

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Regular Meeting November 2, 2015 at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Shelly Berryhill presiding.

PRESENT: Chairman Shelly Berryhill, Vice Chair Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy.

Chairman Shelly Berryhill welcomed everyone. James Colson gave a prayer. All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Commissioner James Colson introduced his special guest Josh Brown, a member of the Hawkinsville Middle School Student Council.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: Mitch Whitehead stated that he had only served on the Housing Authority Board for one year, to fill the unexpired term of Gary Lucas. He would have appreciated a letter or a phone call to see if he would have liked to serve on the Housing Authority for another five year term, instead he was replaced by Aaron Scott. Mitch Whitehead wanted to know the procedures on how the City Commissioners appointed Board Members, because he felt like he was not treated fairly. Chairman Shelly Berryhill thanked Mitch Whitehead, and he and the Commissioners really appreciated him for serving on the Housing Authority Board. Chairman Shelly Berryhill stated that Housing Authority Board Members are appointed at the discretion of the Commissioners.

Payton Rogers stated that he just wanted to know what the City Manager had found out about the side walks for Sixth Street. Manager Tim Young told Payton Rogers that he had talked with the Engineer; we should have two drawings for side walks on November 13, 2015.

Runnelle McDonald stated the work being done on North Dooley Street, North Lumpkin Street , Third Street and Lovejoy Street, has no work signs posted, no flagging for traffic and the work site has no fence for safety for the school children or any citizens of Hawkinsville. Manager Young agreed and he will check on it.

Joe English stated he just wanted to know what if anything is being done about the over grown yards and bushes. Manager Young said the City Building Inspector is sending out certified letters to the owners.

Tony Mullis stated he was just here to listen.

Willie Tenon stated that the City Commissioners couldn't revoke their Business License because they haven't been convicted of any crime. Chairman, Shelly Berryhill, explained to Willie Tenon that the Commissioners did not revoke his

business license, they suspended it based on the City's Code Article 1, Section 16-2 (h) under section (h) in lieu of.

MINUTES:

Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the minutes of October 5, 2015 Regular Meeting. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains

MINUTES:

Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the minutes of October 15, 2015 Called Meeting Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

OLD BUSINESS:

APPOINT NEW MEMBER TO LIBRARY BOARD: James Colson motioned to appoint Nichole Lawson to fill the unexpired term of Mary A "Lodie" Johnson Post 3 four year term expires 7/8/2018 Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

NEW BUSINESS: Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the business licenses in the names of:

1. GREEN ACRES OUTFITTERS
(95 South Houston Street- Randall Abbott, applicant)
2. JESSE SMITH'S DUCT WORK
(334 Chickens Road – Jesse Smith, applicant)
3. EVERYTHING & BEAUTY, LLC.
(70 Commerce Street- Merry Aaron, applicant)
4. SIMPLY SOUTHERN TULIPS & TREASURES
(130 Commerce Street- Lyn Bush, applicant)
5. EXCLUSIVE CARZ AND WHEELZ
(61 Commerce Street – Joana Colson, applicant)
6. MAX TOWING & RECOVERY
(99 INDUSTRIAL Blvd. - George Wiley Hardston applicant)

James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

APPROVE AMENDED BUDGET FOR CDBG 14 FYE JUNE 30, 2015:

Ken Hardy motioned to approve the amended budget for CDBG 14 FYE June 30, 2015. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015 FOR VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY AND THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 AND 27, 2015 FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS: James Colson motioned to approve to closed City Hall for Wednesday November 11, 2015 Veteran Holiday and Thursday 26, and Friday 27, 2015 for Thanksgiving Holidays. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

THE CITY OF HAWKINSVILLE CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR ALL CITY EMPLOYEES WILL BE HELD AT THE STEAK HOUSE FRIDAY DECEMBER 4, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M.

City Manager Update

November, 2015:

Old Items from October Meeting:

Highland Avenue Neighborhood CDBG Grant:

LeClay Construction is the lead contractor. All of the water works portions of the project are complete. **Sewer improvements, called pipe bursting has begun on Third Street, North Lumpkin, MLK Blvd, and smaller streets in that neighborhood.** Existing pipe is not removed, an inserted pipe is pulled through the existing pipe then individual hookups are done for the homes. **Some streets will need to be partially blocked as work continues a few more weeks.**

River Market Re-Roofing:

Bates Roofing has completed the roofing portion of this project, and waited to install the gutter after the Haunted House by the Chamber to be over. This is a turn-key project and I will climb that ladder once more to inspect the work. Anyone that wants to participate can come along.

Downtown Clean Up:

Thanks to **the Public Works guys for the initial clean-up** of bushes and three diseased trees. They also installed 3 new trees where the others were removed. For now we have cleaned up the sites and fixed any irrigation issues and added mulch. **Color will arrive in spring from the work of our local Master**

Gardeners. The Master Gardener applications are at City Hall and with Michelle Elliott at Archway for anyone wanting to be considered for the training.

This effort is alongside of the **Pulaski Tomorrow** group that has raised money to purchase and place new trash receptacles in our downtown area.

Harness Facility:

Bobbie Clemons and Lisa's Chicks have done a great job renovating the Diner at the track. They have painted and made curtains for the inside. They directed the outside painting by the Women's Prison crew. The Diner will be a nice, clean area for the horsemen as they return. Also the **Chamber has arranged for vending machines** to be placed in the Diner for snacks and refreshments.

New Items for November:

Harness Facility:

The facility is looking great and horsemen began to arrive in late October. Reservations for **240 horses** have already been made for the Harness season. Last year's high was 180 horses. We have barrel racing scheduled for **November 7th** at the Pavilion. **The barrel racing event is planned for 100 horses and about 250 people to visit the track.**

Jim Valiante visited a **Therapeutic Riding** event in October. Therapeutic Riding is very helpful in many developmental programs whether it is **physical or emotional therapy**. These programs operate regular sessions and can be very beneficial to the families that participate. This is just another opportunity Jim has explored to use the Pavilion. **I have contacted the organizers to come and see our facility and make suggestions on implementing this program.**

Harvest Fest:

The Harvest Fest was organized by the **Chamber of Commerce, Donna Rickerson** and her committee. It was **one of the best in several years** having 47 vendors and all day music on the center stage. Several of the **business owners that I spoke to were happy** with the visitors they had in their shops and look forward to the continued growth of the festival. Special thanks to our City workers that spent the entire day and evening setting up, helping as needed, and tearing down the stage, garbage cans, hay bales, etc. **Great job by the City workers: Seth Bowman, Vince Barden, Henry Mathis, David Brock and Johnny Singletary. However, most of the city workers spent a lot of time getting the downtown area cleaned and ready for the festival.**

Commerce Street Traffic:

I have a meeting with Georgia Department of Transportation on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015** at 1pm, to review our desire to **redirect heavy truck traffic off of Commerce Street. This is a follow-up meeting** to discuss the information we sent to DOT seeking suggestions. Lance Woods and I will meet with Mr. Harland Smith, from DOT, to review our request and get feedback from the DOT on a path forward. Any commissioner is welcome to attend.

Charts:

General Fund
Gas Fund
Water/Sewer Fund
Sanitation Fund
Harness Track Fund

Reports Included:

Archway Report
Chamber of Commerce / UP Reports
Work Order Summary
Commercial Past Due Accounts
Past Due Business Licenses *New*

ARCHWAY REPORT:

Michelle Elliott stated that she had twenty new projects. The new Youth Leadership Class will begin November 13, 2015; Pulaski Tomorrow Adult Leadership is now recruiting for classes beginning in January, 2016. She is also accepting applications for Master Gardener classes. This plan would utilize the Master Gardeners of Central Georgia to train members of the women's prison detail to create and maintain flower beds and containers downtown. The next Suicide Prevention Group meeting will be held Thursday, November 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Auditorium on South Warren Street. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & UNITED PULASKI, INC.REPORTS:

Lee Slade stated how great the Harvest Fest was this year, that it was very successful and very thankful for all the hard work and finance the City did to make it a success.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

Mitchell Woods stated that the financial reports were in the Commissioners notebooks. He reported that Industrial gas unit sales were down compared to last year, but the margin was up due to a rate increase for the first two months.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Vice Chair Phil NeSmith wanted to invite everyone to come out to the next Suicide Prevention meeting Thursday November 12, at 6:00 p.m.

Ken Hardy had no comments.

Henry Cravey thanked everyone for a good job at the Harvest Fest and he thought this was good for the town.

James Colson had no comments.

Chairman Shelly Berryhill stated he was proud of our new unemployment rating, in 2014 it was at 8.6 percent and 6.4 in 2015. Chairman Berryhill also asked the Commissioners to be thinking about any possible way of changing our Business Licenses so that we can pro-rate them to keep anyone from having to pay for a license in March and again in July.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Shelly Berryhill motioned to go into an executive session to discuss Personnel, Real Estate and Litigation. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

The time was noted at 6:35 p.m.

REOPEN MEETING:

Chairman Shelly Berryhill motioned to reopen the meeting. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

The time was noted at 6:49 p. m.

There being no further business.

ADJOURN: James Colson motioned to adjourn. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed unanimously.