

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF SUGAR HILL  
5039 WEST BROAD STREET  
SUGAR HILL, GEORGIA  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026, 7:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER** - by Mayor Hembree. Present were Mayor Brandon Hembree, Mayor Pro Tem Joshua Page, Council Members Meg Avery, Alvin Hicks, Samantha Piovesan and Gary Pirkle. Also present were City Manager Paul Radford, Assistant City Manager Jerry Oberholtzer, City Clerk Jane Whittington and City Attorney Frank Hartley.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**INVOCATION** – given by Mayor Hembree

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Council Member Hicks motioned to approve the agenda. Council Member Page seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – Council Meeting August 10, 2026; Work Session & Executive Session August 3, 2026, Correction of Minutes 2-9-26 – Council Member Avery motioned to correct a few minor type-o's in the minutes for the August 10<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and the August 3<sup>rd</sup> Work Session and to approve all the minutes including the Executive Session Minutes of August 3<sup>rd</sup> and the corrected minutes of the February 9, 2026 Council Meeting. Council Member Pirkle seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

**Youth Council Oath of Office** – Mayor Hembree turned it over to Council Member Piovesan to update the Council on the Youth Council. She explained that the search was extensive with a lot of applicants but they now have four new members. She introduced them and explained what school they attend. Mayor Hembree administered the oath of office to the four new members.

**Proclamation Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day** – Mayor Hembree explained that the Director at the Goodard School reached out to him to do a proclamation honoring early childhood educators in the community. He read the proclamation and will present it to them at a later date.

**REPORTS**

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

**CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENT**

Michelle Kang candidate for House Seat District 99 spoke regarding automatic license plate reader systems. She encouraged them to pass the ordinance on the agenda tonight.

Karl Siegle, 520 Pine Roc Trail, thanked the city for the three wooden boardwalks that have been installed on the Riverlands property. He hopes the city plans for a greenway trail to Gary Pirkle Park connecting the Riverlands north.

Jennifer Ambler, nominee for House District 100, spoke in favor of license plate reader systems.

A resident spoke regarding the limit of seven licenses for massage therapy in Sugar Hill. He has a certification that is more like physical therapy and wants the city to consider eliminating the cap on licenses.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Ordinance Stationary Automated License Plate Reader Systems** – Council Member Pirkle, Council Member Piovesan - Council Member Pirkle requested that Section C be amended to make the Council responsible for approving the purchase of new LRPs not the City Manager, and to remove item 5. There was some council discussion regarding the drafting of the ordinances. Council Member Pirkle motioned to table this ordinance until the October meeting. Council Member Avery seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-2 with Council Members Avery, Hicks and Pirkle voting for tabling and Council Members Page and Piovesan voting against.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Right of Way Dedication & Easement, 5021 Nelson Brogdon Blvd.** – Planning Director Balch explained that Stanley Street Retail Venture, LLC proposes to dedicate and convey property to the city for public street and right-of-way purposes associated with the widening of Oak Street. They would maintain an easement over the property and Oak Street for roadway improvements, access drainage and development of the adjacent retail parcel. Council Member Page motioned to approve the Right of Way Dedication and Easement for 5021 Nelson Brogdon Blvd. as presented. Council Member Piovesan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**Resolution Grant Funding Riverlands** – the City Manager explained that the city is applying for a grant opportunity with the Department of Natural Resources for work at the Riverlands. The city match would be \$750,000 for a 3 million grant application. Council Member Pirkle explained that this property was previously held as a debt solution to sell if the city needed it. Council Member Hicks motioned to approve the Resolution for the grant funding for Riverlands. Council Member Page seconded the motion. Approved 4-1 with Council Member Pirkle voting against.

**Veto DRB-CBD 26-001** – City Clerk/City Attorney – Council Member Pirkle motioned to uphold the veto to send this item back to the City Council in October. Council Member Piovesan seconded the motion. The City Attorney explained that the wording should be to consent to the veto so it would go back to the Council in October. Council Member Pirkle amended his motion to consent to the veto. Council Member Piovesan amended her second. Approved 5-0.

**Permanent Utility Easement to Gwinnett County for Peachtree Mobile Home Park Pump Station Project** – Assistant City Manager Jerry Oberholtzer explained that the easement is to Gwinnett County to consolidate the old pump station behind the former pawn shop property on Highway 20 to one pump station at the Peachtree Mobile Home Park. Council Member Page motioned to grant the utility easement to Gwinnett County for the pump station project. Council Member Hicks seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONNEL** – Council Member Page motioned to enter Executive session for one legal matter and one real estate matter. Council Member Hicks 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 Page motioned to adjourn. Council Member Avery seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

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Brandon Hembree, Mayor

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Jane Whittington, City Clerk