

CITY OF HARTWELL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 2, 2009

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of city hall, 500 E. Howell Street, Hartwell, with all members present. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Matt Beasley who welcomed everyone in attendance.

Following the invocation given by Mayor Beasley, everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Hearing no additions or corrections to minutes of the October 5, 2009 regular council meeting, and the minutes of the October 20, 2009 called meeting, a motion was made by Councilman David Little to adopt the minutes as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gordon and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to accept the Zoning Board's recommendation to approve annexation of approximately 3.33 acres of property owned by Billy Ethridge as R-1, Single-Family District. A point of correction was made by City Manager David Aldrich, stating that the location of the property should be Parkdale Drive rather than Powell Road. Motion was seconded by Councilman Gordon and carried unanimously to accept annexation of the property.

Following the second reading of Ordinance No. 2009-07, accepting the annexation of approximately 3.33 acres of property of Billy Ethridge as R-1, Single-Family District, a motion was made by Councilwoman Mayfield to adopt the Ordinance with the change from Powell Road to Parkdale Drive. Motion was seconded by Councilman Evans and carried unanimously.

It was the consensus of Council to set dates for public hearings regarding the fiscal year 2010 budget for Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., and again on Monday, December 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regularly scheduled council meeting. The City Manager stated that all necessary steps would be taken and more public hearings would be held regarding the budget when the City receives the new tax digest. Due to property revaluations not complete by the County, the new digest will not be complete until later next year.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilman Evans, and carried unanimously to add to the agenda a Resolution prepared by the City Attorney regarding Homestead Grant funds.

A motion was made by Councilman Hicks, seconded by Councilwoman Mayfield, and carried unanimously to approve a request from the Hart County NAACP for a permit for the MLK parade to be held January 16, 2010 from Bell's Shopping Center to the end of the Pre-K/Head

Start facility. It was noted that the time requested for the parade had been changed from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

In view of present concerns regarding the State's budget cut for 2009 Homeowner Tax Relief Grant funds, a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to approve Resolution No. 11-02-09 authorizing a credit to be distributed to each qualified homestead in the corporate limits of the city, an amount equal to the credit which such homestead received during fiscal year 2008 from the State's Homeowner Tax Relief Grant. Motion was seconded by Councilman Evans and carried unanimously.

Speaking on behalf of the Northeast Georgia Animal Shelter, Ms. Cherry Reeves corrected a statement made in the County Commission meeting regarding the closing of the Shelter. Ms. Reeves reported that the Shelter presently had plans to remain open until the end of the year, and hoped to continue to be able to stay open to provide services to the area.

Mayor Beasley urged all citizens to pause on Veterans Day on November 11th and recognize our veterans.

The Mayor also encouraged everyone to exercise their right to vote by going to the polls the following day to vote in the Municipal General Election.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner
City Clerk