

City of Sugar Hill Council Meeting
Monday March 12, 2001
7:30 PM Community Center

The City of Sugar Hill held its regular Council Meeting on Monday March 12, 2001 at 7:30 PM in the Community Center.

Notice of the meeting was placed on the doors of city hall and the community center. Notice was placed on the board at Peachtree Industrial Blvd and Alton Tucker Blvd. Notice was sent to the local news media.

Those present at the meeting included Mayor Roberta Crabb, Mayor Pro-Tem Chris Abbey, Council Members Meg Avery, Kim Hall, Michael Mosley and Gary Pirkle. Also present were City Attorney Lee Thompson, Acting City Manager Jim Osborn and City Clerk Shirley Gibbs.

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG, INVOCATION:

Mayor Crabb called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council Member Pirkle gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Member Pirkle made a motion to amend the Agenda to include item E under New Business to discuss SPLOST Funding formulas that will be voted on at the Gwinnett Municipal Meeting on Tuesday night. Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey wasn't sure he should be the one to speak on Item D under New Business. Council Member Avery said she would like to speak on this item. Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey made the second to the motion with the changes to the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE 2/12/2001 MINUTES:

Council Member Hall pointed out that the minutes should accurately reflect the members that were present and the member that was absent but through out the minutes it states motion passed unanimously 5-0 when in fact there were only four members present. Council Member Pirkle made the motion to approve the 2/12/2001 minutes with the changes noted. Council Member Avery made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

THERE WAS NO OLD BUSINESS.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS:

Mike McDonald 4660 Deep Creek Drive asked if there were any plans for sidewalks on West Price Road between Peachtree Industrial Blvd and Level Creek Road. Council Member Pirkle stated there were plans for sidewalks under the SPLOST funding. The

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County Commissioners would vote on this in April so construction on sidewalks should start sometime in April or shortly thereafter.

Joe Clarino had a few comments on trying to help the city. If the city were dissolved, citizens would not get a refund. All assets would be turned over to Gwinnett County. The BMX track at the park could be a liability to the city if it is closed. If a child were to get hurt, the city could be liable for those injuries. The BMX track and the golf course could be a good source of revenue if they were marketed better. They had done some research on how to obtain police and fire protection for the city.

Ron Johnson 6312 Sweet Laurel Run also spoke on helping save the city. He spoke about getting a grant to establish a police department and a fire department. If the city had a fire department, homeowners could save on homeowners insurance. He and Joe Clarino had met with Senator Billy Ray and Representative Bobby Reese and found out it would be easy to get rid of the city but hard to get it back. He was also looking into a better garbage system. The gas prices had not been hedged and this was one of the reasons for the high prices. He asked if there were any council members supporting the committee to dissolve the city to step down.

NEW BUSINESS:

A: AMEND 2000 ZONING ORDINANCE:

Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey wanted to amend the zoning ordinance to show what would constitute a site plan when someone request a zoning or rezoning. He had talked with Mr. Sudderth from the city of Duluth and with City Attorney Lee Thompson about this matter. The zoning ordinance for Sugar Hill already requires a site plan but is vague in what constitutes a site plan. Mr. Thompson had prepared a change following the ordinance from Duluth. Council Members Hall and Mosley felt these changes were too strict and infringe on the property owners right. After much discussion between the council members and all their concerns, Council Member Pirkle made a motion to table this item. Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

B: ACCEPT ANNEXATION APPLICATION: 7-320A-010 DELMAR REIDELBERGER 5559 HIGHWAY 20-PRESENT ZONING R-100 REQUESTING O & I ZONING:

Planning Director Jim Osborn explained this was an application for annexation. The property is located at 5559 Highway 20 and the applicant is requesting an O & I zoning. Mr. Reidelberger owns a trucking company but no trucks would be stored on the property. Council Member Pirkle made the motion to accept the annexation application. Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

C: RATIFICATION OF FINAL PLATS: WILD TIMBER PHASE 3B 59 LOTS AND LAUREL PARK PHASE 2B, 27 LOTS:

Planning Director Jim Osborn stated the final plats had been reviewed and signed and the eighteen-month maintenance bond had been posted. Council Member Hall made to motion to accept the final plats for Wild Timber Phase 3B for 59 lots and Laurel Park

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Phase 2B for 27 lots. Council Member Avery made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

D: APPOINT ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT:

Council Member Avery stated she had consulted the Georgia Municipal Election Code Book but she was also waiting on further word from Norma Lyons with the Gwinnett County Elections Office. In order for the council to make the right appointment and follow all the procedures, Council Member Avery made a motion to table this item until next month. Council Member Hall made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

E: DISCUSS SPLOST FUNDING:

Council Member Pirkle explained how the SPLOST funding would be distributed and for what purposes. Part of the money would be for greenspace and part for transportation. Committees had been set up to oversee the distribution of this funding and the projects on which it would be used. He explained the formula that would be voted on at the Gwinnett Municipal Association Meeting on Tuesday March 13, 2001. This would determine how much Sugar Hill would receive from this funding. If Sugar Hill were no longer a city, this money would not go back to the county to be spent in this area anyway. This money would be divided among the other cities. Council Member Pirkle made a motion to approve this formula that would be voted on at the Gwinnett Municipal Association Meeting. Council Member Avery made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

City Attorney Lee Thompson had a report on Pending Litigation, which would be discussed in Executive Session.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member Hall had no report.

Council Member Mosley reported that Nancy Ward, a city employee, was back in the hospital. Please keep her and all the others that are sick or infirm in your thoughts and prayers.

Council Member Pirkle reported that the revised web page was up and running. Thanks to Council Member Avery and Hall for their work on this and to Bob Clark who designed the web page.

Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey wanted to thank the city crews that were out on Saturday February 17, 2001 cleaning up tree limbs and debris after the storm that came through our area on Friday night.

Council Member Avery also thanked the city employees that had put out the sand and salt on the streets during the ice storm that occurred during January. She was not sure how quickly Gwinnett County would have responded or if they would have waited until the ice melted. This was something the citizens of Sugar Hill should think about before voting to dissolve the charter. She had attended a town hall meeting held by County Commissioner Marcia Neaton-Griggs. She felt there was finally a commissioner who

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wanted to work with Sugar Hill and help them out. She had brought a list of the county boards and their meeting times if people wanted to attend any of these meetings.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Crabb reported that things were so different now than when she took office. She feels the council works hard, they work together, they do not come to the meeting unprepared. They give a lot of thought to the items, she doesn't always agree with them but they are working together. She asked for the cooperation of the citizens for the problems the city is now facing.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT: NO REPORT

ACTING CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: **Acting City Manager Jim Osborn** reported that Mr. Ginn, the former city manager, had requested a concept plan for the BMX track. He had received an artist rendition of what the track might look like. He was drafting a letter to Mr. John David requesting certain items he should include such as permanent soil erosion control, the exact size and location of pipe. There are serious erosion control problems at the track, the pipe is too close to the berm and it is unstable. He would be asking for more specific plans on the track. Council Member Hall requested that he put a respond by date on the letter. He would be meeting with the Gas Authority regarding the Hedging Program on Friday. It was not the best time to lock into gas prices but he would know more on Friday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND PENDING LITIGATION:

Council Member Pirkle made the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Issues and Pending Litigation. Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro-Tem Abbey made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Pirkle made the second. Motion passed unanimously 4-0 by those present to vote. Council Member Mosley had left before the meeting adjourned.

Date Approved: _____

Mayor

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Attest:

City Clerk