

# **CITY OF HAHIRA**

**May 1, 2025**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**6: 00 P.M.**

### **COURTHOUSE**

The Mayor and Council met for a Council meeting on May 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Bruce Cain presiding.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Bruce Cain, Councils: Klay Luke, David Lindsey and Mayor Pro Tem Louise White. Councilman Mason Barfield was present via phone conference call. City Manager Jonathan Sumner, City Clerk Lisa Mashburn, Police Chief Stryde Jones, Fire Chief David Thompson and PWD Willie Jones.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Bruce Cain

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Josh Owens

**RECOGNITION OF SERVICE-CITY ATTORNEY ROB PLUMB-25 YEARS (MAYOR, COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER)**

The Mayor read a Proclamation and presented Attorney Robert Plumb with 25-year service award. Everyone thanked him for the years of service and stated they would miss him.

## **REVIEW/CORRECTION OF MEETING MINUTES:**

### **A. APRIL 1, 2025 WORK SESSION**

### **B. APRIL 3, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING**

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or corrections regarding the minutes. None noted.

**Councilman Luke made a motion to approve the minutes as presented which was seconded by Councilman Lindsey. Councilman Luke, Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Barfield, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

## **PUBLIC HEARING:**

- ### **A. HA-2025-04 REZONING REQUEST BY FL 300 LLC (JOHN OWENS) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG SOUTH HAGAN BRIDGE ROAD (PLANNING AND ZONING)**

**B. HA-2025-05 ANNEXATION REQUEST BY  
FL300 LLC (JOHN OWENS) FOR PROPERTY  
LOCATED ALONG SOUTH HAGAN BRIDGE ROAD  
(PLANNING AND ZONING)**

Both A and B are same applicant and have the same property. This is a small portion of land along Haganbridge for the new Reynolda Subdivision and is necessary for connectivity. You will need to vote on the rezoning first and then the annex of both sides of the road. The road is larger than the land per the survey map in your packet. There was no opposition at the Planning Commission meeting, it was unanimous vote with no questions.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against HA-2025-04. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of HA-2025-04. None noted. Any discussion? None noted.

**Councilman Lindsey made a motion to approve HA-2025-04 as presented which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Lindsey,**

**Councilman Luke, Councilman Barfield, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against HA-2025-05. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of HA-2025-05. None noted.

**Councilman Lindsey made a motion to approve the HA-2025-05 as presented which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Barfield, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

**C. FY24 FINAL BUDGET AMENDMENTS AS RECOMMENDED BY CITY AUDITOR (CITYMANAGER)**

City Manager Sumner stated per City auditor that this is raw draft of FY24 Audit. These amendments will tie up all loose ends as we discussed on Tuesday night at Work Session. Does anyone have any questions? None noted.

The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against the FY24 budget amendments. None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak

in favor of the FY24 budget amendments. None noted. **Mayor Pro Tem White made a motion to approve the Budget Amendments as presented for the FY24 budget which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Luke, Councilman Barfield, Councilman Lindsey, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

**D. PROPOSED VACATION OF RIGHT OF WAY FOR SOUTH LOWNDES STREET (CITY MANAGER)**

Councilman Lindsey recused himself due to conflict because he lives on South Lowndes Street. City Manager Sumner stated this was discussed last month and letters were sent out to residents. We had no questions at City Hall. This would make the right of way 10 feet on both sides of the street. There is one meter that will need to be moved. Does anyone have any questions? None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak against right of way change? None noted. The Mayor asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of the right of way change. None noted.

**Councilman Luke made a motion to approve the right of way change which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem White. Councilman Luke, Councilman Barfield, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Lindsey recused himself from the vote.**

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

Drew Duren Main Street Board member and Hahira business owner said he would like to speak about the billboards. He said most of his business is by word of mouth but he feels the billboards are also good for business. The cost of the two billboards is \$13,390 and the City would only have to pay \$8,600 and I do not think we should turn this down. We are getting one for free. I think they look nice and are effective. The Main Street board thinks they are positive for the City. I am in favor of the billboards. Councilman Lindsey asked what the billboards were located and what they looked like. Mr. Duren had no response to the questions. Mayor Pro Tem White reported where the billboards were located and what they displayed. Mr.

Duren stated they have restaurants that attract people to come in to eat and vendors for the Main Street events that we have once per month. I feel like they break even on the events, and I think they do a good job. They also saved a lot of the budget for Main Street because we do not have assistant which saves \$8,600.

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

The Mayor asked if anyone had any questions or corrections regarding the bills. None noted.

**Councilman Lindsey made a motion to pay the bills as presented which was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem White. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Barfield, Councilman Luke, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

### **DISCUSSIONS:**

**10 A. Preview of Proposed Subdivision between High 122/Coppage Road, Hagan Bridge Road and Hahira Elementary School. Mathew Inman, Axis Engineering**

The developer withdrew this item.

**10B. Billboards-\$13,390-Trailhead-Partnership with Valdosta-Lowndes County Conference Center and Tourism Authority (City Manager)**

City Manager Sumner stated there is not much to add from Tuesday night discussion, does anyone have any questions? None noted. **Councilman Lindsey made a motion to not approve the Billboards which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Luke, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**A. SPLOST IX AGREEMENT**

**B. MINI-EXCAVATOR-POWERHOUSE EQUIPMENT-\$63,000-SPLOST VIII**

**C. COURTHOUSE AUDIO SYSTEM-RUTLAND LOW VOLTAGE SYSTEMS-\$5,505-SPLOST VIII**

**D. AERAED POND LINING REPAIR-PRIOPRIETARY FUND-COMANCO-\$18,000**

**Councilman Lindsey made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented which was seconded**

**by Councilman Luke. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Luke, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

## **REPORTS:**

Councilman Luke said it a privilege and honor to serve the Citizens of Hahira. Thank you to the Directors, City employees, City Manager and Mayor. Thank you to everyone, I am excited to move forward with the Treatment plant, and I want to say thank you to Carter and Slope. We have many projects that are moving forward and I am happy about that. Thank you all for being here tonight.

Councilman Lindsey thanked Attorney Rob Plumb for the 25 years of service and on job well done. Thank you to the Mayor and City Manager, we are all working to fix the water and District 3 is grateful. Thank you to Carter & Slope and to PWD Willie Jones.

Councilman Barfield said thank you to City Manager Sumner for accommodating him and he will delegate his time to Mayor Pro Tem White.

Mayor Pro Tem White we have had a hard time looking at spending the tax payers money but things need to be fixed. Now we need to move forward and get things done. I ran on communication and I appreciate Drew for coming out about the billboards and speaking tonight. I love Hahira and the people that live here. I am also glad to welcome Amy Holbrooke as City Attorney tonight.

City Manager Sumner thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve, thank you to the department heads, it is a pleasure to work with them all. We have to listen to the needs of the employees; it is a team effort. Thank you to the Council for your actions. Thank you to Rob Plumb, when I came 19 years ago, I thought of you as a friend, not an attorney. Thank you for all that you did for the City, we are all grateful. Welcome to Amy Holbrooke, I think we will make good steps into the future.

Mayor Cain thanked everyone for coming out tonight, thank you to Carter and Sloope. We take your advice and now we will get to finish plant and wastewater treatment . Thank you to the department heads and

the employees under them, they are second to none. Thank you to Matt Martin, thank you to Lisa, Carol, Victoria, and Laura. I enjoy working with the Council and I think they made the right decisions and I hope everything works out. I appreciate Jonathan and all that he does. Thank you to Rob, it has been a pleasure and honor.

**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Lindsey which was seconded by Councilman Luke. Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Lindsey, Councilman Barfield, and Mayor Pro Tem White all voted in favor of the motion.**

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:25 P.M.

**ADJOURN.**

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**MAYOR BRUCE CAIN**

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**CITY CLERK LISA MASHBURN**