

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Hawkinsville, Georgia met in a Called meeting, Friday September 2, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall with Chairman Shelly Berryhill presiding.

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Manager Jerry Murkerson, Finance Director Mitchell Woods, Attorney David Walker, Clerk Evelyn Herrington and Jim Smith.

Wilson Credle gave a prayer.

Chairman Berryhill called the meeting to order.

**RELEASE OF FIFA FROM VALUE FIRST, 657 COMMERCE STREET FOR LESSOR AMOUNT:**

Jim Smith questioned who decided what properties were dilapidated? Codes Inspector. Wilson Credle explained that the City has a Hawkinsville Redevelopment Board, organized to follow State guidelines and staff and the Regional Development Commission did a survey of the houses marking them as either Uninhabitable, Need of Repairs or O.K.

Smith stated the process seemed in error, that there were some pitfalls.

He requested the Fifa be removed. He said if person purchases property he plans to put a mobile home there, which would mean more tax dollars for the City.

Phil NeSmith stated this was the same thing in question about the McLeod property That Olin McLeod said he was not an heir as a part of the estate of Callie Mae McLeod. McLeod proposed to pay \$1,000., but Commissioners refused.

NeSmith said any correspondence mailed certified mail should also be mailed regular first class.

Henry Cravey asked for more information to review before a decision could be made.

Phil NeSmith told Mr. Smith if he needed to know now, he would vote no, to either reducing or waiving the Fifa.

Smith stated he never received any notice either verbally or by mail.

Attorney David Walker explained the city has a process according to State law and certified mail whether signed for or not, the person had been served.

Smith said he was sure it was done legally, but just not right.

Smith handed Commissioners a contract on the sell price of the property for \$2,495.

NeSmith asked Smith would he be agreeable to split the price of the sell to satisfy the lien.

Smith said if sale did not go through he would donate the property.

Smith stated he could have the house torn down for \$750. and would have given that to the City. He also stated not only the house was torn down, but all the trees were cleared which made the property look worse.

NeSmith said he would not vote for the \$750.

Credle said we always want the lowest cost from contractors and if he (Smith) could do it for \$1,000 or less to let us know.

Credle did say in addition to the legal notices, the property owners should be notified in person.

Walker stated the City did what was required by law. He said he handled all the paper work and never had anyone file suit against.

Colson stated that Mr. Smith knew about the other property on North Lumpkin Street.

Phil NeSmith motioned to release the lien for the amount of value the Pulaski County Tax Assessor has or the sale price, which ever is higher. James Colson seconded, motion passed.

**TREASURE TROVE AGREEMENT:** Commissioners directed Attorney Walker to negotiate with the group for a contract. Several concerns were voiced and requested be in contract.

No digging unless City Personnel on site.

Who determines value, contact Georgia Dept of Weights and Measures, select an appraiser?

City takes possession of find and places it in a secure location.

Request Cash Bond or Letter of Credit of \$5,000.  
Phil NeSmith motioned to give Attorney David Walker the authority to negotiate with the Treasure Trove Group, with parameters not to exceed 50/50. Wilson Credle seconded, motion passed.

**4-H PROJECT TO MARK STORM DRAIN INLETS:** Henry Cravey motioned to allow the 4-H person to mark the storm drain inlets and the City would purchase the tags for marking, also must sign waiver of liability. Wilson Credle seconded, motion passed.

**CONSOLIDATION:** Wilson Credle stated there was interest in bringing up consolidation again. He said we need to find out the legal obligations, the process for putting the question on the ballot, need to look at the objectives with recommendations, but do not need to rush the process.  
Phil NeSmith motioned to form a joint City/County committee to study consolidation, its pros and cons and alternatives and the City reserve the right to vote on charter as presented and whether or not to proceed with a referendum. Wilson Credle seconded, motion passed.

**UNITED PULASKI, INC:** To be discussed at the September Regular meeting.

**BY-WEEKLY PAYROLL:** To be discussed at the September Regular meeting.

There being no further business.

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

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Chairman, Board of Commission  
Hawkinsville, Georgia

ATTEST:

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City Clerk