

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – MARCH 8, 2021

The March 8, 2021 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room at 101-B North Broad Street by Mayor Howard Thrower, III. Present were Jerry Cox, Sr., James H. Douglas, Demario Byrden, Robert L. Gwaltney and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members present were City Manager Chris Addleton, City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Clerk Dana Barfield, and Marketing Director Alyssa Blakely. Also in attendance was Cairo Messenger Editor Randy Wind.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Byrden.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and approved by all Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 22, 2021 - Regular Meeting: Motion to approve minutes was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved by all Council Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 22, 2021 - Workshop Meeting: Motion to approve minutes was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

Considered Special Event Permit – Community Outreach and Easter Egg Hunt at Davis Park on Saturday, April 3, 2021 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, J. E. Miller Outreach/Pamela Howard – Applicant. Motion to approve Special Event Permit for April 3, 2021 was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Byrden, and approved by all Council Members.

Considered Special Event Permit –Easter Egg Drop at Cairo Municipal Airport on Saturday, April 3, 2021 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Cairo- Grady County Chamber of Commerce/Courtney King– Applicant. Motion to approve Special Event Permit for April 3, 2021 was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and approved by all Council Members.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Considered Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Article VI, Entitled “Signs” of Chapter 22, Entitled “Zoning” of the City of Cairo Code of Ordinances, to permit Certain Types of Murals in Certain Areas. Motion to approve Ordinance was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and approved by all Council Members.

Consider Airport AvGas Fuel Facility Project. City Manager Addleton explained that the City had three companies pull plans, but there was only one responsive bidder. L & T Inc. from Lyons, GA bid \$184,495. Croy Engineering evaluated the bid and recommended that we award the project to the low bidder L & T Inc. This project will be funded 90% by Federal FAA funds, 5% by GDOT Aviation State funds, and 5%by local funds, possible \$17,000 total. City Manager Addleton recommended that we award the bid to L & T Inc. and entered into contract with them to perform the project. Motion to award the bid for the Airport AvGas Fuel Facility Project to L & T Inc. in the amount of \$184,495 was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved by all Council Members.

Considered Extending D.D.A/ Main Street Jurisdiction. Marketing Director Blakely explained that the D.D.A./Main Street Board Members are requesting the Downton Development Authority/Main Street Jurisdiction to be extended. The extension would include several existing retail outlets and potential sites that could take advantage of the resources offered by the program. The Main Street/D.D.A. Jurisdiction would like to extend to include the two blocks of 4th Street SE and 3rd Avenue SE. Motion to approve extending D.D.A./Main Street Jurisdiction was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved by all Council Members present.

Considered 2021 Alcoholic Beverage Renewal Applications. Motion to approve 2021 Alcoholic Beverage Renewals was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and approved by all Council Members, but Councilman Byrden who abstained from voting.

REPORTS:

1. **Considered Departmental Reports for the Month of February 2021.**
 - Councilman Cox asked if there was going to be an open house for the new Police Department.
 - Councilman Douglas asked if Police Department was still short staffed with City Manager Addleton responding that they were on the Patrol side, but we have hired someone to fill the position and they were at the Academy.
 - Councilman Douglas wanted to verify what trees had and had not been cut down because he had been having people ask him about dead trees that need to be cut down.
2. **Reports from City Manager:**
 - Last Monday on March 1st, he and Finance Director Miriam Faircloth met with Nick Valenti to go over page by page of the city audit. Mr. Valenti will present the audit on March 22nd to the Finance Committee and then to the Mayor and Council.
 - On March 18th there will be two preconstruction meetings one for our Water Main Project and the other for our Southern Terrace Project.

3. Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Councilman Byrden had concerns about the Easter Egg drop that the Chamber of Commerce was having at the airport. Councilman Byrden stated that at previous egg drops there have been three to four hundred people in attendance. He asked if they were planning on timing the drops apart so that each age group would come at different times and were there going to different drops? Ms. Darus said they were planning to have three drops for three different ages. Councilman Byrden said they also had three drops at the past events. Ms. Darus stated that she would have to speak with Mr. Bible concerning the extra drops. Councilman Douglas stated that this event would not have the bounce houses and other things like there once was, this would be just an egg drop. Councilman Byrden stated that he supported the event one hundred percent, he just wanted to make sure the right thing was being done and keeping everyone safe.
- Councilman Cox stated that at 328 12th Avenue NW there was a vacant home that has weeds grown up around it and wanted to make sure we were aware so that it does not get out of hand with growing season around the corner.
- Mayor Thrower stated that the CDC guidelines state that people that have had the vaccine may gather together without social distancing and masks.

ADJOURN: At 6:31 pm motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved by all Council Members.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

HOWARD THROWER, III, MAYOR

DANA W. BARFIELD, CITY CLERK