



MINUTES

## PUBLIC HEARING

January 12, 2010 6:00 pm – Closing of Railroad Crossings

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 12, 2010 at 6:52 pm

### **Public Hearing:**

**Call to Order:** The January 12, 2010 Public Hearing regarding Closing of Railroad Crossings was called to order by Mayor David Jordan at 6:00 pm.

**Attendance:** Mayor David L. Jordan, Keith Turman, Larry Bowen, Matt Fields, Kenneth Roach, Wayne Braswell, Clark Williams, City Attorney, Mike Green, City Manager, Greg Scott and City Clerk, Gloria Brown.

Mayor Jordan asked for any public comments. Business owners from Master Care, Tri-County Industrial & Hardware, and R & D Exteriors expressed their feelings that closing of Tony Jones St. and Daniel Street railroad crossings would adversely affect their businesses. The owner of the Brass Lantern spoke in favor of the closings. Mayor Jordan asked Dave Bishop of Hartwell Railroad to explain the railroad's reasons for wanting to close the crossings and how this would benefit the City. Mr. Bishop also elaborated on current leases and on right-of-way areas the City would benefit from. Mayes Davison stated he feels any crossing closings would hurt the viability of any commercial property along the track and is concerned that the railroad will store numerous railroad cars between the closed crossings. Further discussion held and questions asked.

Clark Williams made a motion to close the public hearing; Wayne Braswell seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Mayor Jordan announced a 5-minute break before calling the Regular Meeting to order. Public Hearing closed at 6:45 pm.

### **Regular Council Meeting:**

**Call to Order:** The January 12, 2010 Regular Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor David L. Jordan at 6:52 pm.

**Attendance:** Mayor David L. Jordan, Keith Turman, Larry Bowen, Kenneth Roach, Wayne Braswell, Clark Williams, Matt Fields, City Attorney, Mike Green, City Manager, Greg Scott and City Clerk, Gloria Brown.

**Approval of Minutes:** Kenneth Roach made a motion to approve the December 8, 2009 Regular Council Meeting and the December 22, 2009 Public Hearing and Called Council Meeting minutes; Wayne Braswell seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

### **Additions or Deletions to Agenda:**

1. Move Executive Session after New Business – Kenneth Roach

**Approval of Agenda:** Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the agenda; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

**Departmental Quarterly Reports:** No comments on quarterly reports. Greg Scott advised that we are still moving forward at the Wellness Park, however due to weather delays some of the work will have to wait until the site dries and warmer temperatures. Also the Boy Scouts will be camping at the park this month and will assist with trails and stream cleaning. Greg also advised that we have had numerous leaks due to the weather and we are repairing as soon as possible and as the temperature climbs, we expect more leaks to occur. Mayor Jordan asked that if possible, more cones or signage on Hwy. 29 at railroad tracks where steel plates are over repair site. And Mayor Jordan also advised their was spilled gravel on Hwy. 29 between Railroad Street and Highway 17 along the road and at gutters that needs cleaning up.

Mayor Jordan advised that the Royston Library is high on the grant build list for renovation and would like for citizens and elected officials to contact the State of Georgia elected officials in support of this project. Kenneth Roach inquired how the free white goods day went. Greg reported that all went well and that the day had been advertised in the paper, newsletter, radio, and posting of notices.

**DDA Update:** Clark Williams advised that the DDA required 7 board members and that there are only 5 presently; Emmanuel College is paying a student to man the welcome center 10 hours per week; Wednesdays and Fridays 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm and on Saturdays 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Clark asked Mayor and Council to plan to attend the DDA retreat on February 6, 2010 in Athens at the Paul Coverdell Building on UGA Campus beginning at 9:00 am. Candy Ross reported on the recent Depot Committee meeting stating that the drawings presented were well received and feels this project is going in the right direction. Budget figures for the Depot renovation should be ready at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

Mayor Jordan presented William C. Stewart, Jr., Angie Y. Pressley, and Jason Phillips plaques in appreciation for their service to the City of Royston.

- A. **Appointments for 2010 – Mayor Jordan:** Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to re-appoint Gloria Brown as City Clerk; Keith Turman made the motion; motion seconded by Wayne Braswell; motion carried 6-0; Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to re-appoint Mike Green as City Attorney; Keith Turman made the motion; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0; Mayor Jordan asked for a motion to re-appoint Mayes Davison as Municipal Judge; Wayne Braswell made the motion; Keith Turman seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.
- B. **Mayor Pro-Tem for 2010 – Mayor Jordan:** Mayor Jordan asked for nominations for the position of Mayor-Pro-Tem. Kenneth Roach nominated Keith Turman; Wayne Braswell made a motion to close the nominations; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Wayne Braswell a motion for Keith Turman to be appointed Mayor Pro-Tem for 2010; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.
- C. **Adopt Resolutions: Franklin County Joint Comprehensive Plan, and Franklin County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan – Greg Scott:** Mayor Jordan read each resolution. Wayne Braswell made a motion to approve the Franklin County Joint Comprehensive Plan Resolution; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Keith Turman made a motion to approve the Franklin County Joint Solid Waste Management Plan; Wayne Braswell seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

**Executive Session:** Wayne Braswell made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss real estate and personnel; Kenneth Roach seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Executive session entered at approximately 7:12 pm.

Clark Williams made a motion to reopen the meeting at approximately 8:24 pm; Larry Bowen seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

**Old Business:**

- A. **Railroad Lease and Closing of Railroad Crossings – Mayor Jordan:** Wayne Braswell made a motion to table this item indefinitely; Clark Williams seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0.

**Adjourn:** Wayne Braswell made a motion to adjourn; Keith Turman seconded the motion; motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

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**Mayor David L. Jordan**

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**Gloria A. Brown, City Clerk/Financial Manager**

**(SEAL)**

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