

**COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SUGAR HILL
5039 WEST BROAD STREET
SUGAR HILL, GEORGIA
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021, 7:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Edwards called the meeting to order. Attendees included Mayor Steve Edwards, Council Members Taylor Anderson, Marc Cohen, Nic Greene, Brandon Hembree and Susie Walker, Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche, City Clerk Jane Whittington, and City Attorney Frank Hartley. City Manager Paul Radford was not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

INVOCATION – given by Mayor Edwards.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Council Member Hembree motioned to amend the agenda by adding a new item under New Business #6 VAR-20-006. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Council Meeting December 14, 2020; Work Session December 7, 2020; Special Called Meeting December 7, 2020, Retreat 12/4/- 12/5/2020 – Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Minutes amending the Retreat Minutes to a 4-0 vote not a 5-0 vote. Council Member Hembree seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Proclamation, Suwanee Creek Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution – Council Member Hembree introduced Rebecca Jordan of the Suwanee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Kathryn Baskin, and Stephanie Isaacs of the Historic Preservation Commission. The DAR presented the city with a \$1,000 check to go towards genealogical research.

All in Futbol Club U18 Girls State Champions – Mayor Edwards presented the team with a logo soccer ball signed by the Mayor and Council and congratulated them on their state championship. He read the roster for the team and the Council congratulated them. Mark McCain of All In Futbol stated that this was the first of hopefully more state championships for the organization. They will go to the regional tournament in June.

REPORTS

**CITY ATTORNEY
COUNCIL
MAYOR
CITY CLERK
CITY MANAGER
YOUTH COUNCIL**

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS – Amber Chambers spoke regarding former Gwinnett County Commission Chair Charlotte Nash and her professionalism at meetings for Gwinnett County.

**CONSENT AGENDA
OLD BUSINESS**

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment Mayor Pro Tem – Council Member Hembree nominated Taylor Anderson. There were no other nominations so Council Member Anderson will be the Mayor Pro Tem for a two-year term. Mayor Edwards administered the oath to Mayor Pro Tem Anderson.

Appointment Municipal Court Judge and Associate Judge – Council Member Cohen motioned to appoint Margaret Washburn as Chief Judge and Charles Barrett as Associate Judge. Judge Washburn could not attend tonight due to a family illness.

Downtown Development Authority Appointments (Posts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5) – Council Member Hembree nominated Nigel Grey as Post #1, Allen Jorgensen for Post #3, Marc Orcutt for Post #4, Mason Roszel for Post #5 and a new appointment Rebecca Buckingham for Post #2. There were no other nominations so they will serve a four-year term and Rebecca Buckingham will be sworn in.

PUBLIC HEARING, SUP-20-001, Special Use Permit, 1400 Buford Hwy, Suite H1 – Planning Director Awana explained that this special use permit is for an existing day spa to move into the Magnolia Office Park. A special use permit is required for the massage component. The applicant, Julie Austin, of Cuvee Day Spa is requesting a permit for a therapeutic massage and custom air brush tanning facility. The Planning Commission recommended approval with no conditions. The public hearing was opened and there were no comments so the hearing was closed. Council Member Hembree motioned to approve SUP-20-001 for a therapeutic massage and custom air brush tanning facility. Council Member Green seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Qualifying Fee November 2, 2021 General Election – the City Clerk Jane Whittington explained that The Georgia Election Code (OCGA § 21-2-131(a)(1)(A) requires that the qualifying fee for elections be set by February 1 of any election year. Since 2021 is an election year in Sugar Hill we need to set the qualifying fee at the January meeting. The State Election Code requires that the fee shall be 3% of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year. Staff recommends to set the qualifying fee in the City of Sugar Hill for the 2021 General Election at \$108.00 for City Council and \$162.00 for Mayor. Council Member Cohen motioned to set the qualifying fee for the 2021 election at \$108 for City Council and \$162 for Mayor. Council Member Walker seconded. Approved 5-0.

VAR-20-006 – this property is in the Twin Creek subdivision and includes placing a shed at the setback. The staff recommends approval. The public hearing was opened and there were no comments so the hearing was closed. Council Member Hembree motioned to approve VAR-20-006. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONNEL – Council Member Walker motioned to adjourn into Executive Session. Council Member Greene seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

PUBLIC ACTION TAKEN OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – there was no public action taken out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – Council Member Hembree motioned to adjourn. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Steve Edwards, Mayor

Jane Whittington, City Clerk