



**BLAKELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MINUTES**

AUGUST 28, 2013

CITY HALL

5:00 P.M.

I) Call To Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order. Charlie Sol gave the invocation. Mayor Howard led the Council and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Let the record show that Mayor Howard, Councilman Hutchins and Councilman Smith were all present. Councilman Mills and Councilman Middleton were not present. Also present were the City Attorney Tommy Coleman, and the City Clerk, Melinda Crook.

II) Hearing – Pamela Sparks alcohol license

The City Attorney, Tommy Coleman opened the hearing and read the letter that had been sent to Ms. Sparks regarding the denial of an additional alcohol license for Pokey's Sports Zone located at 71 Georgia Pine Street. He stated that letter "j" in the letter needed to be omitted due to the fact that the license holder had been the one the Council had suspended the license on and not Mr. Johnson. He also informed the Council that they did not have to represent their case due to the fact that they had already done so. He then opened the floor to Ms. Sparks or the person representing her. Attorney Doug Hall then addressed the Council regarding the letter Ms. Sparks had received regarding the denial of an alcohol license. Attorney Hall spoke to each letter included in the letter. He questioned how the Council could find Ms. Sparks unfit and still continue to allow her to hold an alcohol license for the establishment Pokey's. He questioned how the Council found the location not suitable due to traffic congestion and stated that he had the architect present to address this item and letter "n" of the letter. He stated that it was felt that traffic in this area would be no different than traffic on Court Square on a Friday night because of the sports bar, Mexican restaurant and other establishments. He addressed letter "f" regarding the number of alcohol licenses questioning the Council as to whether they would ever grant another alcohol license. He then reiterated the fact that he found and could not understand how the Council found Ms. Sparks to be unfit. The architect, Jim Snyder out of Ft. Gaines, then answered questions from Attorney Hall regarding the renovations which were being done at the location and went over, with the Council, a drawing of the renovations. He then spoke on the parking issue stating that there could be up to 100 parking spaces but that did not believe that 100 spaces would be needed. He then stated that he would have to address any zoning issues regarding parking due to the mix of residential and commercial zoning in the area. Mr. Hall then readdressed the Council stating that he felt they had reasonably addressed all the issues in the letter and could not understand why the license would not be granted. He also stated that once this location opened the previous location of Pokey's on Church St. would be closed, which also addressed the issue of Ms. Sparks holding multiple license's. He stated that jobs would be created therefore would be an asset to the community. The City Attorney informed the Council that at this point they could either affirm their previous decision or change their previous decision. A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to affirm their previous decision of denial regarding the alcohol license for Ms. Sparks at 71 Georgia Pine. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

III) Amendment to Blankenship Bid

The City Clerk informed the Council that the quote, which had been approved by the Council at the May 7th meeting, had been miscalculated when submitted by Blankenship. She informed the Council that the original quote of \$81,143.00 was off by \$14,592.00 which was the first amount on the original quote and that the amended amount of the quote should be \$95,735.00. She informed the Council that the amended amount needed to be approved, due to the project being paid out of SPLOST funds, so that there would never be a reason for anyone to question a misappropriation of funds. A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the amended quote amount from Blankenship from \$81,143.00 to \$95,735.00. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

IV) Sewer line repair Angus Drive

The City Clerk informed the Council that presented quote from Blankenship came from more camera work, on the sewer lines, that had been done on Angus Dr. She informed the Council that Adam Askew had brought a quote to her a repair needed regarding a 8" main section approximately 10' downstream of

MH 677 to MH677A and that there were more repairs needed. She informed the Council that at that time she question Mr. Askew about getting a quote for all the repairs needed on Angus Dr and this quote was the result in the amount of \$16,730.00. The Mayor explained that the system lines could still not keep up with the inflow in these areas. The then explained that the areas in the quote are I&I inflows. The Mayor also asked Jeff Jones to come before the Council to help explain the situation and possible solutions in this area. The Mayor did explain that we still have not found the one large inflow of I&I and that we are looking into the long term solution but we also need a short term solution to stop the immediate problem on Willow Glen, Angus Dr and Hwy 39. Jeff at this time explained to the Council that he was starting to look into the situation but that with any solution presented he also had to look at the fact that we did not want to cause problems to areas further down the line. He explained that one option was to possibly get the water over to the gravity line pump station on HWY27 by the County Club or to upgrade the line in front of Dr. Crowdis' house to increase the flow down the line on Hwy 39. The Mayor asked the Council to consider giving Polyengineering permission to pursue an immediate course of action to help the situation at the HWY 39 pump station, Willow Glen and Angus Dr. The mayor informed the Council that the City Clerk was going to get in touch with DOT regarding the replace of the line in front of Dr. Crowdis' house due to Blankenship having some free time to be able to complete the work so that we could help alleviate the problems in this area as soon as possible. A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve Polyengineering to move forward with devising a plan to help the situation on Willow Glen, Angus Dr and the HWY 39 pump station. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

The mayor then updated the citizens as to where we stand with the drainage problems in the same area. He stated that he has been contacted by Rep. Greene, who informed him that DOT is moving forward with doing something in regards to the pipe that runs under HWY 39. He stated that no work has been done in this area since 1949. He also stated that he was asked if the City could hold off on doing any work on Angus Dr. or Willow Glen until they can get this fixed. There was then some discussion between the Mayor and several citizens regarding what the City is trying to correct.

V) Discuss Power Cost Adjustment

The City Clerk showed the Council a presentation of the PCA spreadsheet and the portion of the MEAG billing where she gets the figures from the put in the spreadsheet. She showed the Council that upon inputting this month's figures the under cumulative amount for the year would increase from (\$388,000) to a (\$406,000) and that year to date would be under collected (\$233,000). The Mayor and Council discussed the fact that they knew there was a possibility of having to re-implement the PCA before the year was finished. The Mayor and Council also discussed that this could be added as an increase to the ECCR charge, taking it from .007 to .0100 and making the PCA .006 mills or just adding back the PCA at .009 mills. A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve re-implementing the PCA at .009 mills to be implemented on the September billing. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

VI) Public Comments

The Clerk informed the Council that when going out with Oxford to mark the street repair previously approved it was found that a small section, past what was incorporated in the quote, had started to sink as well and Oxford felt that the area to work on should be corrected as well. The Clerk then informed the Council that when looking at the location on Westview Dr. a larger section, than was in the quote, needed to be fixed and therefore she asked if the Council would approve an additional \$10,000 for these areas to make sure that they were fully fixed. A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve the amount \$10,000 for some additional work, which would amend their quote. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

VII) Executive Session – Applicants For Lineman/Apprentice

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to enter into Executive Session. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

VIII) Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Smith and seconded by Councilman Hutchins to approve adjourning the August 28th Special Called Meeting. The motion carried with Councilman Smith, Councilman Hutchins and Mayor Howard voting "Yes"

Anthony Howard, Mayor