

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE WOODBINE CITY COUNCIL**

**June 1, 2015**

**WOODBINE CITY HALL**

The regular meeting of the Woodbine City Council held on June 1, 2015 was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Steven Parrott, with the following Councilors present: Louise Mitchell, Robert Baird and C. C. Higginbotham, Jr. Councilors absent: Randy Bordelon. City officials present: City Administrator Sandra Rayson, City Attorney William Ashe, and City Clerk M. Lynn Courson. See sign-in sheet for others present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Parrott.

The invocation was led by Louise Mitchell.

Work Session:

Everette Sapp, Public Works Director, gave an update on Public Works Department activities. Debra Carter, Director of Finance, gave an update on Finance Department activities.

Presentations - None

Mayor Parrott asked the Council to approve moving New Business item 10.b. "Petition to Abate Public Nuisance Specifically Relating to Capt. Stan's Smokehouse; Suspension of Said Business's Alcohol License; Addition of Referendum to November Election Ballot to Allow for Enforcement Powers by the City Regarding the Noise Ordinance" to the beginning of the meeting following Public Comments. He further requested removing the portion of the request: "Suspension of Said Business's Alcohol License; Addition of Referendum to November Election Ballot to Allow for Enforcement Powers by the City Regarding the Noise Ordinance". Mayor Parrott explained that there was no legal reason to suspend the business's Alcohol License and that the City still retained its enforcement powers for ordinances. William Ashe stated this request was recommended by him as the City Attorney and that there was no legal basis for these items to remain on the Agenda for action by the Council. Motion made by C. C. Higginbotham, Jr., seconded by Robert Baird, to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

Motion made by C.C. Higginbotham, Jr., seconded by, Louise Mitchell to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2015 City Council Meeting as presented. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

Public Comments:

Alice Keyes from One Hundred Miles, a Coastal Georgia advocacy group, asked the Council to consider passing a resolution at their next meeting opposing proposed Off Shore Drilling and Seismic Testing on Georgia's coast.

Mayor Parrott asked the audience in attendance to take a moment to appoint a spokesperson to address the Council with both sides of the Petition to Abate Public Nuisance Specifically Relating to Capt. Stan's Smokehouse.

The meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 6:46 p.m.

Bill Johnson commended Captain Stan for a successful business venture and acknowledged a reduction in the noise level coming from the establishment. Mr. Johnson stated that an error was made when an alcohol license was granted to Captain Stan's because his establishment is located 175 feet from a church. He further stated that live music coming from Captain Stan's disturbs the community. Mr. Johnson believes the City was and is incapable of handling the issues that have occurred from having such a business including code enforcement, traffic problems, public safety, and parking. He further stated that Captain Stan did not request nor did the City issue permits for the business being located across the street from a church, placing a trailer on the right-of-way, or for live music. Mr. Johnson suggested that the City has not listened to complaints and that there is a perception within the community that the establishment has the protection of the City. Mr. Johnson asked the Council to refute this perception. Bill Johnson stated that the suspension of Captain Stan's Alcohol License is the only means the City has to ensure his compliance with the Noise Ordinance and abate the nuisance. He explained that this is why he requested the addition of referendum to the November Election ballot to allow for enforcement powers by the City regarding the Noise Ordinance. He feels the citizens need to be heard with regard to this issue. Councilor Higginbotham assured Mr. Johnson that none of the Council Members are in collusion with any individual or business in the City. He further stated that the Council will not be used as a tool in an inquisition against any individual, business, or group.

Jim Stein, attorney for Captain Stan's, spoke on behalf of the business. He advised the Council that when the Alcohol Ordinance was being considered, the City held Public Hearings to ascertain the public's opinion on the issue. Mr. Stein stated that the City did not violate any laws in passing the Alcohol Ordinance. He requested that everyone in attendance in favor of leaving the matter as is to please stand. A large majority of the audience stood to express their approval. Mr. Stein assured the Council that Captain Stan is doing everything he can to stay in compliance with local ordinances. He further stated that the issue presented has to do with alcohol and not noise. Mr. Stein asked the Council to allow the business to remain as is and to address any problems with Captain Stan.

Robert Baird stated that the City has adequate ordinances in place and that he would like to see things left as they are. Louise Mitchell stated that she would like to see some resolution for the people that complain about the noise. C.C. Higginbotham, Jr. stated that he regrets that there are citizens bothered by the noise coming from Captain Stan's and he encouraged Captain Stan to reach out to these citizens to come to an adequate resolution. William Ashe stated that he sees no legal reason to modify the Noise Ordinance as it has enforcement provisions. No action taken.

The meeting recessed at 7:12 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

Old Business:

David Amos presented an architectural design Change Order for the Old Theater Park Project. He explained that the large portion of the change is the plan for using the Old Theater parking area on Highway 17. Mr. Amos advised that the GDOT is requiring a field survey on this area to submit a preliminary plan for their approval. He further advised the Council that the surface of the parking area needs to be evaluated to determine the course of action on replacement or repair to be ADA compliant. David Amos presented the Council with an additional cost of \$3,500.00 to move forward with the surveying of these areas. Motion made by Robert Baird, seconded by C.C. Higginbotham, Jr., to approve the change as submitted. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

Debra Carter presented the Council with a summary of Credit/Debit Card payments made on Water/Sewer/Garbage bills from May 2014 to April 2015. Ms. Carter advised the Council that the service has become more popular the longer we have used it. Mayor Parrott stated that staff would like to know if the council would like to consider accepting credit card payments for General Fund revenues such as Property Taxes, Building Permits, and Business Licenses. Ms. Carter advised that the service charge for using a Credit/Debit card of 2.32%. Ms. Carter and the Council discussed the average amount of taxes paid each year and the likelihood of property owners paying with Credit/Debit cards. Motion made by Robert Baird, seconded by C. C. Higginbotham, Jr., to approve accepting Credit/Debit cards for general Fund Payments and adding the 2.32% to the customer's transaction. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

Debra Carter presented a breakdown of the SPLOST 7 Debt Service/Project Cost Ratio for the Council's consideration. Ms. Carter advised that there is a balance of \$122,000.00 in the SPLOST 7 account including the current month's collections. C. C. Higginbotham, Jr. stated that he would like to keep a balance of \$120,000.00 in the account and pay the rest on outstanding loan debt. The Mayor and Council agreed to keep this amount and pay the rest to loan debt unless need arises to change this payout.

Sandra Rayson presented a change order for the Fence Project at the Street Department building. She explained that the one of the gates was changed from a 16 feet wide cantilever gate to a 16 feet wide double gate which resulted in a reduction in the cost by \$356.00. Motion made by Robert Baird, seconded by C. C. Higginbotham, Jr., to approve the Change Order as presented. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

New Business:

Sandra Rayson presented a request from Bill Johnson to place a memorial bench on the Riverwalk in honor of his late wife. Mayor Parrott stated that he would like to leave memorial projects up to City staff. The Council agreed. Robert Baird asked that a memorial policy be put in place prior to approving memorials so that they are limited to benches and are uniform in style.

Sandra Rayson presented an agreement with the Camden County PSA for their use of the City 2007 Ford Econoline Passenger Van for transportation in their 2015 Summer Camp Program.

Motion made by C. C. Higginbotham, Jr., seconded by Louise Mitchell, to approve the agreement as presented. Motion was unanimously approved and so declared by Mayor Parrott.

Public Comments: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

---

Steven L. Parrott  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
M. Lynn Courson  
City Clerk