

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

April 25, 2011

The Hartwell City Council met in called session on Monday, April 25, 2011 in the conference room of city hall with all members present except Councilman Van Senkbeil. Mayor Jennifer Scott called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. and stated the purpose of the meeting was to review and approve plans for the new city hall/police building, consider a jail study, and consider a study of the Fire Department.

Mr. Darren Sayer of J. M. Wilkerson Construction stated that the third version of the city hall/police building plans, as requested during the last committee meeting, were being considered at this called meeting. Mr. Sayer reported that minor modifications had been made to the actual jail layout and the size of the basement had been increased to allow additional space.

As Councilman David Little questioned Mr. Sayer about budget concerns, Mr. Sayer stated that the next phase of the project would be the Design Development documents and the goal was to meet the original budget target. However, Mr. Sayer estimated the cost would be around \$3.1M since the project had grown in scope and scale. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Tray Hicks to approve the plans as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Little and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sayer asked for compensation of a fraction of the amount of time spent on additional services redesigning plans to accommodate a jail as requested by the City. The amount requested is \$19,071.00 to be incorporated into the overall guaranteed maximum price for the city hall project. Mr. Sayer stated there would be no hard feelings if his firm did not get compensated, but reiterated that this was only a fraction of the amount of time spent on the redesign. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Sarah Mayfield to pay the requested amount. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously.

Also, upon request from J. M. Wilkerson (JMW,) a motion was made by Councilman Hicks to approve funding of \$13,176.00 for a Fire Department study by JMW. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayfield. As discussion ensued, Councilman Billy Ethridge stated that Council should table this request until the new city hall got off the ground. Councilman Little agreed with Councilman Ethridge, stating that there may be other ideas to consider which would save the City money. As the Mayor asked about the pros and cons of timing for a study, Mr. Sayer stated that the City would spend extra money if waiting more than a month. Mayor Scott explained that there were quite a number of new grants that may be available. As the vote was called, motion carried 3 to 2 to have JMW conduct the study, with Councilmen Ethridge and Little opposing and Councilmembers Hicks, Mayfield, and Craft voting "yes."

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner  
City Clerk