

## Shelly Berryhill

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**From:** Evelyn Herrington [evelynh@dsl.cstel.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2006 10:22 AM  
**To:** SHELLY BERRYHILL  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Red

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Regular Meeting Monday March 6, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with Chairman Shelly Berryhill presiding.

**PRESENT:** Chairman Shelly Berryhill, Vice-Chair Henry Cravey, James Colson, Phil NeSmith and Wilson Credle.

Henry Cravey gave a prayer. All pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Shelly Berryhill introduced Joan Tripp and Lynn Harper. Mrs. Tripp requested the City purchase 2 large terracotta pots and the soil to place at the corner of the Opera House. The Garden Club would furnish the flowers and the Arts Council would water them. She stated the reason for this was that flowers had been planted there, but the soil was too hard, not workable.

**PURCHASE FLOWER POTS:** Phil NeSmith motioned to find the funds and purchase the pots and soil. Wilson Credle seconded, motion passed.

**MINUTES:** Henry Cravey motioned to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2006 Regular Meeting. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

**BIDS ON SURPLUS PROPERTY LEFT OVER FROM SHRIMP PROJECT:** Shelly Berryhill opened the bids. Phil NeSmith motioned to table the current bids. James Colson seconded, motion to table passed. NeSmith said needed on-line bidding. No further action taken.

**BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the business license applications in the names of;

1. Reed Construction, Inc. 391 Cannon Rd general contractor
2. The Variety Shop 109 Commerce St discount sales
3. Myer's Dept Store LLC 222 Commerce St retail clothing new owner Freaney's Dept Store

Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed.

**LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve a transfer of Alcohol License from Fred Joiner, III. dba as The Bottle Shop to Reggie Morris, R & T Enterprises Group, Inc. dba The Bottle Shop located at 215 Progress Ave. for \$100.00 to cover investigation fee. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed. The original license both business and alcohol from Fred Joiner, III. turned in to City Hall.

NeSmith stated City needed to look at ordinance amendment to include a transfer fee.

The business license for Reggie Morris R & T Enterprises Group, Inc. dba The Bottle Shop had been approved in a Called Meeting December 30, 2005, once the alcohol license issue was resolved.

**2006 HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT:** Wilson Credle motioned to approve the application which would be a \$3000. grant and \$2,000. city match. Karen Bailey, BHT stated the funds would cover planning and bring inline the Downtown Business Historic District, help with design guidelines for the buildings. This is to continue as a certified local government. This did not include any residential historic districts. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

**RESOLUTION FOR THE CDBG BLOCK GRANT CYCLE FOR 2006:** Henry Cravey motioned to adopt the Resolution for a \$500,000.00 CDBG grant for the Sixth Street and surrounding area improvements. James Colson seconded, motion passed. The City would also ask for DOT funding and could do some in-kind service to help increase chances for approval. These funds may also cover paving James Street and resurface Franklin Street.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS TO SEN. ROSS TOLLESON AND REP. JOHNNY FLOYD:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve a letter of support along with the County support and the Chamber support. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed.

**FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH COMSOUTH:** Phil NeSmith motioned to table. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed. Attorney Hall still had some issues that needed to be addressed because not in best interest to City. Franchise fees are being collected by ComSouth.

**MONITORING EXPENSE FOR OPERA HOUSE:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the monitoring expense for the fire system and security system at the Opera House at \$20.00 per month per system. Henry Cravey seconded. EMA Dir/Fire Chief Sewell stated the monitors were in place but not monitoring 24-7 and he suggested they approve the fire system only. Phil NeSmith changed his 1<sup>st</sup> motion and motioned to table the issue. Henry Cravey seconded, motion to table passed.

**APPLICATION FOR STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANT THROUGH CONGRESSMAN JIM MARSHALL'S OFFICE:** Manager Murkerson explained it would be a 60/40 grant with the grant at \$64,000. and the City match at \$52,000. If awarded would be used in lining sewer main system that has caused a lot of problems. The City would need to go through a GEFA loan for the match amount.

Wilson Credle motioned to approve the application. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed.

**NATIONWIDE DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, AMENDED AND RESTATED 457(B) GOVERNMENT PLAN DOCUMENT BASED ON REGULATIONS FROM INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2006:** Finance Director Mitchell Woods stated the plan was modified to fall in line with federal regulations. Wilson Credle motioned to approve. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed.

**RECREATION RECEIVABLES:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to extend the hold on further collections from the Recreation Dept. for six months to the next budget. James Colson seconded, motion passed. Berryhill explained that back in Sept. 2005 the Commission voted to reduce the City's contribution to the Rec. Dept. by \$500. per month and then rescinded that vote to put on hold for six months any collection of the back payments due the City. The figure is a historical number of approx. \$20,000. through the 2004-2005 budget.

It was also stated that the Sixth Street Park would be maintained by the City.

**RE-APPOINT RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS:** Phil NeSmith motioned to re-appoint Fred Clark, Post 1 and Tim Wynne, Post 4 for another 3 year term. James Colson seconded, motion passed. Murkerson stated both Clark and Wynne had agreed to another term.

**PROCLAMATION:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve a Proclamation signed by Commissioner James Colson for Dr. Jeffery D. Lawrence, Pastor of Sandridge Baptist Church 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary as of February 24, 2006. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed.

**CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE:**

**CHANGE ORDER #01 FROM JMA ARCHITECTURE, INC. HAWKINSVILLE**

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER:** James Colson motioned and Phil NeSmith seconded, "with much hesitation" he added, to approve the change order #01 as recommended by JMA Architecture, Inc. on the Workforce Development Center to provide additional work/services requested of Dennis Contracting, Inc. by the Davis-Bacon Act for an additional amount of \$77,634.00. Wilson Credle opposed, motion passed by a 4 -1 vote. The project looks under budget, but does not include funds for landscaping. Need to consider some negotiations in this matter, none of the bids had the Davis-Bacon Act in it, tied to government grant, see if government would increase the grant due to the error to help defer the cost.

**E-911 SYSTEM AND MAPPING:** Leslie Sewell stated the system was working, still had some bugs in radios, outstanding communication through GCIC for Police, no delay in receiving information on driver or criminal history. The new numbering was 98% complete in the county and would be completed within the city in about 2 weeks. He said the city and county saved a great deal of money by allowing him and a part time worker to do the numbering and mapping, otherwise it would have cost some \$100,000.

The telephone company has to verify their numbers in the 911 system, same with the postal service, then the numbering and mapping system would be complete. He stated he had 7 dispatchers and needed to hire one more person.

Murkerson handed to Commissioners the Police report for February 2006.

Murkerson handed out a report on the status of dilapidated housing. He stated a letter had been sent to the owner of the old hospital building concerning the security risk, but have not heard from them. Wilson Credle said needed to meet with gentleman from Perry, Georgia, who has dealt with this.

Murkerson stated all were registered for the GMA Convention in Savannah and he had submitted a request for all to stay at the same hotel.

**CAR WASH SEWAGE CONNECTION:** Murkerson stated Mr. Sapp continued to request a tap from Broad Street. It can be done, the City will need to collect another tap fee.

**TRASH PICKUP:** Murkerson stated the pickup had started and would keep on a regular quarterly schedule. There was talk about the City needing to put its own dumpster out for scrap metal. Report next meeting.

**SEWAGE LINE TO SOUTHERN HILLS:** Murkerson reported the 4" PVC force main is 60% installed, awaiting final proposal from second company on concrete products, pumps and motors ordered by Plant Operations Director, proposal for electrical wiring requested, highway boring will start this week, revised estimated completion date is March 31, 2006, EPD requested copy of plans to review because of GEFA loan. Plans were overnighted to the EPD contact.

**ORANGEHILL CEMETERY LOTS:** Murkerson stated he had not received the platted surveys from Olin McLeod.

**RAILROAD ALLEY PAVING:** Murkerson stated Owens and Sons had completed the paving project on Railroad Alley, which was funded through SPLOST. James Colson commended the City for a good job.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mitchell Woods handed to Commissioners the financial report for January 2006.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Henry Cravey asked if DOT had given a completion date on repaving Broad and Commerce Streets. Murkerson stated no.

Wilson Credle turned in the remainder of Disaster Relief funds.

Credle said he needed educating on the SPLOST funds and would like to review the SPLOST to get a better understanding of it.

Phil NeSmith talked about the Postal Office Building and the need for a Handi-cap ramp. Need to contact the Regional Office, Congressman Kingston and citizens to see what could be done. Post Office already stated if the community would build a new building they would accommodate all needs. Karen Bailey stated this had been asked for before and their response to any handicap, the person could call and they would bring mail out and their position on this has not changed. NeSmith suggested send a joint City/County letter, letter from the Chamber and from DDA .

Shelly Berryhill directed Murkerson to approach Trotter's Inn to catch up on the Hotel/Motel Taxes due the City.

Berryhill stated Leslie Sewell needed to contact Rusty Haygood at RDC about mapping.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

Larry Harper voiced his concerns about the street repairs needed at Southern Hills and the Police needed to control the speeding in the area. The homeowners did not want speed breakers.

Hugh Coleman asked about the shrimp properties. Commission stated they had not decided, but had not declined the bids on the shrimp properties, but had voted to table.

Coleman said there had been some vandalism at the shrimp project area. He stated he could only see the items to be used for private research.

Runnell McDonald complained again about the deep hole in Franklin Street, the City had repaired with cold patch, but he would like to see the street paved. He reported to Chief of Police Tripp of the speeding on Henry Way Street and the want to be drug dealers. Murkerson would look into these problems.

Mr. Ferguson stated the turn at 341 By Pass and Progress Ave. needed to be marked or lighted. Murkerson stated he would check on it, but thought that part of the DOT Hwy was not in the city limits.

There being no further comments.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Phil NeSmith motioned to go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel and pending litigation. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

The time was noted at 7:42 p.m.

The meeting was re-opened. No further business.

**ADJOURN:** Phil NeSmith motioned to adjourn. Henry Cravey seconded, motion passed unanimously.