

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Regular Meeting, Monday November 5, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with Chairman Henry Cravey presiding.

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

Shelly Berryhill gave a prayer. All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Chairman Cravey called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**PROCLAMATION:** Cheryl Green of the Hawkinsville Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the City a flag of the United States for the Orangehill Cemetery. Nellie Coley presented a Proclamation.

Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the Proclamation, which Henry Cravey by virtue of authority vested as Chairman of the Hawkinsville City Council hereby proclaims November as the National American Indian Heritage Month in Hawkinsville, Pulaski County, Georgia. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**LIBRARY BUDGET:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the \$900.00 budget increase funds for the M.E. Roden Library. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**BUSINESS LICENSES:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the following applications for a business license in the names of;

1. LFTA TEAM TRUCKING, LLC  
(155 Tippetville Rd. Pineview, GA- Trucking  
Janean Nickerson, owner)
2. QUALITY HEAT & AIR  
(1602 Millwoods Ln Soddy Daisy, TN- Heat & Air  
Darren Tudor, remodel at McDonald's)
3. BROWN BOTTOMS  
(85 Commerce St. – Tanning  
Leona Cape, owner, formerly Tanning Solutions)
4. STACKERS  
(247 Shelton Rd.- mobile food vendor  
Teresa Shurley, owner)

James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 4.12 OF THE CHARTER**, the Municipal Court for the City of Hawkinsville shall be held at 3:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month in the City Hall Conference Room and may be additionally convened at such other times and dates as deemed necessary by the Judge of the Municipal Court, provided however, that in the discretion of the Judge, any regularly scheduled court session can be cancelled. The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading for approval will be on the December 3, 2012 agenda.

**HUD HOPE VI MAIN STREET GRANT BUDGET AMENDMENT FYE JUNE 30, 2012:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the HUD Hope VI Main Street Grant Budget amendment for FYE June 30, 2012. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

Manager Murkerson explained this was listed as a capital outlay project but would be changed to a bad debt since not collect for 40 years. This is a grant not a city expense.

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ON GRANT SPECIALISTS OF GEORGIA, INC.:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the statement of qualifications on Grant Specialist of Georgia, Inc. to perform all activities necessary in order to prepare and submit grant applications to DCA and to administer the grant when awarded. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**REQUEST FROM CERTIFIED LITERATE COMMUNITY PROGRAM, H.E.L.P. NETWORK, INC.:** Phil NeSmith motioned to keep the amount the city provides at \$2,000.00 to be paid from general funds. Shelly Berryhill seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains. Manager Murkerson stated the request was for \$2,500.00. This is not a budget item.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSOLIDATION COMMISSION:** Manager Murkerson handed out a draft of the consolidation charter for Commissioners to go over. Hugh Coleman, Chairman of the Consolidation Commission stated there would be a Public Hearing November 15, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pulaski Annex Building and asked Commissioners if they had any changes to try and have them printed out, which would make the process go faster. In December will present for City approval and then will be presented to legislature. No action was taken.

**DISCUSSION OF JOINTLY OWNED NATURAL GAS OWNERSHIP**

**PERCENTAGES:** Phil NeSmith, JONG Board member explained the pipeline is owned by a number of communities. The ownership percentage will change so all the communities involved will have the same, this gives everybody a bigger percent of revenue. Shelly Berryhill motioned to empower Commissioner Phil NeSmith to authorize the proposed JONG ownership. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**APPOINTMENTS TO REGIONAL COMMISSION BOARD:** Phil NeSmith motioned to appoint Chairman Henry Cravey as the municipal member and James Colson and Lee Slade as the associate members. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

The county will appoint their new Commissioner and then will decide on the non-public voting member with the City Commission input.

**SALE OF RIGHT OF WAY ON FIRST STREET BETWEEN JACKSON AND**

**HOUSTON:** Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the sale of 25 feet of right of way on the north side of First Street to Heart of Georgia Gin and Peanut Company. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**RIVER MARKET, LLC SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the subordination agreement between the City and River Market, LLC. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

**HEART AND SOUL BUS TOUR:** Shelly Berryhill motioned to be host city for the Bus Tour. The dates are from April 3 to 5, 2013. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

Karen Bailey explained the Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs puts these Bus Tours together and ask the City of Hawkinsville to participate. There will be some minor expense to provide gift bags and possibly meals.

**CITY MANAGER'S UPDATES:**

I have included a summary report about dilapidated housing and unclean lots from Codes Enforcement.

I have included a work order synopsis for the month of October from our customer service system. These are completed work orders only.

I have also included an arrears report listing commercial customers who are behind on their bills.

I have included a Radar Sign report for Watson Street with a page for seven days of westbound and a page for seven days of eastbound traffic. This is information gathered after we installed the speed break on Watson Street.

The Industrial Park infrastructure project has approval from DCA for the amendment. Our engineer has stated we will begin work on that project shortly to be completed by next spring. All of this work will be funded by the grant for the industrial park infrastructure improvements. This amendment will install another main down Highway 341 to the entrance of the Industrial Park on 341.

DOT LMIG list: Please look this list over and give us your feedback.

### **Hawkinsville Better Hometown:**

Organization Committee:

\*Better Hometown Board of Directors:  
Meets Tuesday, NOV.20 @ 11:00 am

Design Committee:

\*Hawkinsville Historic Preservation Commission  
Meets Tuesday, NOV. 27 @ 4:00 pm. Opera House

#### Historic Preservation projects:

- Hawkinsville Heritage Walking Driving Tour – submitting Final Draft to HPD for project (\$7,302.00 HPD grant). Project will soon go to print & recording studio.
- Old Fire House Restoration. Committee involved in ongoing planning. MGRC Preservation Planner Kristi Harpst, UGA Grad. student, Archway & (Jack Pyburn) Architect- providing technical assistance for project.

Promotions Committee:

- Will meet Monday, Nov. 12. Wrap up & Begin evaluation of 2012 Harvest Fest event. \* Committee will begin meeting once a month to plan 2013 Harvest Fest event.

Economic Restructuring Committee:

\*Hawkinsville Downtown Development Authority:

DDA met OCT. 31<sup>st</sup> = for review of Farmers Market project @ cotton mill with DDA members attending: Chuck Southerland, Chairman; Ben Cravey, Vice Chairman; Dick Coley & Lee Slade, Code Enforcement officer; Keith Carter, also attending: MGRDA representatives Sole Commissioner Brooks Bailey & Lee Slade; Nick Kouloungis – MGRC. The DDA board & Keith Carter had a phone conference with Mr. Steve Smith with project Architect - Martin Riley & Assoc., also attending were City Manager, Jerry Murkerson; Shelly Berryhill- Hawkinsville City Commission; Archway – Michelle Elliott & DDA staff- Karen Bailey.

Karen will attend the Quarterly multi region Main Street/ Better Hometown Managers / Directors meeting in Byron on November 29 in Byron, facilitated by DCA & hosted by Byron BHT.

### **Archway Report:**

#### Leadership Development

- Pulaski Tomorrow hosted an “Opportunity Fair” for the class of 2012 on Tuesday, October 9. The fair showcased ways members can volunteer in the community. Thanks to all of the volunteer organizations who visited with the class, and a special thanks to PT members Maggie Bloodworth, Jill Hardin, Meredith Jennings, and Bembry Pritchett who put together this 1<sup>st</sup> Annual event.
- Pulaski Tomorrow’s 2012 class graduated on October 23 at the Southern Hills Golf and Country Club. Congratulations to new Pulaski Tomorrow Graduates: Allen Brantley, Amy Johnson, Ashley Rodgers, Bob Johnson, Brian Smith, Brock Hardy, Catherine Cravey, Chris Linder, Greg Gordon, Jesse Caldwell, Kenzie Harpe, Lynn Grant, Nevin Shennett, Paul Puccinelli, Robert Herman, Robin White, and Sara Myers. Special thanks to Liz Conner for all of her work to make this event a success.
- Welcome to new Pulaski Tomorrow Chairman Robert Herman. Robert replaces outgoing Chair Harley Lawson. Harley was the first Pulaski Tomorrow chair and has served for three years. Thank you for your service and leadership, Harley.

#### Community Health

- Archway is part of a team working with Taylor Regional Hospital and Georgia Southern University’s Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health to complete a mandatory assessment of community health engagement for the IRS. The needs assessment and focus groups recently conducted by UGA’s College of Public Health will be utilized, and the Community Health Issue Work Group will work with Georgia Southern to survey the community and construct a community health engagement plan with the hospital. Community survey data will be presented to the engagement committee on January 15. Shelly Berryhill represents the City on this Committee.
- Support the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual **“Run for the Health of It”** on Saturday, November 17 to support Taylor Wellness and Rehabilitation and

the Taylor Memorial Care Foundation. Download your entry form at: [www.runforthehealthofit.org](http://www.runforthehealthofit.org)

#### Economic Development

- The new Pulaski Tomorrow website will launch this month. The site will deliver the information business prospects are looking for when they research the community. This project was made possible through the efforts of UGA graduate students and Georgia Web Services as part of the Co-op initiative. This three year grant from DCA seeks to improve community web presence.
- The UGA Small Business Development Center (SBDC) hosted focus groups in Pulaski County on Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> on behalf of the Chamber. Suzanne Barnett and Josh Walton from SBDC will be assisting the Chamber this fall with social media, new member Board Training and developing a work plan for 2013. They will also work through the Chamber to provide continuing education opportunities to Hawkinsville businesses in 2013.
- UGA students from a number of disciplines will be in the community this fall to focus on developing the area's Agritourism potential. They will work with the Chamber and area businesses to create concepts for tourism, lay out the physical space, comply with safety regulations, create a business plan and a marketing concept. Students toured Hardy Farms in September and are working on their presentation.

#### Government Service Delivery

- UGA College of Environment and Design students have presented their initial work on the design of the Uchee Shoals trail and other summer projects. Their design work will be incorporated into a new interpretive sign located at the City Boat Landing. Lee Slade spoke on behalf of the community at the College of Environment and Design and recognized the contributions of the department to Pulaski County and Hawkinsville.

#### Housing

- Archway will continue to support the Housing efforts of Hawkinsville and Pulaski County.
- Archway toured the Cotton Mill Lofts and Market with Ocmulgee Order in September. These beautiful new facilities are currently seeking tenants.

## Public Education

- The Hawkinsville High School Art Club will be attending the Georgia Museum of Art on the UGA campus on November 7. The group will tour the exhibits and have a hands-on art experience at the Museum. The tour is part of the Museum's "Adopt-a- Bus" program that provides transportation and a museum experience for Georgia students. The Club is advised by Randy Colson.
- The next Archway Education meeting will be held November 5 at the Board of Education Training Room. The group will be focusing on Community and School Partnerships. Dr. JoBeth Allen and Roberta Gardner from the UGA College of Education will be our guests.
- Archway supported "Are you Smarter than a Child?", a literacy fundraiser , on October 16. Congratulations to Lorraine Holmes and the CLCP on a fantastic event.
- The latest test scores are in for Pulaski County Schools. There were significant improvements in CRCT scores as well as end-of-course tests, and SAT scores improved by 61 points from last year. Great job students and teachers!

## **Hawkinsville/Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce:**

- The Chamber Board of Directors Meeting was held on October 5, 2012 at the Pulaski Annex.
- Middle Georgia Signs was selected BOM for November
- The Board of Directors selected Hardy Farms as Business of the Month for December.
- The chamber mailed out 3 welcome packets for October
- The chamber promoted the Harvest Fest which was held on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The chamber had a candy corn contest to promote tourism for the Harvest Fest. The winner of a \$25.00 chamber check was Becky Sintron from Savannah Georgia. She visits Hawkinsville once a month and looks forward to using the chamber check at one of our merchants when she returns to Hawkinsville next month.

- The chamber had approximately 20 visitors and numerous phone calls during the month of September requesting tourism information, maps, and information on Harvest Fest as well as becoming a chamber member.
- We are receiving calls and vendors for 2013 Harness Festival.
- Kim attended a 6 hour social media seminar in Moultrie, Georgia on Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Kim attended a Magnolia Midlands meeting on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The topic for this meeting was creating a social media QR code brochure.
- The chamber provided candy for Pre-K on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Working with Bobbie Clemons, Hawkinsville MAC Chairperson to coordinate a military social in Hawkinsville.
- Therisa is planning the Annual Chamber Meeting and Banquet which will be held on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**United Pulaski Economic Development:**

- Working on funding partners-H & V and Planters Bank
- Working on Archway Executive Committee with active projects being; website, tourism, strategic plan for United Pulaski, leadership and community health.
- Continue to work on project for a Distribution Center at spec bldg.
- Working with local company on an expansion including a loading dock
- Working with Archway to develop an economic development strategic plan
- Working on current events for Rivers Alive and Blue Way
- Continue to work on project (Southern Comfort) which is a manufacturer of cans for Chicken of the Sea, Star Kist, and all cans for Sardines.
- Plastic Company project is still active
- Working on a possible retail outlet that is looking to locate in downtown Hawkinsville
- Archway Executive Committee and other community leaders met with Chamber Executives, DDA, Better Hometown, and City Officials concerning Metter, GA potentially becoming an Archway Community.

- Working on community visit with Mike Beatty, Department of Community Affairs Commissioner.

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:** Mitchell Woods handed out the financial reports for September 2012. He explained the industrial natural gas sales were up from last year and the LOST revenues were up 1 ½ percent from last year.

Manager Murkerson and the Commissioners thanked all the city and county employees for their work during the successful Harvest Festival weekend. Proud of work done by Karen Bailey and Bob Johnson. Bailey stated the event was the largest to date, they were sending out evaluations for improvements on the 2013 event October 2013. She appreciated all that was done and eager to work with the committee again next year.

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

James Colson stated that at the last meeting when he questioned the laws of golf carts and exactly what roads they could be driven on he didn't mean to stir up trouble, that several kids had been stopped and told they could not ride on the streets. Attorney Walker said only State roads and highways were prohibited and the city would have to adopt an ordinance addressing any local laws required.

Ken Hardy stated the Harvest Festival was an awesome event. He had toured the Cotton Mill Loft Apartments and they are real nice.

Henry Cravey asked Manager Murkerson about the request from Mike Sewell concerning the pot holes on Lakeview Road. Murkerson explained they had fixed what was already patched and the County has agreed to assist using their equipment to fix the holes.

Shelly Berryhill welcomed Brandy Gordon the city's new Cashier Clerk.

He thanked ComSouth 100 and Jonathan Waters for airing the City Commission meetings on TV. This is a great tool to keep the public informed.

Berryhill asked about the progress on Hartford Water. Murkerson stated still in process, looking for possible grant funds.

Berryhill reported that though the EPD Inert Landfill new regulations proposals are not in force yet, he thanked Murkerson for his input at several meetings before the EPD Board to try and change the ruling.

Phil NeSmith stated they needed to get the city manager performance evaluation done by the end of the year.

NeSmith reported back a few years ago there were talks of the Community Mental Health Center in Hawkinsville would close. He and Henry Cravey had met with the Dublin office and told them the city would help them anyway they could if the Hawkinsville center stayed open. They are now looking at mobile classrooms and possibly moving clients from other areas over here.

Berryhill stated they were still trying to find funding for the Skateboard park. The land next to PHP was donated for the project, but it is a slow process. The Haunted Hospital was a great hit and a plus to the festival.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

There were none.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Phil NeSmith motioned to go into an executive session to discuss Personnel. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

The time was noted at 6:55 p.m.

The meeting was reopened. The time was noted at 7:35 p.m.

**CITY'S NATURAL GAS SYSTEM:** Shelly Berryhill motioned that effective December 1, 2012 the JONG Jointly Owned Natural Gas would take over the entire city's natural gas system at cost plus 12% with the loss of two city employees. James Colson seconded, motion passed by yes vote by Chairman Henry Cravey, James Colson, Shelly Berryhill, Ken Hardy and Phil NeSmith. No oppositions or abstains.

There being no further business.

**ADJOURN:** Phil NeSmith motioned to adjourn. Shelly Berryhill seconded, motion passed unanimously.