

**Council Meeting  
April 4, 2002**

The City Council of the City of Hahira met in regular session on Thursday, April 4, 2002 at 7:30 P.M. at the Courthouse with Mayor Crowe presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Myron Crowe; Councilmen Wayne Bullard, Joel Hunnicutt, Terry Benjamin and M. C. Nelson; City Manager, Danny Lucas; Clerk, Marilyn Brady; Public Utilities Director, John Thursby; Police Chief, Terry Davis; Fire Chief, J. C. Plair; Bonnie Tindall, Better Hometown Program Director; City Attorney, Willie Linahan's representative Rob Plumb.

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

Mayor Crowe called on Council Hunnicutt to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the invocation by Council Benjamin. Visitors were welcomed.

Mayor Crowe called on a motion to approve the March 7, 2002 Council Minutes. Council Bullard made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

Review of bills: Mayor Crowe asked Council to review the bills.

There was no old business to discuss.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Rezoning Request - Bill Gandy/Tricon Development P.C. File #HA-2002-01

Ms. Loretta Riggins, Current Planner with the Greater Lowndes Planning Commission reported on Bill Gandy's request to rezone 1.0268 acres from Single Family Residential (R-10) to Single Family Residential (R-6). The property is located north of East Coleman Drive and west of Lafayette Street. Applicant proposes to build five single family homes on the site. The average size lot being 8,952.8 sq ft. even though R-6 allows a home to be a minimum of 800 sq ft, Mr. Gandy is requesting approval for a "site specific" plan with each home being a minimum of 1,200 sq ft, which exceeds the R-10 requirement of a minimum of 1,000 sq ft. Staff recommendation and the Planning Commission found it consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and recommended approval.

Mayor Crowe asked for those in favor of the request to speak.

Mr. Bill Gandy, 705 Cranford Ave., Valdosta, GA, spoke in favor of the request. He stated that it would be an asset to Hahira. The houses will not be small, but of reasonable size.

Mayor Crowe asked for those against the request to speak. There was no response.

Council Bullard made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Council Nelson. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

End

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### A. Department requests:

###### a. Attend Georgia Rural Water Association (GRWA) Conference

Public Works Director, John Thursby, asked for approval to attend the GRWA Conference in Jekyll Island. This would allow him to get points for certification, which is required by the State of Georgia. This is a budgeted item. Council Hunnicutt made a motion to approve, seconded by Council Nelson. Vote was unanimous.

##### B Consent Agenda

###### a. Sam's Club Business Revolving Credit Application

Mayor Crowe reported on the credit application which would give Police Chief, Davis, and Better Hometown Program Director, Bonnie Tindall, the authority to purchase items for the city.

###### b. Great American Clean-up Day Proclamation

BHT Director, Bonnie Tindall, read the Proclamation declaring April 21 through April 27, as "Keep Hahira Clean and Beautiful

Week" and urged all citizens to assist in making Hahira a more beautiful, healthful, and inviting place to live, work and play.

c. Fireman's Grant Application

Mayor Crowe reported that Fire Chief Plair and BHT Director Bonnie Tindall, have been working on the grant application.

d. Break Room Furniture

Mayor Crowe reported that the upstairs rooms have been divided into several offices. One will be used for meetings. Items needed for the meeting room are: A table, chairs, refrigerator, microwave, coffee pot, and a small cabinet for the microwave.

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

C "Bring a Friend to Court" - Vickie O'Brien

Ms. O'Brien stated that she was representing a group of people who were interested in having tennis courts for the new recreational facility. A clinic will be held on Saturday for those interested. This will be at the tennis courts at the Hahira Middle School. Tennis pros from Valdosta will be there. She invited everyone to attend and show their support. It will be a fun day for everyone.

D. Oath of Office - Police Officer Shannon Kingston

Mayor Crowe reported that Police Officer Shannon Kingston had recently graduated with honors from the Police Academy and was the first female Police officer for the City of Hahira. Mayor Crowe administered the Oath of office to Ms. Kingston.

E. Eggarama Report - Better Hometown Manager

BHT Director, Bonnie Tindall, reported that the Eggarama was held on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. at the Pick-In Park area. There were sponsors for the event, which did not cost the Better Hometown Program or the City anything. There were 16 volunteers who helped with the project. There were 320 "Licensed Hunters" from ages 3 and under to 10 years

old, 20 games for ages 11 and 12, and 200 parents attended. She welcomed any new ideas from citizens for the next Eggarama.

#### F. Request for Proposals to Restore 1949 Fire Truck

Mayor Crowe reported that this had been in the budget for several years. The city received three bids:

Bass Auto Restoration - \$12,807.00

Kelly Classics - \$ 5,300.00

Mallory's Body Shop - \$ 7,491.77

Council Bullard made a motion to accept the bid from Mallory's Body Shop, seconded by Council Benjamin. Vote was unanimous.

#### G. Sanitation Truck Bids

Public Utilities Director, John Thursby, reported that there were 18 bids received. He recommended the bid from Beck Motors in Albany for \$119,261.00. This is a budgeted item. Council Nelson made a motion to purchase the truck, seconded by Council Bullard. Discussion followed. Vote was unanimous.

#### H. Relocate Utility Pole and Guide wires

Public Utilities Director, John Thursby, reported on the relocation of a utility pole and guide wire. The light pole is located on Hagan Bridge Road. It was installed to support the school flashing sign required by the D.O.T. The guide wire was installed on property belonging to Lois Bellflower without her permission. Ms. Bellflower wants the guide wire removed from her property. He recommended removing the guide wire at a cost of \$1,013.00. Council Benjamin made a motion to move the pole, seconded by Council Bullard. Vote was unanimous.

#### I. Meeting Procedures - Citizens wishing to address Council

Mayor Crowe reported that "Citizens wishing to be heard" had been deleted from the Agenda in the previous administration. A Meeting Procedures was established in February 1998 and amended August 5, 1999. The current Mayor/Council has

scheduled Town Hall Meetings quarterly, so that local citizens can voice their concerns. He asked for Council's comments. Council Benjamin stated that "Citizens wishing to be heard" should be put on the agenda every month. If it is on a trial basis, that would be fine. Council Bullard stated his ideas. Council Nelson stated that he would like to see it stay as it is now, but if there is an alternative, go with every other meeting. Council Benjamin made a motion to put "Citizens wishing to be heard" on the agenda every month as in the past and follow previous guidelines and allow 3 to 5 minutes, to be on a trial period for 1 year, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Councils Benjamin and Hunnicutt voted yes. Councils Nelson and Bullard voted no. Mayor Crowe voted no. Motion died.

## Reports:

### A. Council

Council Benjamin reported that he was deeply saddened at the report. He stated that he was glad to see the city workers clean up South Hall Street, and the trimming and edging on the sidewalks. He congratulated Shannon Kingston on being the first woman to serve on the Hahira Police force.

He thanked the citizens for coming to the council meeting.

Council Hunnicutt reported that he was happy to see the city workers cleaning the parks around town.

Council Bullard stated the city needed to start mowing. Public Utilities Director, Thursby, stated that it had already begun.

Council Nelson also congratulated Shannon Kingston. He stated that he had enjoyed the recent trip to Perry, which was for two days training.

### B. City Manager

Standard Contractors has completed their work a month before schedule. They hope to complete the Union Road Mobile Home Park project next week.

C. Mayor

We will soon start on the Park Street Project, streetscape project, 250,000 gallon water tank, water lines on Union Road, working on the North Lowndes Recreation Facility. He encouraged everyone to come to the Town Hall meetings and appreciate the attendance at the council meeting.

Mayor Crowe asked for a motion to end the session. Council Bullard made a motion to end the session, seconded by Council Hunnicutt. Vote was unanimous.

Council Meeting ended at 8:25 P.M.

Myron Crowe, Mayor  
Brady, City Clerk

Marilyn