

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 7, 2012

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hartwell City Council was held Monday, May 7, 2012 in the council chambers of city hall with all members present. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jennifer Scott at approximately 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was recited by everyone in attendance, followed by the invocation given by Rev. Lonnie Bennett of the Hartwell Church of God.

As reported by the Mayor, the City received from Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) an election ballot for District 2 GMA officers for 2012-2013, with the following officials nominated:

President: David Little, Councilmember – Hartwell
First Vice President: Jim Conley, Mayor – Blairsville
Second Vice President: Danny Dunagan, Mayor – Gainesville
Third Vice President: Ralph Prescott, Councilmember – Dahlonega

A motion was made by Councilman Tray Hicks to approve the nomination of officers listed on the ballot. Motion was seconded by Councilman Arthur Craft and carried unanimously

Mayor Scott reported that the Chamber of Commerce would be hosting an event for Ty Cobb Healthcare June 18th to allow citizens of the community to meet some of the doctors and ask questions. Time and location to be announced at a later date. The Mayor also announced that the month of May was National Lupus Awareness Month, with additional information available on the web at www.Lupus.org. Also, Memorial Day, formerly known as Decoration Day, will be observed on May 28th.

Councilmember Hicks presented an update on the progress of the new city hall. Among some of the items mentioned, elevators have been installed, the three clocks have arrived, flooring is being installed, and the end of May is still targeted as a time of substantial completion. He further stated that a contract balance of \$806,030.60 remained, along with a contingency fund balance of \$49,733.00. Councilman Tony Haynie asked about the status of the three clocks, stating that he did not see a change order request from the contractor. City Manager David Aldrich explained that he had spoken with Mr. Darren Sayer about the issue, and while Mr. Sayer felt his company was under no legal obligation to pay for the clocks, he did want to walk away from the project with everyone satisfied. As Councilman Haynie had questions regarding the recent acceptance of the proposal from Ansley Communications for the phone system for the new city hall, he felt further discussions were needed before signing a contract with Ansley. Councilman Hicks stated that he would follow up on the issue, which may be discussed again at a called meeting or the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the April 2, 2012 regular council meeting minutes, a motion was made by Councilman David Little to approve as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Haynie and carried unanimously.

Hearing no additions or corrections to the minutes of the April 30, 2012 special called meeting, a motion was made by Councilman Craft to approve as recorded. Motion was seconded by Councilman Billy Ethridge and carried unanimously.

Mayor Scott presented a Proclamation to Historic Preservation Commission Chair Nancy Clark and Downtown Development Authority Director Michael Crump, recognizing the month of May as National Preservation Month.

The City's 2011 annual audit report was presented by Mr. Lloyd Williamson. Mr. Williamson reported that there were no major issues, with all departments coming under budget. He also stated that the City had once again received the Georgia Finance Officer Association's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 4th or 5th year.

As discussion ensued regarding the purchase or repair of the pump at the Jailhouse Lift Station, several councilmembers expressed concern of only having one quote. The City Manager stated that the area distributor for Flygt pumps was used due to the City having Flygt equipment at the present time. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Little to go ahead and purchase a new Flygt pump for the Jailhouse Lift Station at a cost of \$34,620.75 from Xylem Water Solutions USA, Inc., and seek additional bids in the future. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hicks and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Little, seconded by Councilman Craft, and carried unanimously to designate Mayor Jennifer Scott as the voting delegate for the annual GMA business meeting to be held during the GMA conference in Savannah next month.

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Turner
City Clerk