

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 1, 2011

The Hartwell City Council met in regular session Monday, August 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of city hall with all members present. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jennifer Scott.

Mayor Scott asked that everyone present please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence and then the invocation given by Councilmember Sarah Mayfield.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting, Councilman David Little moved that the minutes be approved as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayfield and carried unanimously.

Following the second reading of Ordinance #2011-02 regarding a moratorium on Internet Sweepstakes Cafés, a motion was made by Councilman Tray Hicks to adopt the Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Billy Ethridge and carried unanimously. Councilman Hicks explained that the temporary 180-day moratorium would prevent businesses from allowing on-line gambling through 'internet sweepstakes cafes' or 'phone card sweepstakes cafes' or any variation thereof. He further stated that state law was being passed to prevent this practice as well.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Mayfield, seconded by Councilman Arthur Craft and carried unanimously to approve a request from Hart Life Pregnancy Center for a parade permit for the annual Life Chain. The event will be held October 2, 2011 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. on the sidewalk in front of the Northeast Georgia Bank on East Franklin Street.

A motion was made by Councilman Little, seconded by Councilwoman Mayfield and carried unanimously to accept the infrastructure in the Cottage Village Subdivision as requested by Northeast Georgia Bank. As stated in correspondence from the Bank's Senior Vice President, B. Lee Vaughn, all improvements to the street in the subdivision (Evelyn's Way) had been completed and inspected as required for acceptance of the infrastructure.

A motion was made by Councilman Little to approve the extension of natural gas service to three poultry farms as requested. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mayfield and carried unanimously. The farms requesting natural gas service included:

- Ray Dean Farm on Pinkston Road – 4 poultry houses
- Marty Fulgram Farm on Reed Road – 4 poultry houses
- Ralph Whitmire Farm on Center of the World Rd. – 4 poultry houses

City Manager David Aldrich explained that all issues had now been resolved regarding Laurel Park at Lake Hartwell, and the City has now been requested to take over and maintain the sewer lift station at the property. A motion was made by Councilman Hicks to accept the sewer lift station as requested. Motion was seconded by Councilman Craft and carried unanimously.

Councilman Hicks presented Mayor and Council with a report on the progress of the new city hall. He explained that the original plans began with approximately 15,921 sq. ft. of finished space and 3,000 sq. ft. of unfinished basement, with an estimated cost of \$188.33 per sq. ft. He further reported that

following a complete review of the city's needs, the finished space on three (3) levels increased to 19,415 sq. ft., with 4,560 sq. ft. of finished space at basement level, for a proposed budget of \$197.02 per sq. of finished space. He pointed out that most of the added cost was due to the jail addition, including two holding cells and nine inmate housing cells. The proposed budget also includes a total of 75 parking spaces, as well as the following allowances, which are subject to change:

- \$45,000 soils and materials testing allowance
- \$30,000 asbestos abatement allowance
- \$15,000 landscape allowance
- \$10,000 signage allowance
- \$ 8,723 audio/visual allowance
- \$15,000 fire station "facelift" allowance

Councilman Hicks stated that the city hall committee was recommending a contingency of 2% for the city and 1% contingency for J. M. Wilkerson, and any spending out of these contingencies would require approval by Council. Upon recommendation of the committee, Councilman Hicks moved to approve an amendment to the City's contract with J.M. Wilkerson, totaling a guaranteed maximum price of \$3,628,953.00. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ethridge. As questioned by Councilman Little, this price does not include the previous architectural design cost, nor LEED certification. It was stated by the City Manager that the actual cost of the project, including design cost, would probably be \$3.8M - \$3.9M. Councilman Hicks encouraged local experienced, qualified sub-contractors and laborers to get involved with the project, and stated that currently approximately 37% of the sub-contracting work would come from Hart County and 63% of the contract work was staying in northeast Georgia. Following discussion, the Mayor called for a vote, which carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, a motion was made by Councilman Ethridge to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner
City Clerk