

2019 FALL COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES

HILTON FRANKLIN COOL SPRINGS (Rivers Conference Room)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019 - 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM (Central Standard Time)

Welcome & Remarks (Mayor/City Manager) – Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order. Present were Mayor Steve Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem Susie Gajewski, Council Members Marc Cohen, Brandon Hembree, Taylor Anderson and Curtis Northrup. Also present were City Manager Paul Radford, Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche, City Attorney Lee Thompson, City Clerk Jane Whittington, Recreation Director Andy McQuagge, Economic Development Director Mercy Montgomery, Events & Cultural Affairs Manager Megan Carnell, Planning Director Kaipō Awana, Finance Director Cindy Pugh, IT Director Ned Jasarevic, Facilities Director Tim Schick, Executive Services Manager Robyn Adams.

2019 Overview - City Manager Paul Radford reviewed the highlights of 2019 developments, accomplishments and programs.

Draft Budget Presentation and Discussion City Manager Paul Radford reviewed some budget items that will be added for 2020 including staffing and projects.

Staffing Challenges and Opportunities – HR Department reviewed challenges for 2019. Remedies to staffing obstacles included new sources for postings of positions available.

Part-time/Additional staffing needs/Seasonal PT/Semi-retirees

Recruiting/retention/staff development - highlights from 2019 included customer service training by the franchise owner of the Chicfila Moore Road location.

Retirement/457 Deferred Compensation Plan – City Clerk reviewed the window where employees could purchase additional years of service into the defined benefit plan. The window is not closed and there will not be an additional window of opportunity.

Facility Rentals/Fee Schedules – Recreation Director and Events Manager reviewed programming and events for the 2019 season. The concerts and events this year were successful and they discussed possible opportunities for 2020.

Meeting adjourned for the day.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019 – 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM (Central Standard Time)

Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Present were Mayor Steve Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem Susie Gajewski, Council Members Marc Cohen, Brandon Hembree, Taylor Anderson and Curtis Northrup. Also present were City Manager Paul Radford, Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche, City Attorney Lee Thompson, City Clerk Jane Whittington, Recreation Director Andy McQuagge, Economic Development Director Mercy Montgomery, Events & Cultural Affairs Manager Megan Carnell, Planning Director Kaipō Awana, Finance Director Cindy Pugh, IT Director Ned Jasarevic, Facilities Director Tim Schick, Executive Services Manager Robyn Adams.

Events/Cultural Programming – the Events Manager recapped 2019. Meet and greet, parking and how many concerts in the bowl and concerts in the theatre were discussed.

Highway 20 CID – the Economic Development Director discussed possibility of a CID around the Buford Highway, Highway 20 corridor.

Downtown Development & Project Updates – the City Manager and Assistant City Manager discussed the following projects:

Hillcrest and Highway 20, E Center leasing and parking, Level Creek extension, LMIG 2019 roads that were paved, Veterans Memorial, Gary Pirkle Park improvements, Whitehead Suwanee Dam sidewalks, Bowl improvements, gateway signs, Sugar Hill greenway.

The meeting was adjourned for the day.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019 – 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM (Central Standard Time)

Present were Mayor Steve Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem Susie Gajewski, Council Members Marc Cohen, Brandon Hembree, Taylor Anderson and Curtis Northrup. Also present were City Manager Paul Radford, Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche, City Clerk Jane Whittington, Recreation Director Andy McQuagge, Economic Development Director Mercy Montgomery, Events & Cultural Affairs Manager Megan Carnell, Planning Director Kaipō Awana, Finance Director Cindy Pugh, IT Director Ned Jasarevic, Facilities Director Tim Schick, Executive Services Manager Robyn Adams.

Glass Recycling - the Facilities Director discussed possible recycling center for glass articles. City would have to have dumpsters for residents to put glass in. The dumpsters would have to be emptied on a regular basis. The city would either have to haul them to a main glass recycling center or pay to have them transported.

Property Maintenance Inspections the Planning Director discussed possible changes in code enforcement and approach to the communities. CDBG grants and other grants could be used to revitalize neighborhoods.

Housing Continuum Strategies – new types of housing discussed workforce housing, multi-family with bonds.

Next Big Things – IT Director showed several examples of electronic systems and lights to make the City Hall/E Center/Eagle Theatre/Bowl area more illuminated.

Grant Update Executive Services Manager updated the 2019 grants. The city received the GMA Safety grant, the LCI grant obtained by the Planning Department, the annual Hazardous Waste Trust Fund and the annual LMIG grant. The Assistant City Manager explained that over 14 roads were repaired and/or re-surfaced earlier in the agenda updates.

Council Remarks

Closing Remarks

Executive Session (Personnel, Real Estate, Legal) – No Executive Session was held and there was no action taken during the

The meeting was adjourned.

Steve Edwards, Mayor

Jane Whittington, City Clerk