

CITY OF HAHIRA
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 P.M.
COURTHOUSE

The Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting on September 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

PRESENT: Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Mason Barfield, Louise White, Kenneth Davis, and Mayor Pro Tem Tony Rosatti. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, Attorney Rob Plumb, Fire Chief Dwight Bennett, Fire Chief Terry Davis, PWD Willie Jones and MSD Jennifer Price. City Clerk Lisa Mashburn was not present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruce Cain

ESTABLISH QUORUM: Mayor Bruce Cain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bruce Cain

INVOCATION: City Manager Jonathan Sumner

REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. AUGUST 1, 2023, WORK SESSION

B. AUGUST 3, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING

C. AUGUST 15, 2023, SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

A. AMENDMENT TO ALCOHOL BY THE DRINK ORDINANCE-DISTILLED BEVERAGES (THIRD READING)

City Attorney Plumb stated this is to amend the City ordinance in place to add distilled spirits by the drink in restaurants. This does not pertain to Sunday sales. This is the third reading. Does anyone have any questions? None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against it. None noted. Does Council have any discussion? None noted. **Councilman Davis made a motion to approve amendment to alcohol by the drink Ordinance which was seconded by Councilman Barfield. Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield,**

Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Potter Price 214 E Main Street, who is a student, gave a presentation on the need to repair sidewalks in Hahira.

REVIEW OF BILS/BUDGET OVERAGES:

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

DISCUSSIONS:

A. HIRING PROCESS-POLICE CHIEF

Chief Davis stated as discussed on Tuesday he would recommend going through the Chiefs Association for applications and screen process. The top 5 would then come to City for panel to interview. There is a fee involved but he feels it would be helpful to help weed out the ones who are not qualified. Does anyone have any questions? None noted.

Councilmember Barfield made a motion to approve using the Chiefs Association for application process and then bringing before the panel which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti.

Councilmember Barfield, Councilmember Davis, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

B. HIRING PROCESS-FIRE CHIEF

Chief Bennett recommended on Thursday night to do paper applications with a list of qualifications for the hiring process. He would check them and send top applicants to panel for review. **A motion was made by Councilman Davis to approve the paper application and panel which was seconded by Councilmember White. Councilmember White, Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.**

C. SHALLOW TESTING OF WELL #3-\$43,750-SPLOST VIII-WOODROW SAPP

Mayor Cain discussed on Tuesday night testing the shallow well #3 for HAA5 and see if this well can be used. We need to find out if the well is too deep. **A**

motion was made by Councilman Barfield to approve testing at well # 3 which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti. Councilman Barfield, Councilmember White, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. LIFT STATION PUMPS-BEELINE TRAILER PARK-SPLOST VIII-\$4,858-AAG ELECTRIC MOTORS AND PUMPS**
- B. MAIN STREET LIGHT UPGRADES-RAILROAD TRACKS TO NEWSOME ST-SPLOST VIII-\$5,439-ETHERIDGE ELECTRIC**
- C. ICE MACHINE-SPLOST VIII-\$4,202-KATOM RESTAURANT SUPPLY**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions regarding the Consent agenda. None note. **Councilmember White made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti. Councilmember White, Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.**

REPORTS:

Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti thanked Potter Price for her presentation and thanked the Community for coming out tonight. He thanked Public works, Public Safety and Community for coming together during Hurricane. We can all count our blessings.

Councilman Barfield also said thanks to Potter Price and to everyone who helped the Community during the storm. He thanked Public works and said he is confident in the ability for them to get it all cleaned up after the storm. I am proud of the way we handled the water/sewer during the storm. Thank you to the Police department and Fire department, I appreciated everything that you did during the storm.

Councilmember White said she thinks we could do better after the storm finding solutions to the problems in her district. We need to work to get people to safety and help those that need generators. I think the Police department, Fire department and Public works need to plan better.

Councilman Davis said he is thankful that everyone is safe. Thank you to the departments and community for helping others during this time. He also thanked Potter Price for her information regarding sidewalks.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve and thank you to Potter Price for your presentation. We will address the issues that were presented. Thank you to Public works, Police department and Fire department for storm efforts. I would also like to thank everyone at the office. I would also like to send my condolences to the family of Michael Garrison.

Mayor Cain thanked the Public works department, Police department, Fire department and the lineman for the work they did during and after the storm. Lowndes County commended the City of Hahira for all that they did. Thank you to Potter Price for the presentation, we will get with PWD Jones and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti and look at the issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (REAL ESTATE)

A motion was made by Councilmember White to enter into Executive Session to discuss Real Estate which was seconded by Councilman Barfield. Councilmember White, Councilman Barfield, Councilman Davis and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made to come out of Executive session by Councilman Davis which was seconded by Councilmember Barfield. Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Councilmember Barfield and was seconded by Councilman Davis. Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED 6:35 P.M.

MAYOR BRUCE CAIN

CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN