

## REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – APRIL 26, 2021

The April 26, 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., Demario Byrden, James H. Douglas, 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 Cox.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 12, 2021 - Regular Meeting:** Motion to approve minutes was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Thornton, and approved by all Council Members.

### DELEGATIONS:

**Paul Fryer (Representing Congressman Sanford Bishop) – American Rescue Plan Act and Local Needs.** - Mr. Fryer informed the Mayor and Council that Congress passed the American Rescue Plan and the City of Cairo will receive \$2,951,841 by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Fryer went on to explain the stipulations in which the funds should be allocated.

**Hampton Ward – Railroad Depot Exhibition.** – Mr. Ward introduced himself as well as Dave Bennett a train display builder. He explained how they would like to display model trains throughout the Train Depot. Mr. Ward went on to explain that they were given a sizeable donation that making the display a first class operation would not be an issue. He also said that all of the trains would come from his personal collection and would be donated to the Grady County Historical Society. Councilman Douglas stated that he did not feel that the City was in a position to make a decision on whether or not the train display could go in the depot. Councilman Douglas went on to say that if we were to find someone that wanted to lease the entire building it should be up to them as well if there were trains throughout and he felt it was too early in the process to make a decision on it at this point. Councilman Cox agreed that it was too early to make a decision and commit to something at this time.

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

#### OLD BUSINESS:

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Consider 2021 Alcoholic Beverage Renewal Applications.** Motion to approve the Alcoholic Beverage Renewal Applications was made by Councilman Thornton, seconded by Councilman Douglas, and approved by all Council Members.

### REPORTS:

**1. Consider Financial Report for the Month of January 2021.** Motion to approve the Financial Report for January 2021 was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Byrden, and approved by all Council Members.

#### 2. Reports from City Manager:

- Thursday, April 29, 2021 at 11:00 am there will be a GMA ACCG Webinar. They will have more specifics on how we are able to spend the money we will receive from the American Rescue Plan Act.
- May 10, 2021 Council Meeting we will have Budget Workshop.
- I was appointed to the Lower Flint Ochlocknee Regional Planning Council.

#### 3. Reports from Mayor and Council:

- Mayor Thrower asked Marketing Director Blakely to give an update on the pocket parks downtown.
- Mayor Thrower informed the Council that he had been working with GMA to put together a flyer entitled “Worth a Shot” to encourage the community to receive the vaccine due to rising numbers of COVID in the school systems.

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His plan is to print 3,500 copies and have them sent out to each of the schools so that each student can take one home.

**ADJOURN:** At 6:30 pm motion was made by Councilman Douglas to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Cox, and approved by all Council Members.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

**DANA W. BARFIELD, CITY CLERK**

**HOWARD THROWER, III, MAYOR**