

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 11, 2013

7:30 P.M.

COURTHOUSE

Mayor Wayne Bullard and Council met for a Council meeting on July 11, 2013 at the Courthouse with Mayor Wayne Bullard presiding.

PRESENT: Council: Ralph Clendenin, Terry Benjamin, Rose Adams, mayor Pro Tem Cain, City manager Jonathan Sumner, Police Chief Terry Davis, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn. Public Works Director Donnie Warren was not present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wayne Bullard

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Wayne Bullard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Wayne Bullard

INVOCATION: Mayor Wayne Bullard

REVIEW/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

- A.) **June 3, 2013 Work Session**
- B.) **June 6, 2013 Council Meeting**

Councilmember Adams stated that she had no corrections. She stated that they are all in order and job well done. A motion was made by Councilmember Adams to accept the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. **Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Adams, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Chief Davis stated no citizens to be heard.

REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

Councilmember Adams stated that all questions from Monday night meeting had been answered. **Councilmember Benjamin made a motion to pay the bills which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cain. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin voted in favor of the motion.**

DISCUSSIONS:

LAWSON FARM DRAINAGE (CITY MANAGER)

Move to Executive Session

STATUS OF INSPECTION OF THE ODOM BUILDING (COUNCILMEMBER CLENDENIN)

Councilmember Clendenin stated that he had talk to the City Manager and Mayor Pro Tem Cain. HE stated that Mayor Pro Tem Cain had gone to the Valdosta inspections department and pulled nothing on the structure or the overlay on the existing roof. The letter received stated that there is a stamped drawing on structure. If not we need a Structural Engineer on the roof. Mr. Odom states that there are plans. City Manager Sumner recommends we postpone until the August meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Cain stated that he would like to authorize City Manager to see what the prices will be if we do need a Structural Engineer.

STATUS OF THE WEB SITE BIDS (COUNCILMEMBER CLENDENIN)

Councilmember Clendenin stated that we have a functional web site that has old technology. He stated that we need to streamline the website and update but not the Cadillac version. The new software will allow other components to be added at a later date. He then stated that we need to take the existing site, clean it up and make it easy to use. City Manager Sumner stated that staff prepared RFP that people could respond to. He then asked if the outline is responsive to what Council wants. Councilmember Clendenin stated that he thought there should be a cover letter that this is end item but we would like to do it in stages. Councilmember Clendenin stated that they would have to write new program; they cannot use the old site. City Manager Sumner then said updated version of existing site and updates as needed. Councilmember Benjamin asked how much this would cost. Sumner said approximately \$5-6000.00 to start with. Councilmember Clendenin stated that we would own the website but not software. City Manager Sumner stated that their needs to be platform made and the staff manipulates it. Sumner then asks as a whole is the RFP responsive to what Council wants? Any questions? He then stated to look at website we like such as Thomasville, Johns Creek, Lowndes County and Valdosta. City Manager Sumner stated that he will make modifications to the RFP , advertise and make packets available. Councilmember Adams stated that she would find out what web designers the other cities used and get with them to see which ones we might could use and get bids. A motion was made by Councilmember Clendenin to authorize that we go to bid after RFP in final form with the time frame of mid August/September Work session which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cain. **Councilmember Adams, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Benjamin and Mayor Pro Tem Cain all voted in favor of the motion.**

LAWSON FAMILY REIMBURSEMENT (MAYOR WAYNE BULLARD)

The Mayor stated that as discussed on Monday night that the Lawson family would like reimbursement for their expenses regarding the railroad property. He does not know who is at fault but that the \$1500.00 was spent. Council member Adams stated that she does not feel the City owes Mr. Odom anything and we have paid out \$20,000.00 on this project. Councilmember Clendenin made a motion that out of good faith we should pay 50% of the bill which would be \$700.00. No second. Motion dies. Mayor Pro Tem Cain stated that we were under the impression that the Lawson's owned the property. Councilmember Benjamin said we did not know that until they went to the Courthouse and found the deed. Councilmember Adams stated that Dr. Lawson thought that existed before he passed and the local attorney did say it existed until they went back to the original title. She then stated that we have paid the City attorney for this research. Councilmember Clendenin stated again that he thinks in good faith that we should pay half of the fees. Councilmember Benjamin stated that this was not for research of title, this was for tax write off for the Lawson family. Again Councilmember Clendenin made a motion for good faith to cut a check for \$700.00 to Trey Odom. Motion dies.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FROGTOWN WINERY AGREEMENT (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that Mr. Kritzer had a great presentation of Monday night and that it sounds like we have a tasting room on its way. Sumner stated that we have a check in hand for the \$5500.00 for tap fees but that we do not have the signed agreement in hand. Mr. Kritzer will get the Farm Ordinance for us and all he needs is authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement once we receive it. Mayor Pro Tem Cain asked if it has been pressure tested yet. He stated that we need to be sure it is put in right. City Manager Sumner stated that it was his understanding that Valdosta would sign off on it. Mayor Pro Tem Cain said no we do not have Valdosta to inspect we need to have our engineer sign off on it and we need to pay for inspection. Sumner stated that he did not know the engineer had to sign off on it. The Mayor stated that we need to go out and check to see who the plumber is on the job. Sumner stated that PW Warren inspects the taps. Sumner then asked what we want to do. The sewer line needs to have bids. **Councilmember Clendenin made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement and for bidding on the sewer line which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

FIRE STATION PAINTING-SPLOST VI (CHIEF BENNETT)

Fire Chief Bennett stated that when the building was built in 2005 the blocks were not sealed and the rain is coming through the block. He stated as a corrective measure to fire department building he would like to see it painted with a rubber type paint to help seal the brick. He stated that he would like to go with Ronnie Mashburn Painting and the bid was \$2850.00. He stated that there is money in SPLOST VI for improvements to building. **A motion was made to paint the fire station for \$2850.00 using Mashburn Painting which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cain. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.**

CONSENT AGENDA

- A.) RICOH SERVICES CONTRACT
- B.) REMOVAL OF 3 TRESS IN LAWSON PARK
- C.) NORTH WEST STRET REHAB & REPAVING-SPLOST VI
- D.) CITY HALL SIGN
- E.) SPLOST VII AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cain to accept the Consent Agenda which was seconded by Councilmember Adams. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Council member Adams, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Councilmember Benjamin to enter into Executive Session to discuss legal matters only and have the Mayor sign the affidavit which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Clendenin, Councilmember Benjamin and Councilmember Adams all voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was by Councilmember Benjamin to come out of Executive Session and sign the affidavit which was seconded by Councilmember Clendenin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Clendenin and Councilmember Adams all voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Councilmember Benjamin to lift the moratorium on Lawson Farms pending resolution of lawsuit which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cain. Councilmember Benjamin, Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Cain to authorize the City Manager to out for bids on repairing drain problems on Cottonwood Cove in Lawson Farms as per Engineers orders which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS:

Councilmember Clendenin stated that he was happy to see all the familiar faces. He then said that Public Works did a fantastic job getting the grass off of the streets and sidewalks. HE thanked the Mayor, Council, City Manager and City Clerk for doing a good job. He stated it was a good month and thanked Fire Chief Bennett for helping the people in Lawson Farms with all the rain.

Mayor Pro Tem Cain thanked everyone for coming out and stated that it was a pleasure to serve. He thanked all department heads and thank you to Chief Bennett for helping with flood in Lawson Farms and that we need may need his help this upcoming weekend if more rain. He thanked him for his quick response for the fire on College Street and stated that the fire was contained to where it started. Thankfully no one was a home but that they had animals in the house and he thought they did a great job. Thank you to his fellow Councilmember's, Mayor, City Manager and City Clerk for all they do.

Councilmember Benjamin that district 1 for the opportunity to serve and hats off to all departments for maintaining Hahira and for their dedication to the city. Thank you to all departments.

Councilmember Adams thanked PW Warren and his wife for their time volunteering at the Historical Society Fund Raiser Fish Fry. She stated that they worked all day and that it was beyond the call of duty. She thanked DDC Dershimer for her good financial report and stated that it was very concise. Special thank you to DCC Dershimer and to PW Warren for all their hard work. Thank you to Chief Bennett and Chief Davis for keeping us safe. Thank you for all the citizens.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and stated that it had been a great year. He stated that each department does a wonderful job and thank you to Lisa, Paula and Sharon for a good job. He then stated that he will have the 2014 budget to deliver in the next two weeks moving forward.

Mayor Bullard thanked the youngest citizens his daughter Ellie for coming out tonight and thank you to department heads for a safe and nice place to live. He thanked PW Warren for coming back from Vacation of Friday to help with the fish fry at Historical Society.

Mayor Bullard asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mayor Pro Tem Cain made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin. Mayor Pro Tem Cain, Councilmember Benjamin, Councilmember Adams and Councilmember Clendenin all voted in favor of the motion. There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.**

Mayor Wayne Bullard

City Clerk Lisa Mashburn