

The City Council of the City of Harlem, Georgia met for their Regular meeting on Monday, June 18, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building with Mayor Roxanne Whitaker presiding.

Present: COUNCIL: Mayor Roxanne Whitaker, Mayor Pro tem John Thigpen, Councilmember Daniel Bellavance, and Councilmember Gregg Stokes; STAFF: City Manager Brett Cook, City Clerk Debra Moore, and City Attorney Kurt Worthington; ABSENT: Councilmember Jennifer Bennett.

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

City Attorney Worthington gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approve Agenda:** Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the Agenda; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Discussion: City Manager Cook would like to add the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance 1813 amending Chapter 34 Municipal Court under Item #6 Other and he would like to request to have Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to amend his original motion to include the requested items; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the minutes for the month of May to include the May 24, 2018 Called Meeting, Regular Meeting and Executive Session; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Bellavance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** There was none at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**Ordinance No. 1810 to Adopt by Reference the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading & Action:** Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1810 for the adoption by reference the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Discussion: Mayor Whitaker questioned if we had received any calls or concerns; City Manager Cook responded that we had not. This item went before the Planning & Zoning Board for a recommendation; it was for approval. The adoption does not include section 602.1 dealing with interior Automatic Sprinkler Systems. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance No. 1811 to Approve an Annexation of City Owned Property – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading & Action:** Councilmember Stokes made the motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1811 for approval of the annexation of City owned property; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro tem Thigpen. Discussion: The following properties will be annexed in:

- 1050 Appling Harlem Road; Map & Parcel: 030-045; Zoning: A-1 Agricultural; Acreage: .94 acres
- 1076 Appling Harlem Road; Map & Parcel: 030-047; Zoning: A-1 Agricultural; Acreage: .04 acres

Currently these properties have a water tank and lift station located on them, respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont'd):

**Other:** There was none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Consider Rezoning at 1076 Appling Harlem Road from R-A (Columbia County Residential Agriculture) to A-1 (City Agriculture) – Action:**

**Consider Rezoning at 1050 Appling Harlem Road from R-A (Columbia County Residential Agriculture) to A-1 (City Agriculture) – Action:** *Note: Both re-zonings are being considered together*

As required by State law, when property is annexed into the City, we must re-zone the property to the closest zoning as the original zoning. They are zoned R-A Residential Agriculture under the County zoning; the request is to re-zone both to the City zoning of A-1 Agriculture. These have gone before the Planning & Zoning Commission for a recommendation; the recommendation was for approval. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the re-zoning of 1076 Appling Harlem Road and 1050 Appling Harlem Road to from R-A Residential Agriculture to A-1 Agriculture as recommended; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance No. 1812 to Approve a Storm-Water Management Procedure – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading & Action:** The purpose is to establish minimum storm-water management requirements and controls to protect and safeguard the general health, safety, and welfare of the public residing in watersheds within our jurisdiction. It provides for the administration, establishes procedures, waivers, performance criteria, basic storm water management design criteria, requirements for plan approval, construction inspection, maintenance and repair of facilities and enforcement and penalties. Councilmember Stokes made the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1812 approving a Storm-water Management Procedure; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro tem Thigpen. Motion carried unanimously.

**Columbia County EMA Plan for Handling Animals in Disaster – Andy Leanza-Action:** Shawn Granata was in attendance. This is an update to the disaster plan; has not been redone since 2012. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the update to the Disaster Plan for the handling of animals; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Bellavance. Motion carried unanimously.

**Amendment to Verizon Water Tower Lease Agreement – Action:** This is the first amendment to the Water Tower Lease Agreement between the City and Verizon Wireless. It is for the deletion of Exhibit "B" and replacing it with Exhibit "B-1". This is the listing of equipment that is located on the water tower by the High School. The work has already been completed; this is just an update to the agreement. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the amendment to the Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Other-Ordinance No. 1813 to Amend Chapter 34 Municipal Court – Action & 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** The Ordinance amends Chapter 34 Municipal Court Code Sections 34.01 Sessions, 34.02 Compensation of Judge or Judge Pro Tem; Deletes Code Section 34.03 Fines in its entirety and replaces it with Code Section 34.03 Service of Summons; Deletes Code Section 34.04 Municipal Court Prosecuting Attorney in

NEW BUSINESS (cont'd):

**Other-Ordinance No. 1813 to Amend Chapter 34 Municipal Court – Action & 1<sup>st</sup> Reading (cont'd):** its entirety and replaces it with Code Section 34.04 Failure to Obey Summons or Subpoena; Adds Code Section 34.05 Fines; Adds Code Section 34.06 Municipal Court Solicitor; and, Adds Code Section 34.06 Public Defender. Code Section 34.05 provides for the imposition of Court Costs not to exceed \$50.00 per case in addition to the current imposition of the \$10.00 Technology Fee. Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 1813 to Amend Chapter 34 Municipal Court; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried unanimously.

**Reports:**

- **Council** – Mayor Pro tem Thigpen reported on the drainage issue over on Oakwood Drive; the contractor in the area did the labor.
- **Mayor** – Mayor Whitaker reviewed some of the announcements pertaining to GMA, no meeting next week and City Offices being closed on July 4.
- **City Manager** – City Manager Cook reported on the Theatre project, Woman's Club and also the millage rate hearings (July 16 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.; July 23 during the Regular meeting). The current millage rate is 9.35 mils; he does not expect an increase will be needed.

**Executive Session:** Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to go into Executive Session; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Gregg Stokes. Motion carried unanimously. The Regular meeting closed at 7:35 p.m.; Executive Session opened at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to come out of Executive Session; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Bellavance. Motion carried unanimously. Executive Session closed at 8:31 p.m. and the Regular meeting reconvened.

City Attorney Worthington reported that there were two personnel matters discussed and that no final action was taken.

Mayor Pro tem Thigpen made the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Affidavit affirming this information; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business before Council, Councilmember Stokes made the motion to adjourn the meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro tem Thigpen. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra E. Moore  
City Clerk