

REGULAR MEETING – CAIRO MAYOR & COUNCIL – OCTOBER 10, 2022

The October 10, 2022 Regular Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Booker T Gainor, IV presiding. Present were Councilmen Jimmy Douglas, Demario Byrden, Jerry Cox, Robert L. Gwaltney, and Lannis Thornton. Staff Members in attendance were City Attorney Thomas L. Lehman, City Manager Julian Brown, and City Clerk Dana W. Barfield. Cairo Messenger Reporter Mesha Wind was also in attendance.

INVOCATION: The Invocation was given by Councilman Thornton.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve the agenda, in addition to a Proclamation to the National Arts and Humanities Month, was made by Councilman Gwaltney, seconded by Councilman Byrden and passed unanimously by all Council Members.

A Proclamation for National Arts and Humanities Month was presented to Landrie Bock, Austin Harrell, and Ellis Hendrix on behalf of Cairo High School Drama Club.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – September 26, 2022. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Gwaltney, and unanimously approved by all Council Members.

DELEGATIONS:

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Considered Permit for 5K Run – Annual 5K Run for Life on Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, Starting at Davis Park/Roddenbery Memorial Library, Turning Left on Broad Street, Turning Left on 4th Avenue SE, Turning Left on 5th Street SE, Turning Left on 38th Boulevard NE (Highway 84), Turning Left on Road Behind the Dairy Queen, Turning Left on Broad Street, and Returning to Davis Park/Roddenbery Memorial Library, Meghan Ridenour/First Option Care Pregnancy Center – Applicants. Motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Byrden and passed by all Council members.

Considered Special Event Permit – Showcase/Video Shoot on Saturday, October 22, 2022 from Sunrise to Sunset at Holder Park Basketball Court, Angelica Williams/Keep Going Productions LLC – Applicants. Motion to deny the event was made by Councilman Douglas due to the lack of information concerning the event and there was no one present at the meeting to answer questions, seconded by Councilman Cox and passed by all Council Members.

Considered Special Event Permit – Turkey Giveaway (Outreach) “Thanksgiving in the City” on Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, Requesting Street Closure on 12th Avenue NE from 5th Street NE (Highway 188) to Pineland Street NE, Travis Harrison/Cairo First Assembly of God – Applicants. Motion to approve the event was made by Councilman Gwaltney, seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed by all Council Members.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Considered Adoption of Ordinance to Levy and Authorize the Collection of a General Ad Valorem Tax for the Year 2022. Motion to approve the Adoption of the Ordinance to Levy and Authorize the Collection of a General Ad Valorem Tax for 2022 in the amount of 7.721 mills was made by Councilman Douglas, seconded by Councilman Thornton and passed by all Council Members.

Considered Municipal Competitive Trust Letter. City Manager Brown explained that Finance Director Faircloth has requested to withdraw \$1,000,000 from the City’s Municipal Competitive Trust. He and Finance Director Faircloth are the only ones authorized to withdraw from the account and it is his recommendation to authorize the withdrawal of \$1,000,000 from the MCT. Motion to approve the withdrawal of \$1,000,000 from the City’s Municipal Competitive Trust for cash flow purposes was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Byrden and passed by all Council Members.

Considered Phase 8 Street Resurfacing Project. City Manager Brown informed the council that there were four bids received with Reames and Son Construction Company coming in at the lowest bid at \$932,183.90. He made the recommendation to award the contract to Reames and Son Construction Company and authorize the Mayor to sign the contracts between the City and Reames and Sons Construction. Motion to approve the Reames and Son Construction Company in the amount of \$932,183.90 to complete Phase 8 Street Resurfacing Project was made by Councilman Cox, seconded by Councilman Douglas and passed by all Council Members.

REPORTS:

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CONSIDERED DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2022.

- Councilman Douglas stated that he wanted reports for 2021 and prior that has not been closed. He went on to say there are dead trees that have been written up in August that need to be followed up on every thirty days and he would like to see the demo permits that have been cleared out. Councilman Douglas also questioned OT in the Police Department being up with City Manager responding that there had been some staff absent along with court dates and extra events added this month. He also asked why the Building Departments comp. time was so high (The Depot) and why they were working at The Depot. City Manager Brown stated that the Building Department was saving the city a lot of money and time by completing the work.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER:

- Shelly Searcy applied for the Georgia ReLeaf Grant Program and was awarded \$7,500 for trees to plant at Southern Terrace Park.
- October 22, Turner's Tribe – Downtown Get Down

REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL:

- Councilman Douglas said he thought we had an ordinance for no candy throwing into the streets from floats or vehicles at parades but has found out that we do not. Therefore, he is requesting that we either put together an ordinance or find a way to prevent this from happening because he does not want any children getting hurt during these events. Councilman Cox asked if we could punish the individuals who are throwing the candy. Attorney Lehman stated that for any punishment to be done there needed to be an ordinance in place. Councilman Cox went on to say he felt we needed to at least start with the rules sheet making sure the participants were aware of the rule and then go from there.
- Councilman Thornton said the stop sign at 4th Avenue SW and 1st Street SW had been taken down.
- Councilman Byrden said he would be out of town a lot in the near future due to work and asked if we could revisit the possibility of live streaming with visual or at least audio capabilities so that he could participate in meetings. City Manager Brown informed Councilman Byrden that he had spoken with Paul Blough to see what we could do to make this possible.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, a motion was made at 6:26 pm by Councilman Douglas and seconded by Councilman Gwaltney to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

BOOKER T. GAINOR IV, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DANA W. BARFIELD, CITY CLERK