

HAHIRA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 5, 2016

7:30 P.M.

COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting May 5, 2016 at the Courthouse with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils Kenneth Davis, Patrick Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Terry Benjamin. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, PWD Donnie Warren and City Clerk Lisa Mashburn. Councilman Mason Barfield and Police Chief Terry Davis were not present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bruce Cain

INVOCATION: Pastor Mike Wells

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

- A. MAY 4, 2016 WORK SESSION**
- B. May 7, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**
- C. May 22, 106 SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or corrections regarding the meeting minutes. None noted. **Councilman Davis made a motion to approve the minutes as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilman Davis, Councilman Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. ALCOHOL ORDINANCE DISTANCE AMENDMENT-FIRST READING (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that as discussed on Monday night this is an amendment for distance requirements for serving beer and wine by the drink in regards to Church's. We currently have a 300 foot distance from restaurant to Church. Many other cities have tackled this in regards to fine dining close to store front churches. This amendment to the ordinance for purposes of distance to church not applicable. It is for the downtown or commercial corridor West of Hwy 122 and Main Street to stop light. The City Manager read the amendment to the ordinance stating this is the first reading. He then asked if anyone had any questions. Councilman Warren asked how many Churches will be affected. City Manager stated that only two will be affected, Magnolia Church and Community Life Church. We have had publicity in the Valdosta Daily Times. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the ordinance

amendment. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the ordinance amendment. Vicki Rountree of 6119 Shiloh Road and owner of Monkey Britches said that as President of the Merchants' Association she would like to speak on their behalf. They are thrilled to have a Restaurant/Bistro come to Hahira, we are all very happy and in full support of the amendment. **A motion was made by Councilman Warren to remove the distance requirement from the alcohol ordinance as presented which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

B. APPLICATION FO BANSARIBEN PATEL, HAHIRA LIQUAORS-1012 GEORGIA HWY 122 FOR PACKAGE SALE OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR(CHIEF DAVIS)

Chief Davis is not present tonight but as stated on Monday night he has done full review of the application and approves it via Police Department. This has been advertised and open for public input stated City Manager Sumner. This is for ownership change only, there is a business at that location at present time with no issues.

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the license. None noted. The Mayor then asked if anyone wished to speak against the application. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the application. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin made a motion to approve the application for license to sell beer, wine and liquor by the package which was seconded by Councilman Warren. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: None noted.

REIVEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

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

DISCUSSIONS/DEPARTMENT REQUESTS:

A. INFLOW AND INFILTRATION PROJECT 2016-SPLOST VII (CITY ENGINEER)

Robert Ramsey City Engineer stated the bid opening was April 26. We had four bidders with the low bidder Southeastern Trenchless. The bid was \$179,400.70 with 10% contingency for a total of \$197,340.77 which came in under budget. City Manager Sumner said that we have sufficient funds in SPLOT VII for the project. The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions. None noted.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin made a motion to approve the bid at \$197,340.77 with Southeastern Trenchless which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilman Davis and Councilman Warren all voted in favor of the motion.

B. CITY CENTER ARCHITECT (MAYOR CAIN)

The Mayor asked if everyone had time to look over the Architects that we interviewed and if there are any questions. City Manager Sumner stated that we had 5 firms come and present at the Special Called Meeting. We would like to pick the top three firms. Councilman Warren said that they were all impressive and he would like to nominate Altman and Barrett.

Councilmember Barfield is not present tonight but he stated at work session that he would like to see Altman & Barrett or Studio 8. Councilman Davis said that he like Altman & Barrett.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin said that he liked Altman & Barrett, Studio 8 and Stevenson and

Palmer. The final count is Altman & Barrett with 4 votes, Studio 8 with 2 votes and Stevenson & Palmer with 1 vote. **Councilman Warren made a motion to award to Altman & Barrett which was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT WAGES (CHIEF DAVIS)

City Manager Sumner said that Chief Davis is not here tonight, he is under the weather. He called and ask that it be taken off the agenda. **Councilman Davis made a motion to remove from the agenda which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilman Davis, Councilman Warren and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

D. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WAGES (CITY MANAGER)

City Manager Sumner stated that the total annual cost for the wage increase request would be \$29,919 and it would be split between the Proprietary Fund and the General Fund. We do have sufficient funds. PWD Warren and the Mayor did look at the DCA average wage and length of service to come up with the amounts. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin asked if it is comparable to salary study. The Mayor stated it is in line with DCA. PWD Warren will not take an increase at this time. We will do all employees in next several months and he will be considered with department heads. **Councilman Warren made a motion to accept the recommendation for Public works salary increases as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin. Councilman Warren, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin all voted in favor of the motion.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. DONATION OF ODOM BUILDING TO DDA**
- B. GMA SUMMER TRAINING**
- C. TEACHER'S LUNCHEON**

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which seconded by Councilman Davis. **Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilman Davis and Councilman Warren all voted in favor of the motion.**

REPORTS:

Councilman Davis thanked everyone for coming out tonight. We have a lot going on and that he is excited. The DDA is up and running. Thank you.

Councilman Warren thanked everyone for the work tonight, we have a lot of work to do but we all work as a team. We are all in this together, keep up the good work.

Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin thanked District I for the opportunity to serve and thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Thank you to all departments, Police department, Fire Department and Public Works. We have a big issue with salary and we need to get up to speed. We need to have the employees make a living wage and everyone will be in a better position. We are looking into the salary study, do not get discouraged.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. Thank you to the front office and the department heads. Our combined services for the department heads is 75 years. It is a privilege to work with folks who are dedicated and appreciate the City. I am honored to be a part of this.

Mayor Cain thanked everyone for coming tonight. Thank you to the department heads. I wish Mr. and Mrs. Patel the best with your new business. Thank you to the DDA Chairman Ted Raker, I look forward to a brighter Hahira. Thank you to HMA President and DDA Chair Vicki Rountree for the hard work, the merchants are going a fantastic job.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin to adjourn which was seconded by Councilman Warren. Mayor Pro Tem Benjamin, Councilman Warren and Councilman Davis all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:15 P.M.

ADJOURN.

BRUCE CAIN, MAYOR

LISA MASHBURN, CITY CLERK