

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 4, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held on Monday, May 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of city hall with all council members present. Absent was Mayor Matt Beasley.

In the absence of Mayor Beasley, Mayor Pro Tem Sarah Mayfield called the meeting to order and also gave the invocation. Following the invocation, Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield asked for a moment of silence from everyone to honor former Mayor Joan Saliba who passed away recently. Following the moment of silence, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Little to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Evans and carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield extended appreciation to Councilman Tray Hicks for his work in the Great American Cleanup event and for chairing the cleanup committee. Councilman Hicks commended everyone who helped make the cleanup a success, especially Mary Gidley of Hart Partners, Wendy Chitwood of HYDRA, and the Hart County Training School Class of 1963.

A proclamation was presented by Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield, proclaiming the month of May as Children's Literacy Action Month, and May 15th as Ferst Foundation Childhood Literacy Day.

Council heard a request from Ms. Ernestine Thornton and her daughter, asking for assistance in solving a drainage ditch problem that Ms. Thornton said occurred on her property as a result from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project in the Rome community. Following discussion, Council agreed to look into the problem after the CDBG project is closed out, which is approximately 98% complete. Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield informed Ms. Thornton that the City Manager would obtain cost estimates for solving the problem, which could possibly be worked out between her and the City. It was the recommendation of Councilman Hicks that citizens with similar complaints should contact someone in the City, and a cutoff date for such complaints was needed. Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield suggested that the local newspaper print something to instruct citizens with discontentment of the project to notify the City Manager in writing.

Following the second reading of Identity Theft Prevention Ordinance No. 2009-02, a motion was made by Councilman Gordon to accept the Ordinance as revised by the City Attorney. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding approval of a Resolution concerning an application for funding from the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) for certain improvements in the City's wastewater collection system. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to adopt Resolution No. 05-04-09 authorizing the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute all documents relating to the GEFA application, and all documents relating to project funding,

if approved. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gordon. As Mayor Pro Tem Mayfield called for a voice vote, motion was carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Gordon, seconded by Councilman Little and carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 05-04-09-1, authorizing the City's participation in the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Fund.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Gordon and carried unanimously to approve Resolution No. 05-04-09-2, authorizing the City's volunteer firemen to be covered under GMA Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Fund.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Evans, and carried unanimously to approve the list of nominees for GMA's 2009-2010 District 2 officers, as follows:

- President: David Austin, Commissioner, Toccoa
- First Vice President: Bill Stewart, Mayor, Royston
- Second Vice President: Margaret Ballard, Mayor, Cornelia
- Third Vice President: Andrea Gibby, Mayor, Young Harris

A motion was made by Councilman Gordon, seconded by Councilman Little, and carried unanimously to appoint Tray Hicks as voting delegate to the GMA convention.

A motion was made by Councilman Little to approve the expenditure of \$5,348.00 for the rental of an 8" diesel pump for the Cedar Creek sewage lift station. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gordon and carried unanimously. As explained in a memo from Chief Wastewater Operator Dan Moorhead, the rental pump was obtained due to pump failures at the Cedar Creek sewage lift station, and heavy rainfall caused higher sewage inflows. The rental pump was capable of handling the lift station flow until repaired pumps could be installed.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Gordon, and carried unanimously to accept a quote from Bagwell Brothers in the amount of \$9,080.66 for repair of a motor in the Sanitation Department residential route truck. It was the recommendation of the Public Works Director to have the motor rebuilt in this 2002 truck, with plans to use the vehicle as a spare in 2010.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Gordon, and carried unanimously to approve the expenditure of \$19,962.70 for a 6" steel gas main replacement due to a natural gas leak in the Hickory Crossing area.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Gordon, and carried unanimously for approval of equipment for the two Police Department Harley-Davidson motorcycles at a cost of \$18,109.50.

Council heard the first reading of Ordinance No. 2009-03, amending the Code of Ordinances regarding the number and size of containers in which malt beverages are sold.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner
City Clerk

