeting later on.

She also stated that the Honey Bee Committee supported the Teen Explosion and had given financial support for a van as well as 228 t-shirts with their logo printed on the back.

Richard Lee, County Commissioner gave an update on the North Lowndes Recreational Facility. He stated that the Board of Commissioners would be leaving tomorrow, going to Jekyll Island, for their planning session. He spoke about the recent bird supper in Atlanta. The DOT gave a commitment for the Staten Road bridge project. A new County Engineer was hired recently. The jail project is underway.

DEPARTMENT REQUEST CONSENT AGENDA

- (A) Approve Rural Water Conference May 21-24 Jekyll Island

City Manager/City Clerk, Janice Logue, requested approval for PWD, John Thursby and herself to attend the conference. Cost would be \$210.00 for registration, plus cost of a motel.

- (B) Approve Well Repairs

PWD, John Thursby, asked for approval for the repairs to the well. He recommended going with Option #1 at a cost of \$23,715.00.

(C) Approve Confined Airspace Safety Equipment

PWD, John Thursby, asked for approval of the Confined Airspace Safety Equipment at a cost of \$7,796.00. There is a grant from GMA that will pay for part of this. but the city would have to purchase the equipment first, then send them the receipts and an application.

(D) Approve Emergency Notification System for UV Lighting

After discussion, Council decided to remove item "D".

Council Benjamin made a motion to approve the Department Request Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE OFFER ON OLD SMITH HOSPITAL

Mayor Crowe asked Mayor Pro Tem, Benjamin, to preside during the discussion on the old Smith Hospital, excusing himself due to a conflict of interest.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin called on Mr Hugh Chancy, who gave a proposal on the old hospital. Their plans would be to demolish the front part of the hospital and remodel the old "OR" section in exchange for the old Detox unit on the back, which they would remodel to be used as an "Assisted Living" facility.

Council Nelson made a motion to accept the proposal, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. City Attorney, Rob Plumb, stated that on the Agreement, "Tract A & B" are reversed. Motion was changed to include changing Tract A & B. Vote was unanimous.

APPROVE POLLING PLACE CHANGE

City Manager/City Clerk, Janice Logue reported that Deb Cox of the Election's Board had called her to find out about the polling places in the city. Currently they are First United Methodist Church and Newsom Street Church of Christ. This would be listed on the cards that they send out to all registered voters. Mayor Crowe recommended filling out the forms showing Newsom Street Church of Christ and the Methodist Church as the polling places for any election in Hahira. **Council Benjamin made a motion to leave the local elections at the courthouse and the state, county & national elections be held at the polling places, seconded by Council Ogundu. Vote was unanimous.**

EXECUTE LARP PROJECT AGREEMENT

Mayor Crowe reported that every year the city sends the DOT a list of streets to be resurfaced under the LARP program. Those selected on the list were .230 miles of Jacquelyn Street and .090 miles of Webb Street.

Council Nelson made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

REPORTS

(A) COUNCIL

Council Bullard thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He also thanked the Honeybee Festival Committee for their work. He also thanked Hugh Chancy for his proposal on the old hospital.

Council Ogundu thanked Hugh Chancy for his proposal.

Council Nelson also thanked Mr. Chancy on his proposal.

Council Benjamin thanked the citizens for coming.

(B) CITY MANAGER

City Manager/City Clerk, Janice Logue, invited everyone to the egg-a-rama, which would be on March 19th. She also thanked Councilman Benjamin for helping with the CDBG grant.

(C) MAYOR

Mayor Crowe stated that Clean-Up Day would be on April 9th.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Crowe called for a motion to adjourn.

Council Benjamin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting ended at 8:30 P.M.

Myron Crowe
Mayor

Janice Logue
City Manager/City Clerk

Marilyn Brady
Recorder