

**HOSCHTON CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION**

February 24, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Hoschton Depot

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Denney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Council members present	Sandie Romer, Post 1 Jim Higgingbottom, Post 2 Jim Cleveland, Post 3 Richard Shepherd, Post 4 Theresa Kenerly, Post 6
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Absent	Scott Butler, Post 5
Acting City Clerk	Karen Butler
City Attorney	Thomas Mitchell
Mayor	Erma Denney

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

February 1, 2010 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

E. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Add #5. Festivals

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. **Water, Waste, and Environmental Services**
2. **Fiscal Resources**
3. **Public Works and Properties**
4. **Public Safety**
5. **Planning and Zoning**
6. **Business, Commerce, and Economic Development**

G. ACTIVITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Nothing available

H. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS:

I. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of RFP for patching on West Jefferson to Double O hauling & Grading

Mayor Denney states that the low bid went to Double O Hauling and grading for \$1340. The money will come out of our SPLOST Roads & Bridges account. The high bid was \$33,831 and the other bid was \$3,381. The next project is on Industrial Blvd.

2. Discussion regarding RAS replacement pumps

Mayor Denney states that these pumps are located down at the WWTP. Mayor introduces Trent Lard from Sweitzer Engineering. Mr. Lard explains that the return sludge pumps failed due to a seal failure. In order to replace the motors, it would cost about \$3,000 and new pumps about \$4,000. Three bids were taken. Mr. Lard recommends replacing the pumps because the existing pumps are way too big. He would like the council to approve expenditures so that we can check with GEFA to verify that GEFA funds can be used in pump replacement. Mayor Denney states that the pumps had been burned out for many months. Councilwoman Kenerly asks if we are going to a smaller pump? Mayor Denney states the pumps had been governed down. Mr. Lard explains the pumps that were there were 15 HP, which were way too large, so the operator had throttled them back. The pumps were trying to work against a closed valve. When it does that, it generates backpressure inside the pump and blows the seal. When you blow the seal on a submersible pump that is underwater, it floods the motor and ruins it. If we replaced the pump with the same ones, they would have failed again. Putting in smaller pumps will be cheaper to operate and power bills will be lower. GEFA likes to have competitive bids. The recommendation would be to go with the lowest bid. The cost on this would be \$15,250, which includes installation and a one-year warranty on work and materials. Councilman Cleveland asks if the old pumps get trashed? Mr. Lard responds that they are checking to see if we can get a core charge return. Depending on what they will give us on those, we can keep the old pumps, and if down the road we

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need bigger pumps, we can rebuild them at that time. The cost to rebuild is about \$3000.

Mayor Denney states that we would like to get this GEFA funds since we still have money to draw down.

Mayor Denney also makes the following statement:

The City has communicated with Siemens and the parties have essentially agreed to disagree about the enforceability of the contract. We have been informed that Siemens does not intend to pursue any action against the City at this time.

3. Approval of Police Surplus inventory list

Mayor Denney states that she will email the list of surplus police inventory to everyone. The city plans on keeping anything that is not specific to the police department.

Councilman Shepherd asks if we will be advertising these items.

Mayor Denney states that GMA has a place on their website to post items.

The council and the audience continue discussing the surplus police items.

4. Update on Comprehensive Plan

Mayor Denney states we have budgeted \$15,000 for the comprehensive plan. She has contacted NEGRC and she discussed with Lee Karmin if there was any grant money remaining for assistance with comprehensive plans. Lee called back with a full and complete proposal. The comprehensive plan will be \$4000 and they will offer us a \$2000 grant. The cost of the plan will be \$2000. There will be meetings in May and August and the plan will be done on time.

Jackson County will be assisting with maps for the plan, and maps for the census.

5. Festivals

Councilwoman Kenerly reports that the festival formerly known as Art Trax is now called The Art and Folk Festival. It will be held on April 24th & 25th. The juried art will be placed on City Square, and the Folk Art will be at the depot. There will be a tractor and car show on Saturday at Towne Center. On April 23rd, there will be an opening party called Diamonds and Denim. Cost for tickets are \$25 each.

Jackson County will hold a Chili cook off on April 17th at Year-One.

The fall festival will be held September 25th & 26th. Booths can be set up after 2 p.m. on the 24th. Booths will be open from 9-6 on Saturday, and 10-5 on Sunday. There will be a concert on Saturday, possibly featuring "The Blues Brothers", and there will be a worship service Sunday morning at Towne Center. The cost of the

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booths are \$110 for food booths, \$75 for non-food, and \$45 for non-selling booths. \$5 of the booth fee will go to the city for allowing city help in taking applications, and \$5 of the booth fee from vendors requiring electricity on city square or at the depot will also go to the city.

J. ITEMS FOR MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND CITY STAFF

Dianne Blankenship reports that the Friends of the Library will host a lunch and learn on March 10th. This month they will be honoring Hoschton. Anthony's restaurant will be furnishing the food, and tickets will be \$6. The luncheon will be held in Braselton at the municipal building. Dianne encourages all citizens to attend.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None needed.

L. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Shepherd, second made by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion carried with all voting in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen K. Butler

Attachments in the Minute Book

