

The Clermont Town Council met on September 3, 2013. Ellen Rogers led the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council members, Sonny Helton, Ellen Rogers, Seth Weaver, and Debra Armour. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax, and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the August 6, 2013 minutes. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the August 2013 Financial Statement. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

REPORT: ORDINANCE 97-01 PLANNING AND ZONING: The Council reviewed this report.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN HALL COUNTY AND TOWN OF CLERMONT FOR POLICE

SERVICES: This agreement is between Hall County and the Town of Clermont pertaining to law enforcement in the Town of Clermont and the use of a building owned by the Town for use by the sheriff's department. The Hall County Sheriff's Department will provide law enforcement services within the municipal boundaries of the Town on the same basis as they do for the unincorporated areas of Hall County. The Town will provide free of charge to the Hall County Sheriff's Department the building located at 122 Dean Street, Clermont, Georgia. The Town will be responsible for providing this area and maintaining the area. Unlike the previous agreement between the Town and Hall County, this agreement does not provide for services by the County Marshall. After some discussion and comments from the citizens, Seth Weaver made a motion to accept this agreement. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor.

PUBLIC SAFETY INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES AGREEMENT: This agreement concerns the E 9-1-1 communication services that answers emergency calls. Seth Weaver made a motion to accept the Public Safety Intergovernmental Agreement Services. Debbie Armour seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

CENTENNIAL CLERMONT DAY CELEBRATION: Sandra Cantrell gave a quick update on what's going to take place at the Clermont Days Festival. She announced the upcoming beauty pageant and said vendor packets were being mailed out. There will be designated parking for the vendors. The opening ceremony will be at 9 am on Saturday. The historical society is sponsoring a cake walk and if anyone would like to bake a cake for the cake walk it would be greatly appreciated.

RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE CLERMONT CHATTAHOOCHEE CENTER: Mayor Nix ask the Council to review the draft agreement enclosed in their folders to be discussed at the next work session on the 17th of September.

COVERED BUILDING FOR FARMERS' MARKET: Mayor Nix said Rex Farmer who serves on the board of Georgia Mountains Regional Development Commission had mentioned the good success with the recent Farmers' Market and suggested the Town apply for a grant to build a structure to house the farmers' market. The Georgia Mountains Regional Development Commission recently helped Blairsville obtain a grant to erect a farmers' market structure in Blairsville.

Mayor Nix asked if anyone had any thoughts or comments. Warren Weaver said he was in favor of the building and thought it would be beneficial and add personality to Clermont. Sandra Cantrell said if the Farmers' Market is still going strong next year, the Clermont Historical Society would look into the

possibility of registering it with the Georgia Agritourism. This would allow for the placement of signs saying there is a Farmers' Market in Clermont.

NOVEMBER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: Mayor Nix said our November Council meeting falls on November 5, 2013 which is the same day as our Elections for the Town. The Clerk will be working at the poll which will not close until 7 pm and then the ballots will have to be tabulated. Seth Weaver made a motion to change the November meeting from November 5, 2013 to November 12, 2013 and Sonny Helton seconded. All members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

JOINT LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETING: Mayor Nix said Clermont would be hosting the next JMA meeting on October 28, 2013. We will be discussing more details on this later.

HALL COUNTY MULTI-USE TRAILS: Mayor Nix said he recently attended a meeting discussing multi-use trails in the county. The group is looking at ways to fund a study on multi-use trails. Currently a lot of emphasis has been placed on the south end of the county. They are looking to see what the interest is for expanding the study to the north end of the county. The official bike route is currently Clark's Bridge Road. Their ideas consist of trying to connect some routes to the Don Carter State Park. Mayor Nix said he was just letting them know about this long term plan and more information would soon be available.

VACUUM FOR CLERMONT CHATTAHOOCHEE CENTER: Mayor Nix said we need to purchase a vacuum cleaner for the Clermont Chattahoochee Center. Mayor Nix said one of the gym walkers has volunteered to do some of the vacuuming in the center. He said the vacuum could be stored in the janitor's closet. The council agreed to purchase a vacuum cleaner and asked the Clerk to check on this.

PROPERTY LOCATED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN ST AND SHOAL CREEK ROAD: Calvin Stewart asked about the piece of property. Mayor Nix said he was still working on it. He said he had been in touch with Tax Commissioner Darla Eden and she told him he could bid on it but the back taxes owed on the property totaled around \$1100.00. He said he spoke with Hall County Assistant Administrator Marty Nix who had spoken with Hall County's attorney, Bill Blalock. Mayor Nix said he had also asked the chief appraiser, Steve Watson, to look at the property to see if was properly appraised. The Hall County Tax Office has previously tried to sell the property at auction but have not had any success. The current owner has told the county to sell it that they are not going to pay the back taxes. Seth Weaver said the county needs to condemn it, clear the taxes off, and give it to the Town. Calvin Stewart said he would volunteer a couple of hours of labor before Clermont Days festival to clean up the property. Mayor Nix said he would continue to investigate what can be done with the property.

DON CARTER STATE PARK GRAND OPENING: Town Clerk, Sandra Helton reminded the Mayor, Council and the citizens about the grand opening of the Don Carter State Park & ribbon cutting where Governor Nathan Deal will be making a speech on September 16, 2013 at 10:00am. Everyone is invited.

WORK SESSION: Town Clerk, Sandra Helton reminded everyone of the work session on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 which will be held in the Town Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Seth Weaver made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Sonny Helton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor.

ADJOURN: Sonny Helton made a motion to adjourn at 8:17pm. Seth Weaver seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

