

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Regular Meeting Monday December 7, 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. He also welcomed Mr. David Walker back, glad he was doing well. Ken Hardy gave a prayer. All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Runnelle McDonald –talked about the abandoned properties on Poplar Street. He wondered if the City plans on tearing down the houses or what. Manager Tim Young stated the City only owned two of the properties on the far end of those houses. The rest of that property further up toward Six Street is private property. We will get in touch with the owner about getting it cleaned up again. Mr. McDonald asked if the properties were for sale .Mr. Young said yes and I can give you this contact information if you interested in the other properties.

Payton Rogers – asked for an update on the Six Street sidewalks. Manager Tim Young said that is part of my presentation tonight. I have got the drawings that you and I looked at. We'll talk about that; I don't have a dollar figure yet, but we can talk about it.

**MINUTES:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015 Regular Meeting. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil Nesmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **REAPPOINT MEMBER TO THE HAWKINSVILLE HISTORIC**

**PRESERVATION BOARD:** Ken Hardy motioned to reappoint Darrell Brown to serve on the Board Post 7 for another 3 year term. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstain.

#### **REAPPOINT MEMBER TO THE MIDDLE GEORGIA REGIONAL**

**COMMISSION COUNCIL:** Phil NeSmith motioned to reappoint Henry Cravey to serve on the Middle Georgia Regional Commission Council for another term. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:** Henry Cravey motioned to give the City Employees Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> for Christmas Holidays. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN:** Phil NeSmith motioned to adopt Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Shelly Berryhill, Phil NeSmith, James Colson, Henry Cravey and Ken Hardy. No oppositions or abstains.

**LMIG TO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:** No action was taken. Manager Young suggested each Commissioner e-mail him five roads, and then he would prioritize them and e-mail them back to each commissioner.

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

1. QUIGG HEATING & AIR  
(76 Pierce Est. Jacob Quigg, applicant)
2. CONGA  
(103 Commerce Street, Granville Grant, applicant)

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

## **City Manager Update**

### **December, 2015**

#### **Old Items from November 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. 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, gutter has been installed. We will perform a walk-through in early January. Anyone that wants to participate can come along.

##### **6<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk:**

Lance Woods has provided drawings for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk project requested by Mr. Payton Rogers. Lance will submit these to a contractor for a general pricing.

## **New Items for December:**

### **Harness Facility:**

The facility is looking great and horsemen began to arrive in late October. At the end of November 10 horsemen had arrived bringing 52 horses for the season. **Currently, we have 100+ horses already training here with more on the way during the Holidays. We had barrel racing at the Pavilion in November with around 200 horses and 300 people.**

### **Commerce Street Traffic:**

Shelly Berryhill, Lance Woods and I met with Adam Smith from Georgia Department of Transportation on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015** to review our desire to **redirect heavy truck traffic off of Commerce Street**. We felt the meeting with Mr. Smith was encouraging enough to continue our efforts. Mr. Smith made several suggestions to be incorporated into our concept drawings, which Lance has now completed. After the Holidays, **we will review these changes with DOT for direction.**

### **Utilities:**

We did not have a true water/gas cutoff in November; due to cutoff day was the same week as Thanksgiving. However, **we did not advertise** this due the high number of past due accounts over \$100.00. **We did place “door knockers” on those accounts that would have been cutoff and most of them paid their bill.**

### **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

Lee Slade- Archway report: I can report for Michelle that the Youth Leadership program has kicked off to a great start with probably 24 kids from Dodge County, Pulaski County, Fullington and Westfield. Had the privilege to go to Athens for a presentation from the University of Georgia Journalism class, the project was a study on Hawkinsville and the Enduring Farmlands Scenic Byway on how they were looking at it for tourism. I imagine the class was 24 plus people and they provided groups of 2 or 3 and their projects were to put together a presentation that we can use to market ourselves to someone. They were right on track they picked out the track, Opera House, the river. It gives us the opportunity to see how others view us. We will receive copies of these presentations to look at and use.

Manager Young wanted to give a few more updates to the Archway report .The Master Gardener program that Michelle is heading up. Had four people to turn in applications. That should start in January, 2016 and one applicant is a city employee.

Untied Pulaski can report that it is a pleasure working with Tim. We have a very active project that we are working on right now that hopefully we can make some announcements very soon. I am kind of looking into a solar project which is pretty small.

For the Community wide website that we have consolidated, Sara is representing the County, Judi and Chelsea the City, and Donna the Chamber. Its' going along really good. It's already out there, we are just not publishing it because we are still updating it and fine tuning to get it just like we like it. I think once it is live you'll like it.

Lee stated one other thing; I will get in trouble if I fail to mention this. Chuck has the conversancy coming back in January. He serves on Ocmulgee Water Trail with me and has big event coming up in May which part of it will come to Hawkinsville.

#### **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS: Mitchell Woods**

Tonight we have Judi with us to give the finance director report. You have the report in your notebooks. Tim will give the report and then if we have questions we will talk to Judi .

#### **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

James Colson said the first thing he would like to do is thank the American Legion Post 125 for putting out flags at all the cemeteries. The next thing is, I want to say a few words about my special man Mr. Phil NeSmith is a jolly guy, I have known Phil, I had him in school he is always been that kind of guy. The other night when we had those students of student council come around here and gifted folks that plan on or possibly might pursue a career in politics; you know Phil asked the question Mr. Colson says where I was? Well you know Phil, he was back there joking around that's why he never got to be one of those guys that made the grade to be there. That was not my fault that was him. Phil has always been there, you know I served on the council with Phil's daddy; I have known him just about most of his life. I'm gonna miss him. When we go on trips to Savannah or where ever we go you can better bet that's the man with all the laughter and he keeps everybody laughing and we just have a lot of fun. Phil I just want to let you know I'm gonna miss you buddy and I will be stopping by and we will be talking.

Henry Cravey stated the Christmas parade was a great success and enjoyed it all with my family.

Phil I also want to tell you it's been a joy and honor to serve with you, man.

Chairman Shelly Berryhill asks for prayers for our Finance Director and family. When I thought about getting on City Commission the first thing I did was to go around to Phil's office. He stopped what he was doing and got in the car with me and drove around and showed me things and talked about it, encouraged me. Just want you to know I appreciate it and you're going to be missed. Phil said enjoyed working with you Shelly.

Ken Hardy you're defiantly going to be missed.

Phil NeSmith said I'm a block away. Ken you got a good guy coming on; he'll hit the ground running. I've enjoyed it, it's been 20 years. Most of it's been enjoyed and some of it not. That I won't miss. I'm always around. I'm not going to start calling names because I'll leave somebody out but there's been so many people I have enjoyed working with over the years and had the pleasure of James serving with my dad and one of my school teachers and that's always meant a lot to me, the whole staff at city hall Judi, Bettie, Chelsea, I will mention them and Tim, It's just been a pleasure working with you guys and I thank you. That's all I'm going say.

Shelly said as much as I am gonna miss you Phil, I'm going to miss Christa just as much. Phil said I understand and we will always be around.

Mr. Berryhill asked does anybody else have anything to come before the Board.

David Walker asked to say one thing. He said; before I say anything I would like to say if what I'm saying is not appropriate for this time don't blame someone else remember I've had some health issues and its Christmas. I want to thank Hawkinsville and Pulaski County for the great support they gave my nephew Larry Walker III. He is a mighty good man, and we appreciate it.

Shelly added 66% for Hawkinsville and Pulaski County we are looking forward to working with Larry and he is going to do us a great job. If he won't return our calls we know how to get in touch with him

Shelly Berryhill thanked Commissioner Butch Hall for being here.

Phil said let me say this, and I also want to say it's a pleasure working with County Commissioner Hall. Butch also served with my dad and Butch served with me. I didn't see him back there; I don't know how I missed him and Lee.

Lee- will add to what Phil said I don't know if I am going to thank him or not. He approached me about 11 or 12 years ago and I was right in the middle of my own business about doing this and I said I can't do this. Then he approached me again and I said this sounds like something that I might like. I love Hawkinsville and might make a difference that's been 12 years ago. Phil I am not sure that I'm glad you said that.

Shelly Berryhill thanked everybody and have a Merry Christmas and on a personal note remember what the season is about.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chairman Shelly Berryhill motioned to go into executive session "to discuss personnel, potential litigation and future acquisition of real estate. 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 time was noted at 6:34 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 6:50 p.m.

There being no further business.

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