

Council Meeting

November 9, 2000

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, November 9th, 2000 at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse.

PRESENT: Mayor John Adams; Councils Bob Harris, Wayne Bullard, Joel Hunnicutt and Sonny Copeland; Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Utilities Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis.

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

Mayor Adams gave the invocation.

Visitors were welcomed and a quorum of council was established.

Council Harris made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2000, and noted that Council failed to vote on Item B on last month's agenda, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

Council Harris made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING

(A) Rezoning request by Paula Sue Webb Cross P.C. File #HA-2000-S. (Tabled)

Mayor Adams reported the applicants had requested the matter be tabled until next month. Council Bullard made a motion to table the request until next month, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(B) 2001 Budget presentation:

Mayor Adams read the budget message.

He called on citizens who wanted to speak. Mr. Eldon Moore asked how the SPLOST fund was established? Mayor Adams stated that they were funds from the 1% sales tax that was voted on in 1997.

Mr. Moore asked how the water/sewer/sanitation excess revenue was being handled. Mayor Adams stated that there had not been an excess in revenue until this year. Both

systems have been subsidized by the General Fund and we hope that will not continue.

Mr. Moore asked about police fines. Mayor Adams stated that we would not meet last year's total for fines because some of the police officers are not certified to run radar and revenues from speeding fines had not been as much as in projected. The police chief has assured him that they will make progress in this.

Mayor Adams stated that the millage rate was 5.5 for this year.

Mr. Moore asked about depreciation line in water/sewer budget. Mayor Adams stated that this was a new item in the budget due to Ga. state mandated Chart of Accounts format. He further stated he did not fully understand it, and the city's accounting firm had helped with that part of the budget. He also offered to get the accountant to explain it to him.

Mayor Adams stated that the millage rate would be accepted at the December meeting.

END

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

(A) Department request:

Police Chief Davis asked for approval to increase fines. Mayor Adams read an ordinance to increase fines. Council Harris made a motion to adopt the ordinance as read, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

Chief Davis requested purchasing a new computer system at a cost of \$3,390.00. \$1,200.00 of the cost will come from a grant from the Governor's office on Highway Safety and \$2,190.00 from drug seized money. Mayor Adams agreed with Chief Davis and recommended approval. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(B) Application and Agreement for Community Service:

Mayor Adams reported on an agreement to obtain community service workers and recommended approval of the agreement. Council approved of the agreement for the Mayor to proceed with the agreement, but no motion was made.

Chief Davis stated he was considering changing the police uniforms due to unavailability of shirts for the present uniform. He stated he would report back with to Council with his recommendations.

Mayor Adams congratulated Terry Davis on his promotion to Chief of Police.

(C) Initiation of Planned Development overlay with Planning Commission:

Mayor Adams reported on the change in the Zoning Ordinance and recommended initiating this action. This would go to the Planning Commission for approval. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to initiate this action, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(D) DDA Board nomination:

Mayor Adams asked for approval of the list of nominees. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to approve the list, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

(E) Landscape ordinance committee nominations:

Mayor Adams asked for approval of the list of nominees. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Copeland. Vote was unanimous.

(F) National Safety Council Membership:

Mayor Adams reported that Public Works Director, John Thursby, recommended joining the National Safety Council at a cost of \$200.00. Council Copeland made a motion to join the National Safety Council and form an employee safety committee, seconded by Council Harris. Vote was unanimous.

(G) Adoption of A T & T Franchise Agreement Extension Resolution:

Mayor Adams recommended adopting the resolution. He read the resolution. Council Bullard made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(H) Adoption of interim financing resolution with Citizens Community Bank for payment of contractor invoices incurred on the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements:

Mayor Adams read the resolution and recommended adopting it. Council Harris made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(I) Agreement with Gary Zeigler, Certified Public Accountants:

Mayor Adams asked for Council's approval to execute the agreement for auditing services. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into the agreement, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(J) Execution of agreement with Governor's Office of Highway Safety:

Mayor Adams asked for Council's approval to execute the agreement. Chief Davis explained the agreement. Council Bullard made a motion to enter agreement, seconded by Council Copeland. Vote was unanimous.

(K) Renewal GMA Master Lease requiring adoption of Master Lease Ordinance/Resolution and Execution of GMA Master Lease documents:

Mayor Adams read the ordinance/resolution and asked for Council's approval. Council Bullard made a motion to approve the ordinance/resolution from GMA, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

(L) Request for use of City Water Tower for high angle rescue training:

Mayor Adams read a letter from Bemiss-Barretts Fire Department, asking to use the water tower for training purposes. The City Attorney will need to draw up an agreement. Council Harris made a motion to give Mayor authority to give letter to City Attorney seconded by Council Copeland. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(M) Proposal for repair of Courthouse floor termite damage:

Mayor Adams reported on termite damage to the floors in the courthouse. Council Bullard made a motion to table it until next month, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

(N) Payment of Better Hometown Director's tuition of \$500.00 in Leadership Lowndes class of 2001:

Mayor Adams recommended paying the tuition. Council Bullard made a motion to pay the tuition, seconded by Council Copeland. Vote was unanimous.

(O) Proposed changes to abandoned car ordinance:

Mayor Adams asked Council to amend the ordinance. He read the ordinance. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to amend the ordinance to include Section 9-4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

(P) Addition of street lights on West Stanfill Street:

Mayor Adams recommended adding five (5) lights on W. Stanfill Street. Council Bullard made a motion to install the lights, seconded by Council Harris. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

Council Reports:

Council's Copeland, Hunnicutt and Bullard had no report.

Council Harris thanked citizens who participated in "Make a Difference Day".

Mayor Adams reported on the work done on Smith Park and other areas on "Make a Difference Day". Also they pressure washed a house for a local citizen. He complimented John Thursby on cooking for the picnic afterward.

Mayor Adams complimented Mr. Wilmon Stanley for his work as Manager of the elections team in Hahira on November 7th.

Bonnie Tindall, Director of the Chamber reported on the Christmas parade and Open House, which will be on December 9th. Prizes will be awarded for Christmas decorations and floats.

Mayor Adams asked John Thursby when he and his crew would be putting up the Christmas decorations in town. He stated it would probably be shortly after Thanksgiving holidays.

Mayor Adams reported that the Police Chief and Fire Chief are collecting gifts for patients at Southwestern State Hospital and he would be accompanying them to deliver the gifts and participate in the Mayor's Christmas Motorcade in Thomasville.

Veterans Day will be this Saturday and the City Hall will be closed on Monday. Remember our Veterans.

Paving in the Business Park will begin in three weeks.

Ten acres have been cleared in the new recreation area.

Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements are in progress.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

John F. Adams, Mayor
Brady, City Clerk

Marilyn