

**CITY OF HAHIRA**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2023**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**6:00 P.M.**  
**COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Council Meeting on October 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Josh Owens

**REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

- A. SEPTEMBER 5, 2023- WORK SESSION**
- B. SEPTEMBER 12, 2023-COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

- A. FY24 BUDGET PRELIMINARY ADOPTION (CITY MANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner reviewed the Budget process and stated it time for consideration of the Preliminary adoption of budget. As required by the state it will be open to the public tonight for any questions or discussions. You have a copy in your packet and you can also pick up a copy at City Hall. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the preliminary budget? None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the preliminary budget. None

noted. **Councilman Davis made a motion to approve the Preliminary budget as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti. Councilman Davis, Councilman Barfield, Councilmember White and Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti all voted in favor of the motion.**

#### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Freeman Rivers of 204 S Hall Street said he is here because of a blind spot when you are on North Hall Street turning onto Highway 122 and he would like to see that fixed. He also stated that the Union Road recycle center needs work. The road is washed out and the incline needs to be updated.

Terry Benjamin of 539 S Hall Street said he would like to say thank you for all the storm clean up that has been done in the City. Thank you for all the work with the water and the HAA5. I do not think many know of all the hard work put into this and the grant, the entire project. Thank you all for the hard work, it took a lot to get this done.

#### **REVIEW OF BILLS/BUDGET OVERAGES:**

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

#### **DISCUSSIONS:**

##### **A. WATER SYSTEM UPDATE-CARTER AND SLOOPE**

Mr. Wiseman with Carter and Sloope gave a presentation via zoom. He stated we met with EPD back in May, it was a good meeting. We received approval for the revised corrective action plan that we presented to them. We are doing work and ground study along with samplings to try and find a solution. They stated they tried for many years back in 2022 to fix a problem in Lowndes County. Well 1 and Well 2 are clear but Well 3 is the problem. We can try to redrill Well 1 and take off Well 3 to try and take care of the HAA5 violation. Well 1 will need new casing on the same property. We will then make Well 3 shallow depth and then test and meet

in few weeks to get update on testing of shallow well. We think this may solve the problem. Drilling is more cost effective than treatment and we have been working with the EPD for years on this but have no solution. We must run ad in the paper and proceed forward. We will ask EPD for advice going forward and they seem to be impressed with the way we are trying to solve the problem. Councilmember Barfield asked about other areas having the same problem. Mr. Wiseman said yes North Florida and South Georgia have the same problem. It is due to the limestone in the caverns but yes Lowndes County, Moody and the City of Valdosta have all struggled with this. The Department of Defense at Moody has spent a lot of money trying to fix the problem with HHA levels and have no answer. It is all due to the aquifer and natural things occurring in the areas. City Manager Sumner thanked Mr. Wiseman for all the hard work and the information. We have recorded this and get it out to the citizens.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. FOUR TRASH CANS FOR HAHIRA SQUARE-GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL-\$2,500-PROPRIETARY FUND**
- B. FRESH WATER EQUIPMENT-SOWEGA AND HACH-\$7,500-PROPRIETARY FUND**
- C. JOINING PIPE AT PUBLIC WORKS-CONSOLIDATED PIPE-\$2,500**
- D. GEORIGIA RURAL WATER FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 23-25<sup>TH</sup>**
- E. FINANCE DEPARTMENT FIREPROOF SAFE-LEE OFFICE EQUIPMENT-#,899-SPLOST VIII**
- F. CREDIT CARD SERVICE-TYLER TECHNOLOGIES-#1,308-PROPRIETARY FUND**
- G. LEADERSHIP LOWNDES NOMINATION-CLASS OF 2024-MSD PRICE-\$1,500**
- H. PURCHASE OF ODOM PROPERTY-10.2 ACRES TOTAL-\$400,000-GEORGIA ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE AUTHORITY/SPLOST VIII-AUTHORIZATION FOR MAYOR TO SIGN**
- I. HIRING PROCESS-POLICE CHIEF-GEORGIA ASSOCIATON OF CHIEFS OF POLICE-\$6,800-GENERAL FUND**

**Councilman Barfield made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented which was seconded by Councilmember White. Councilmember**

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

**REPORTS:**

Councilman Barfield said yes, he has noticed the problems at the dump and I think we need a good cleaning there. When you drive up the hill to dump it is testy. Maybe in the next few months we can get it cleaned up. We are proud of the clean up from the storm in the City, we have a big weekend coming up and the Public works did a great job. I know we still have a lot of clean up to do but I am proud of all the work that has been done. Thank you to everyone for being here tonight.

Councilmember White said we do need the trees cut back at North Hall and hopefully we can get that done soon. Please stay safe on Union Road that intersection is bad.

Councilman Davis said don't forget on November 4, 2023, we have recycle center open for Amnesty day. Please everyone stay safe for the Honeybee this weekend.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosatti said ditto to all that has been said and thank you to Public Safety. Thank you to the Council and staff, Hahira is the best place to live.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. My compliments to the departments and department heads. Public works are almost complete with yard debris from the storm. We made a decision not to bring in outside contractors for clean up due to the costs and the 24-36 months reimbursement times. I appreciate the Public works, Main Street, Public Safety and Admin staff.

Mayor Cain said I concur with all that has been said tonight. The Honeybee is here so I hope everyone will come out and have a good time and be safe. Thank you all.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:00 P.M.

**ADJOURN.**

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**