

CITY OF HIAWASSEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 2, 2008

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF ITEMS PRESENTED AND ACTION TAKEN AT THE DECEMBER 2, 2008, MEETING OF THE HIAWASSEE CITY COUNCIL. THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING WILL BE PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW BY THE CLERK. THIS SUMMARY IS INTENDED AS A SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC TO ADVISE INTERESTED PARTIES OF THE UNOFFICIAL ACTIONS OF THE CITY COUNCIL PENDING TRANSCRIPTION OF THE OFFICIAL MINUTES. IN THE EVENT OF CONFLICT, THE OFFICIAL MINUTES AS APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE LEGAL RECORD OF THE ACTIONS OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

**AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC
WITHIN FORTY EIGHT HOURS OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**TO: MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, CLERK, PRESS &
INTERESTED PARTIES**

FROM: RICK STANCIL, MANAGER

DATE: 12-03-08

ELECTED OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: BARBARA MATHIS, MAYOR; JUNIOR CHASTAIN, COUNCILMAN; ANNIE JOHNSON, COUNCILMAN, JOAN CROTHERS, COUNCILMAN; AND JANET ALLEN, COUNCILMAN. A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: JIMMY WRIGHT, CHIEF OF POLICE AND RICK STANCIL, CITY MANAGER.

CLERK AGENDA ITEMS.

- 1) JOAN CROTHERS WAS SWORN IN AS COUNCIL MAN FOR POST 3 AND SEATED.
- 2) THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING WERE APPROVED.

- 3) A RESOLUTION HONORING DANIEL BERRONG AS HIAWASSEE POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR WAS READ BY CHIEF JIMMY WRIGHT AND THEN ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE CITY COUNCIL;
- 4) THE MAYOR ANNOUNCED THAT THE NOVEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WERE NOT AVAILABLE AND WOULD BE MAILED TO EACH COUNCIL MEMBER AS SOON AS PREPARED BY THE CITY ACCOUNTANT. THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS WILL NEED TO BE APPROVED AT THE NEXT MEETING.
- 5) MAYORS REPORT.

THE MAYOR SPOKE BRIEFLY ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OFFICER BERRONG AND CONGRATULATED HIM FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE.

THE MAYOR REPORTED THAT SHE, THE MANAGER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD BE ATTENDING THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION REGIONAL MEETING THIS THURSDAY NIGHT IN HELEN, GEORGIA.

THE MAYOR REPORTED THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MARK BEEBE, ENGINEER, GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, EXTENDING APPROVAL OF THE HIAWASSEE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WWTF) PLANS AND SPECIFICATION FROM JUNE 30, 2008, THROUGH JUNE 20, 2009;

THE MAYOR PRESENTED JOAN CROTHERS WITH A CERTIFICATE CERTIFYING HER ELECTION TO THE HIAWASSEE CITY COUNCIL;

REPORTED THAT NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL NEED TO ATTEND THE GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION TRAINING SESSION IN ATHENS, GEORGIA;

THE MAYOR REPORTED THAT DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS WERE DUE FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

THE MAYOR REPORTED ON THE PROGRESS OF THE “SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM” AND AGAIN THANKED THE MANY INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EFFORT FOR CHILDREN WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.

6) POLICE CHIEF REPORT.

JIMMY WRIGHT AGAIN COMMENDED OFFICER BERRONG. HE THEN REPORTED BRIEFLY ON THE “SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM” AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS, THE VETRANS OF FOREIGN WARS (VFW) AND THE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

7) CITY MANAGER’S REPORT AND COMMITTEE MEETING REVIEW.

THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MET ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, AT 2:00 PM, AT CITY HALL.

NEW BUSINESS:

THE COMMITTEE RECEIVED A PRESENTATION FROM STEVE GILES ON A CONDOMINIUM COMPLEX TO BE LOCATED ON BIG SKY DRIVE. THE PROJECT WILL HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE CITY REVIEW PROCESS. AN APPLICATION FEE, ENGINEERING, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS WERE REQUIRED.

THE COMMITTEE GAVE FINAL APPROVAL TO THE JOHN DAILY PROJECT IN NC.

THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED AN INITIAL REQUEST BY EAGLE VIEW SUBDIVISION, NC, TO PURCHASE WATER UNDER A WHOLE SALE CONTRACT. THE COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW THIS PROJECT WHEN AN ENGINEERING EVALUATION AND PROPOSAL IS SUBMITTED. THE CITY IS WILLING TO PURSUE THE SALE OF WATER IF ENGINEERING SHOWS IT TO BE POSSIBLE.

THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED AN INFORMAL REQUEST FOR THE SALE OF SEWER CAPACITY FROM DR. MERKEL. ANY SALE WOULD HAVE TO BE UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS AS CROSSROADS COMMONS AND A CONTRACT SIGNED THIS YEAR.

OLD BUSINESS

NO NEW INFORMATION ON THE HWY. 64 PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT [NEXT TO HIGH SCHOOL].

NO NEW INFORMATION ON THE BIG SKY VILLAGE PROJECT.

THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED FUNDING OPTIONS FOR THE FIVE YEAR CAPITAL WATER & SEWER PLAN.

THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED THE CLARIFICATIONS PROVIDED BY THE TCWSA. THE WATER ENGINEERS ARE NOW DETERMINING THE COST OF WATER PRODUCTION. IT IS THE CITY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE AUTHORITY WILL BEGIN PAYING THE COST OF WATER PRODUCTION BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2009. THE AUTHORITY WILL ALSO IMMEDIATELY BEGIN PAYING ITS PRORATA SHARE OF NON-REOCCURRING CAPITAL ITEMS AT THE WATER PLANT.

THE AUTHORITY AND THE CITY WILL CONTINUE TO WORK ON A LONG TERM AGREEMENT TO RUN THROUGH THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS (FY 2028).

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE WHOLESALE OF WATER TO THIRD PARTIES SUCH AS CLAY COUNTY AND/OR PRIVATE DEVELOPMENTS FOR A PROFIT, THE ADDITION OF NEW CITY CUSTOMERS, AND RESERVING WATER FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY. THE SALE OF WATER IS NEEDED TO OFFSET COSTS TO EXISTING CITY CUSTOMERS.

THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED A MORATORIUM ON COUNTY COMMERCIAL CONNECTIONS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2009. BASED ON THE LACK OF CURRENT DEMAND, THE DOWNTURN IN THE ECONOMY AND THE LACK OF SEWER CONNECTION FEES, PHASE II IS ON HOLD. THE MAYOR HAS ASKED FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION ON OUR CURRENT EXPANSION AUTHORIZATION FROM THE STATE.

THE CITY IS REVIEWING THE DEDICATION OF THE SCHOOL LIFT STATION FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. THE CITY AND THE SCHOOL BOARD ARE HAVING A SURVEY PREPARED OF THE STATION AND THE RELATED SEWER LINES CROSSING THE SCHOOL PROPERTY TO THE 64 PARTNERSHIP.

THERE IS AN ISSUE WITH WATER INFILTRATION OF THE OLD SCHOOL SEWER LINES. THE CITY WILL NOT BE TAKING OVER THESE LINES. CITY WATER AND SEWER PERSONEL SMOKE BOMBED ALL SCHOOL LINES WITH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT DURING THE THANKSGIVING VACATION. THE LINES NEED TO BE FURTHER EXAMINED BY CAMERAS. INFILTRATION IS SIGNIFICANT DURING RAIN. THESE PROBLEMS WILL BE CORRECTED BY THE SCHOOL OR THE SCHOOL BILLED FOR THE INFLOW.

OPERATIONS & FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE MET ON MONDAY AT 3:00 PM AT CITY HALL.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION GRANT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE SCHOOL SEWER LINE. JAMES E. ALLEN, GENERAL MANAGER, TECHNICAL SERVICE, TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY (TVA) VISITED THE CITY LAST WEEK AND DROVE THE PROPOSED ROUTE. THE CITY ANTICIPATES RECEIVING THE TVA FUNDING IN FY09. CONSTRUCTION IS PLANNED DURING SUMMER 09 WHILE THE SCHOOL IS OUT. ENGINEERING IS NOW BEING FINALIZED AND BIDS WILL BE LET NEXT YEAR.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE CHATUGE CIRCLE WATER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT. THE LINE WAS COMPLETED ON TIME AND UNDER BUDGET.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE CITY AUDIT. MORE TIME THAN USUAL WAS REQUIRED OF THE MAYOR, CLERK AND CITY MANAGER TO COMPLY WITH NEW AUDIT STANDARDS. THE CITY AND THE AUDITORS ARE ESTABLISHING NEW STANDARDS AND POLICIES THAT WILL RESULT IN IMPROVED FINANCIAL AND AUDIT PRACTICES.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL THE 2008 COMPREHENSIVE FEE SCHEDULE ORDINANCE. THE MAYOR AND MANGER MET WITH DEPRATMENT HEADS AND REVISED THE PRIOR PROPOSAL. THE COMMITTEE MADE SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER.

THE MANAGER REPORTED ON THE PROBLEM WATER FILTER AT THE PLANT. THE FILTER HAS BEEN TAKEN OFF LINE. THE CITY IS REVIEWING SEVERAL OPTIONS FOR REPAIRING THE FILTER. THE CITY HAS HAD SEVERAL EXPERTS LOOK AT THE FILTER WITHIN THE PAST TWO WEEKS. WE ESTIMATE THAT THE REPAIR WILL COST AS MUCH AS \$100,000.00. THE CITY HAS APPLIED TO THE STATE FOR AN EMERGENCY GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. THE CITY MAY RECEIVE AS MUCH AS HALF OF THE DOLLARS NEEDED FROM THE STATE. THE CITY AND THE TOWNS COUNTY WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY WILL THEN PAY THE REMAINING AMOUNTS PRORATA BASED ON WATER ALLOCATION.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS.

THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS WERE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND FOLLOWING ACTIONS TAKEN:

- 1) THE COUNCIL UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED THE JAIL FUND ORDINANCE CONDITIONAL UPON THE REQUIREMENT THAT A JAIL MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT BE ADOPTED;
- 2) THE COMPREHENSIVE FEE ORDINANCE WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AS AMENDED DURING COUNCIL DISCUSSION;
- 3) THE COUNTY COMMERCIAL SEWER CONNECTION MORTUORIUM WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED;
- 4) THE RESOLUTION REDUCING THE CITY MILLAGE RATE WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED;
- 5) THE 2009 FINANCIAL POLICY RESOLUTION WAS HELD UNTIL PRESENTATION OF THE CITY AUDIT;
- 6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$100,000.00 FOR WATER PLANT FILTER EMERGENCY REPAIR WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED;
- 7) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF LINE OF CREDIT FOR PHASE ONE OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FOR 2009 WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED.

THERE BEING NOW FURTHER BUSINESS, UPON MOTION AND SECOND, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.