

Present: COUNCILMEMBERS: Mayor Robert W. Culpepper, Mayor Pro tem John Thigpen, Councilmember Daniel Bellavance, Councilmember Jennifer Bennett and Councilmember Gregg Stokes; COUNCIL STAFF: City Manager Jason M. Rizner, City Clerk Debra E. Moore and City Attorney Barry Fleming; CITY STAFF: Public Works Director Robert Fields, Police Chief Chuck Meadows, and Fire Captain Kevin Stokes.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Culpepper at 6:30 p.m.

The Invocation was given by City Attorney Fleming.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Culpepper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Other: There was none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

GEMA-Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement-Pam Tucker: The agreement is between the City and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA). The agreement provides the framework for mutual aid that might be provided by any participating jurisdiction after a disaster. It also provides information on which individuals may act on behalf of the city during a disaster. Council will need to approve the agreement and authorize the Mayor's signature.

Resolution-Authorize Transfer of Property to Columbia County: This is the property that the new library will be located on. The four parcels owned by the City are currently in the process of being combined into one. The City will need to deed the property over to the Columbia County Board of Commissioners for the construction of the library. The Resolution authorizes the transfer of the four parcels and authorizes the Mayor to sign the necessary paperwork to facilitate the property transfer. Council will need to approve the Resolution in order to proceed.

Resolution-Budget Amendment: The Resolution is for an additional amendment to the General Fund in the amount of \$2,925.00; there are also some additional interdepartmental amendments due to them not being listed on the original amendment resolution that was approved in February. Council will need to approve the Resolution in order to make the amendments.

Resolution-Georgia Cities Week: The Resolution designates April 17-23 as Georgia Cities Week in Harlem. This is a program thru the Georgia Municipal Association. Georgia Cities Week is an opportunity to share information about the services the cities provide to residents. It is also an opportunity to emphasize to citizens that they can shape the branch of government closest to them through their participation. Council will need to approve the Resolution in order to proceed.

Resolution-Lease Agreement-Motorola Solutions: This is for the lease of the 800 MHz radios needed to be able to communicate with Columbia County after the transition of the dispatcher service. Both

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

Resolution-Lease Agreement-Motorola Solutions: Columbia County and the City of Grovetown use these radios. The Lease Purchase Agreement is spread over three years so that the General Fund does not take a big hit.

Councilmember Bennett questioned if the purchase will be on this year; City Manager Rizner responded as far as an audit standpoint it would. Councilmember Bennett would like to look at paying it this year and saving the interest. City Manager Rizner responded that we can do that, but did not want to dip below the reserve balance; the property taxes come in at the end of the year. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen questioned the cost to carry over for one year; the cost would be \$6,200.00. The lease agreement is structured in arrears; we would pay it off after a year. We would pay it off this time next year. The maximum savings if we pay it this year will be \$12,000.00 (interest). Councilmember Bellavance expressed concerns with not knowing all information and feels we are being frivolous to some extent. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen brought up accountability on the employee's part; he does not see an employee being able to pay for a \$6,000.00 radio. City will look at putting something in place pertaining to the use of the radios. There was some further discussion on the reasoning for doing this; being prepared for the expected shortfall in the Local Option Sales Tax in 2018 and the ISO rating.

Council will need to approve the Resolution if they wish to proceed with the Lease Purchase Agreement with Motorola.

Other: There was none at this time.

As there was no further business for discussion, Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to adjourn the Work Session and to reconvene for the Regular meeting after a five minute break; 2nd by Councilmember Bennett. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative. The Work Session adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Debra E. Moore
City Clerk

The City Council of the City of Harlem, Georgia met for their Regular meeting on Monday, March 28, 2016 following the Work Session that was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Safety Building with Mayor Robert W. Culpepper presiding.

Present: COUNCILMEMBERS: Mayor Robert W. Culpepper, Mayor Pro tem John Thigpen, Councilmember Daniel Bellavance, Councilmember Jennifer Bennett and Councilmember Gregg Stokes; COUNCIL STAFF: City Manager Jason M. Rizner, City Clerk Debra E. Moore and City Attorney Barry Fleming; CITY STAFF: Public Works Director Robert Fields, Police Chief Chuck Meadows, and Fire Captain Kevin Stokes.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Culpepper at 7:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Mayor Culpepper requested to move Item #1 GEMA Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement-Pam Tucker to the top of the Agenda after Approval of the Minutes. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the agenda with the requested change; 2nd by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

Approval of the Minutes: Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016 Regular meeting as written; 2nd by Councilmember Bennett. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

GEMA Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement-Pam Tucker: Councilmember Stokes made the motion to approve the GEMA Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement and the authorization of the Mayor's signature; 2nd by Councilmember Bellavance. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

Public Comment: Raymond Washington, 432 Lone Oak Road Ext-Illegal Process: Mr. Washington came before Council to discuss several items: bringing in a mobile home on his property at 616 Lamkin Road, sewer line easements and a water line. After some discussion, City Attorney Fleming offered to meet with Mr. Washington, with Council's permission, to discuss the issues. Permission was granted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Other: There was none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution-Authorize Transfer of Property to Columbia County: Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the transfer of the property to the Columbia County Board of Commissioners for the construction of the new library; 2nd by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

Resolution-Budget Amendment: Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the Budget Amendment Resolution to include interdepartmental amendments and an overall amendment to the General Fund for year ending December 31, 2015; 2nd by Councilmember Stokes. Discussion: There will be an increase in Revenues/Expenses in the amount of \$2,925.00 bringing the General Fund total budget for 2015 to \$2,597,795.00. Motion carried with Councilmember Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

Resolution-Georgia Cities Week: Councilmember Bellavance made the motion to approve the Resolution recognizing April 17-23, 2016 as Georgia Cities Week in Harlem and the authorization of the Mayor's signature; 2nd by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

Resolution-Lease Agreement-Motorola Solutions: Councilmember Bennett made the motion to approve the purchase of the radios thru Motorola Solutions in 2016 and to reimburse the General Fund in 2017 to replenish the reserves; 2nd by Mayor Pro tem Thigpen. Discussion: The total purchase price for the radios is \$177,407.96; the radios will be purchased and paid for in 2016. There will be no Lease Purchase Agreement. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

Other: There was nothing at this time.

Department Reports: The following department gave reports for the month of February 2016:

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| Public Works Department | Robert Fields, Public Works Director |
| Police Department | Chuck Meadows, Police Chief |
| Fire Department | Kevin Stokes, Captain |
| Administrative Department | Jason Rizner, City Manager |

Announcements:

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| April 12 | Planning Commission Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Public Safety Building |
| April 15 | Council Quarterly Review; 10:30 a.m.; City Hall Conference Room |
| April 16 | Trash for Treasures; 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Harlem City Park |
| April 17-23 | Georgia Cities Week |
| April 25 | Work Session/Council Meeting; 6:30 p.m.; Public Safety Building |
| April 28 | HPC Meeting; 6:30 p.m.; Public Safety Building |

Executive Session: Councilmember Stokes made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter; 2nd by Councilmember Bennett. Motion carried with Councilmember Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative. The Regular meeting closed at 7:57 p.m.; Executive Session opened at 8:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

Executive Session (cont'd): Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to come out of Executive Session; 2nd by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative. Executive Session closed at 8:17 p.m.

City Attorney Nelson reported that one legal matter was discussed and that no final action was taken.

Councilmember Stokes made the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Affidavit acknowledging this report; 2nd by Councilmember Bennett. Motion carried with Councilmember Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative.

As there was no further business, Councilmember Bellavance made the motion to adjourn the meeting; 2nd by Councilmember Bennett. Motion carried with Councilmembers Bellavance, Bennett, Stokes and Thigpen voting in the affirmative. The meeting closed at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Moore
City Clerk