

The Board of Commissioner of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Regular Meeting, Monday March 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.

Ken Hardy gave a prayer. All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Chairman Cravey called the meeting to order.

Manager Jerry Murkerson welcomed everyone. He recognized Belinda Davis, Warden of Pulaski State Women's Prison. He also recognized the Youth Leadership of 2012 group and asked each to give their name, school they attend and grade.

MINUTES: Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2012 Regular Meeting. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed.

MINUTES: Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2012 Called Meeting. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

BUSINESS LICENSE: Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the business license applications for the following;

1. M & M LAWN SERVICE
(44 Sterling Dr. – lawn care, Michael A. Felton, owner)
2. SUGAR BEE'S BAKERY & CAFÉ CORP.
(91 Commerce St. – bakery-café, Marie Newton, CEO)
Approved with stipulation must meet all required codes prior to opening.

Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed.

NAME CHANGE ON APPLICATION FOR BUSINESS LICENSE TO MARY'S POOL HALL: (previously approved as Mary's Kitchen Arcade, located at 97 Commerce St., Tabatha Tenon, owner))

Phil NeSmith motioned to approve the name change on the business license previously approved as Mary's Kitchen Arcade to Mary's Pool Hall. Shelly Berryhill seconded, motion passed.

2ND READING AMENDMENT TO OCCUPATION/BUSINESS LICENSE

ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE REVOCATION PROCESS: Shelly Berryhill motioned to table due to ordinance not yet completed by Attorney. Ken Hardy seconded, motion to table passed.

2ND READING AMENDING ALCOHOL ORDINANCE APPLICATION AND ADDING NEW SECTION PROCEDURE FOR REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF LICENSE, JUDICIAL REVIEW AFTER DENIAL OR REVOCATION:

Shelly Berryhill motioned to adopt. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed.

Attorney John Walker explained the entire Alcohol ordinance was being overhauled, which amends the requirements of the applications for all types alcoholic beverage licenses and adds the new section for procedures for revocation and suspension.

ORDINANCE TO RESTATE RETIREMENT PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF CITY OF HAWKINSVILLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN ADOPTION AGREEMENT, THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT SYSTEM (GMEBS) MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT AND THE GMEBS TRUST AGREEMENT:

James Colson motioned to adopt. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed.

Manager Murkerson explained that he and Mitchell Woods and Evelyn Herrington had all read over the agreement and found it to be in order. The changes are to the terminology for retirement of the Commissioners and for the Retirement Committee.

AWARD BIDS FOR DEMOLITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT

609 N. DOOLEY STREET AND 230 S. DOOLEY STREET: Shelly Berryhill

motioned to award the low bids to;

Otis Grading and Land Develop on the property located at 609 N. Dooley Street, bid amount of \$4,939.00 and;

Lindsey Landscaping on the property located at 230 S. Dooley Street, bid amount of \$5,300.00. Ken Hardy seconded, motion passed.

RESOLUTION SEWER SYSTEM FOR RESIDENTS OF FOREST HILL CIRCLE:

Shelly Berryhill motioned to approve the Resolution. Phil NeSmith seconded, motion passed.

The Resolution reads that Hawkinsville and Pulaski County identified the need for public infrastructure improvements within Pulaski County's Forest Hill Circle neighborhood, the Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs' Community Development Block grant (CDBG) program has been identified as the funding source, that Pulaski County agreed to submit an application for funding from the CDBG program, the City and agreed to partner with Pulaski County on the project, that the City dedicates \$5,000 of the \$10,000 required matching funds toward successful completion of the improvement and has agreed to operate and maintain the sewer system once installed and has agreed to waive the tap fee for the residents of Forest Hill Circle.

Berryhill stated the City missed funding by 8 points last time and by waiving the tap fees and having the county involved will have a better chance at getting the funds this time.

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATES:

I have included a summary report and a detailed report about dilapidated housing and unclean lots from Codes Enforcement. You have approved the demolition contractor on two properties. We are in the notification stage for three properties and will carry them through to completion. We have also notified two commercial property owners that the properties do not meet code. One on these will require significant cleanup and we are applying for Brownfield Grant funding to address this property.

I have included a work order synopsis for the month of February 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.

The Consolidation Study Committee will meet again on Thursday, March 22, 6:00 PM at the annex auditorium. I have included the minutes from the last meeting in your notebook.

The contractor for the replacement of the gas line to H&V has completed the project. H&V is now served by a 4" natural gas pipeline and we left the 2" line in service also.

The Industrial Park infrastructure project is now about 50% percent complete.

The nature/fishing trails at Uchee Shoals Park are cleared and available for use. Our plans are to continue improvements as funding allows in the form of maps, entryway, and fishing stations. There will also be some boardwalk needed in a couple of really wet areas. The contractor for the river walk has started work at Uchee Shoals River Park.

Please remember to get your GMA convention registration form to me by tomorrow as registration is Wednesday. I will try to get everyone at the Bohemian Hotel.

Hawkinsville Better Hometown Report:

Better Hometown Board of Directors: meets March 28 @ 11:00 am

Promotions Committee: 2012 Hawkinsville Harvest Fest will feature "Pigs & Produce" - a BBQ Championship & Boiled peanut Championship as new events for the festival.

Design Committee/ *Hawkinsville Historic Preservation Commission_HHPC will meet in the Opera House on Tuesday, March 20 @ 4:00 pm.

Historic Preservation projects:

Grant Project: new Historic Tour Guide – project partnering with Hawkinsville Garden Club.

HPC Training- March 21-23/ Valdosta.

Grant application will be submitted **Fox Institute** requesting funding to repair brick & mortar @ Opera House + repair interior walls of BHT & Arts Council offices – damages due to some areas of front brick wall mortar is compromised/ water getting in.

Old Fire House – Rehab. Committee = planning.

Organization Committee:

Signage Committee – seeking funding sources to fund way finding signage for downtown. * Seeking Sponsors for Welcome to Hawkinsville signs.

BHT River Parks Advisory Council:

Meeting was held for Ocmulgee Blueway Partnership Feb. 22 @ 2:00pm. September 28-30th Paddle event & Rivers Alive Clean up event. The Georgia Conservancy will host the paddle event & the Georgia Canoeing Association will partner.

Economic Restructuring Committee / Hawkinsville Downtown Development Authority: DDA needs funding to develop a website to promote the cotton mill farmers market. A website is needed to attract vendors and occupants for the 2 retail spaces in the market. The DDA continues to provide support as needed for the old cotton mill redevelopment as the future regional farmers market.

Better Hometown Events & Meetings scheduled in March:

- 1-Historic Tour Guide/Grant project- 1st draft due to HPD
- 2-Karen participates on panel for statewide DDA training in Tifton
- 5-Fox Theater Grant – project meeting
- 6- SBDA/Archway “Maximum Contact” class
- 7- Historic Preservation Grant meeting- *Tour guide
- 8- Georgia Academy / Economic Development-Macon
- 9 - GIPA Peaches to Beaches / Promotions
- 10 – GIPA Peaches to Beaches / Promotions
- 12- Monthly BHT report to DCA
- 13- SBDA/Archway “Maximum Contact” class
- 14- Promotions Committee
- 17- River cleanup @ cotton mill
- 20-HPC / Design Committee @ 4:00
- 21 – GA Main Street Institute – Woodstock
- 22- GA Main Street Institute – Woodstock
- 23 – GA Main Street Institute – Woodstock
- 24- BHT hosts Indian Artifact ID Day 12:00 – 4:00
- 27- SBDA/Archway “Maximum Contact” class
- 28-BHT board of directors meeting- Opera House @ 11:00 am
- 30 - Historic Preservation Commission Training-Valdosta
- 31-Historic Preservation Commission Training-Valdosta

Archway Report:

Economic Development

- Hosted by Archway and the Chamber of Commerce, “Maximum Contact” classes led by UGA’s Small Business Development Center begin Tuesday, March 6, at the Pulaski County Board of Education. This series of workshops will help participants create a marketing strategy and incorporate social media tactics.
- UGA grad students presented their plan to the Fire House Museum Committee in January. This plan is part of a federal grant proposal to restore the old Fire House, and is being coordinated by the Regional Commission and Better Home Town.
- UGA Masters of Public Administration student are working with the Chamber of Commerce to improve their web presence and provide effective communication with citizens. The project is part of the “Communities of Opportunity” priority of improving community web presence.
- Through the Co-op initiative, a plan to improve community websites through improved communication is underway. Already, a portal site (www.hawkinsville.org) , recommended by the website committee, has been created and a community web site update meeting has been held.

Community Health

- Archway is working with Taylor Regional Hospital to create a Rural Medical Scholars partnership with Mercer School of Medicine. The program would be the second in the state and is patterned after the successful pilot program in Sandersville that is coordinated by Archway Health professional Laura Gillman.
- The UGA College of Public Health has completed a needs assessment for the community at the request of the Archway Community Health Issue Work Group. Two of the focus groups have been completed. **If you are interested in participating in a community health focus group, please contact the Archway office.** The sessions will last about 90 minutes.
- UGA College of Public Health Archway Professional Laura Gillman spoke to the Hawkinsville Rotary Club on February 1.

- The second Communities of Opportunity (Co-Op) initiative for Hawkinsville-Pulaski County is the reduction of teenage pregnancy rates. Under the leadership of local champion, Vonnie Berryhill, the work group will implement a number of community initiatives to reduce teen pregnancy by 25% by the summer of 2013. Plans for the Teen Maze to be held **March 22, 2012** are now underway. (check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/hhsteenmaze) **If you would like to volunteer to help with the Maze, please contact the Archway office.**

Government Service Delivery

- UGA Grad Student Mario Cambardella presented preliminary site plans to the Rec Department Committee on February 21 for the newly acquired property adjacent to the rec department.

Housing

- Since the community has graduated from the GICH program, Archway will continue to support community housing initiatives through HURA. The last meeting was held on December 6, 2011 and it was reported that 5 locations are currently in the process of being cleared with the appropriated funds.

Leadership Development

- Recruitment is now underway for the 2012 Pulaski Tomorrow Class. Sixteen new facilitators attended a two day training session held in February and conducted by UGA's Fanning Institute.
- UGA Graphic Design Student, Jennifer Taylor, has created a new logo for Pulaski Tomorrow that is suitable for a number of purposes.

Public Education

- The Executive Committee and Education issue work group have begun a long-term collaboration with the College of Education to continue education dialogue between the community, Archway and UGA.
- The Archway Education Committee will tour the Pulaski County Schools at their next meeting, Tuesday, March 6th at 8:00 AM.

Michelle Elliott told Commissioners about the upcoming Teen Maze for 10th thru 12th graders, a program emphasizing making good choices in life. It will be held March 22nd from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the old Hawkinsville High School Gym and there will over 600 students. Over 100 volunteers will be on hand.

Ms. Elliott also reminded everyone about the 8th annual Peaches to Beaches Yard Sale Friday March 9th and Saturday March 10th, expecting over 4,000 people to come through Hawkinsville. It is a 252 mile Yard Sale from Barnesville to Brunswick. There will be an Air Show in April.

Karen Bailey stated there would a Hawkinsville Artifact I.D. Day on Saturday March 24th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Pulaski County Annex Auditorium, 45 N. Lumpkin Street, sponsored by Hawkinsville Better Hometown. Historic artifact found in Pulaski County and surrounding areas may be brought in for identification. There will be professional Archeologists on hand to examine the artifacts and can in some cases give a description, date/period it came from and its use.

Chamber of Commerce Report:

- The Chamber Board of Directors Meeting was held on February 3, 2012 at the Pulaski Annex.
- The Board of Directors selected Hawkinsville Dental Associates as Business of the Month for February.
- Therisa and over 20 volunteers worked on the Harness Festival Pageant which was held on Saturday, February 4th. This pageant brought in over 800 people through the Opera House. These attendees stayed in our hotels, ate in our restaurants, bought fuel and shopped with out downtown merchants.
- Therisa and Kim attended the Savannah Women's Show on Saturday February 18th. This event helped promote Hawkinsville and all the events we participate in throughout the year with an emphasis on Peaches to the Beaches and the Harness Festival.
- Therisa and Kim attended a Teen Maze organizational meeting on February 10th. The Teen Maze event is scheduled for March 22nd here in Hawkinsville at the Board of Education Gym.
- The 2012 Youth Leadership Class which is sponsored by the Hawkinsville Pulaski County Chamber of Commerce began the 2012 year with a team building exercise on Tuesday, February 28th at the County Annex. This years class consist of 10 students from Fullington, Westfield and Hawkinsville High School. These students will attend various meeting both in Hawkinsville and surrounding

counties in an effort to promote good leadership qualities. These students will be attending the next City meeting on March 5th.

- Therisa made site visits to the Chamber renewals for February and delivered decals for 2012.
- Hawkinsville Chamber hosted the Bobberthon Meeting on February 7th at the Chamber. This event will continue with several significant changes.
- Kim attended a Peaches to the Beaches meeting in McRae, on Wednesday, February 8th. This committee drafted a letter to help raise awareness in order to keep this event successful.
- Barry Brown with Department of Economic Development /Tourism Division met with Better Hometown, Chamber of Commerce and other community members concerning Indian heritage tourism opportunities.
- The Chamber of Commerce Harness Festival Committee met on Thursday, February 23rd to discuss the 2012 Harness Festival.

Economic Development Report:

- Working on two projects for spec bldg
- Working on Bio Mass Project for Industrial Park
- Change of MGMAC Leadership on regional and local level
- Working on Archway Executive Committee with active projects being; website, tourism, strategic plan for United Pulaski, leadership, and community health.
- Combining efforts of Chamber, Better Hometown, Arts council and Archway on strategic plan for our tourism project
- Working on future events for Rivers Alive
- Working on air show with RAFB thru 21st Century & MGMAC

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS: Mitchell Woods handed out the financial reports for January 2012. He stated with such a warm winter gas sales were down. Woods also reported the LOST collections were not as good as last month. Collections are now only 2 1/2 % ahead of last year.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

James Colson asked that they revisit the fines and fees for the Indecent Exposure "Baggy Pants" Ordinance. Murkerson told him this was done the previous month.

Colson asked if an Animal Control Officer had been hired yet. Waiting on the pre-employment testing results on person interviewed.

Ken Hardy had none.

Shelly Berryhill let everyone know that the City was still in contact with the Dept. of Transportation (DOT) proposal on the bridges, have had positive feedback. He reported that PHP had donated land for the Skateboard Park.

Phil NeSmith had none.

Henry Cravey had none.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Gerald Green questioned if the City had a scheduled route for trash pickup. Murkerson explained the trash is picked up one week each month in each area of town. If not picked up at the scheduled time, should contact City Hall and a work order would be made to pick up.

Bill Blackshear spoke with Commissioners concerning the mid-night closing curfew. He explained the Outcast Bike Club held an annual event and bikers come from all over the U.S. and for the two day event a great deal of revenue is produced. During the last event all motel/hotel rooms in Hawkinsville and surrounding areas were booked at approximately \$19,000. in revenues, with 650 people attending spending approximately \$150.00 each bringing revenues to \$97,000. He stated there had never been any law enforcement reports on this club. He would like to request the Commission permit an after 12:00 midnight curfew. Commissioners would take under advice of Attorney to see if there were some special event permits.

There being no further business.

ADJOURN: Phil NeSmith motioned to adjourn. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

After the meeting the Commissioners met with the Youth Leadership students for Pizza and Cokes and a chance for them to ask questions or give comments concerning the local government.