

City of Sugar Hill Council Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2003
4988 West Broad Street, Sugar Hill, GA 30518
Community Center 7:30 pm

The City of Sugar Hill City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, March 10, 2003 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 Alton Tucker Boulevard and Peachtree Industrial Boulevard. Notice was sent to the local newspapers.

Those present at the meeting included Mayor Gary Pirkle, Mayor Pro-Tem Meg Avery, Council Members, Kim Hall, Chris Abbey, Ron Johnson, and Thomas Rhodes. Also present were City Manager Bob Hail, City Attorney Lee Thompson, Assistant City Manager for Development Jim Osborn and taking minutes for the City Clerk Kim Landers.

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

Mayor Pirkle called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Reverend Steve Wood from the Sugar Hill United Methodist Church gave the Invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Member Johnson made a motion to amend the agenda to add the following;

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Swear in James Holt for the Alcohol Review Board
2. Swear in Dr. Joe Clarino for the Planning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on Gwinnett County Inmate Work Crew.

Mayor Pro-Tem Avery made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE 2/10/2003 MINUTES

Mayor Pro-Tem Avery made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2/10/2003 Meeting. Council Member Hall made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Lee Thompson stated he only had information on pending litigation, which could be discussed in Executive Session.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Chris Abbey stated a big project undertaking for the Street Department is the rebuilding of Spring Hill Drive, and this was ready to go, weather permitting. Resurfacing has begun, the first thing that has to happen is grinding of the streets which is underway, paving itself is again a weather dependant project and will occur when the weather warms up. City Manager Hail will report on the drainage construction on Whitehead Road.

Council Member Thomas Rhodes the Gas Department to date has replaced/expanded approximately 1 mile of gas lines, this improves existing service and allows for growth. There are 40 new services to date. The price per therm is currently \$.74 cents, which is below all marketers

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for total cost. The first meeting was held for the Downtown Development Authority, Cindy Edson from the Department of Community Affairs spoke on the different funding programs available. DCA is actually in the process of creating a program for cities like Sugar Hill and Cindy will keep in touch with the Committee as this program evolves. The Downtown Development Authority Meeting time has changed from 7:00 PM to 6:30 PM the third Tuesday of every month to accommodate the member's schedules. Everyone is welcome to come out to see what is being conceptualized for the Downtown area of Sugar Hill.

Council Member Kim Hall stated that she would like to remind citizens and customers who need the Planning & Development Department, they have moved into the second Community Center located off Church Street for approximately 6 months during the construction of the addition to City Hall. The Short Term Work application will be submitted tonight for ARC.

Mayor Pro-Tem Meg Avery stated the work at the park is taking longer than anticipated due to such rainy weather. The new sports lighting has not proceeded as expected because of this. The memorial pavers for the TownGreen should be shipped this month and installation should begin as soon as they arrive. The City has also started a search for a City Recreation Program Coordinator. This is a new position and the city would like to see someone who will be able to start establishing programs for the new Community Center, Gazebo, Amphitheater, the facilities at E.E. Robinson Park and the TownGreen. This job will consist of starting up these programs and overseeing the department. The Georgia Municipal Association has our ad on their website at gmanet.com.

Council Member Ron Johnson stated that he returned after missing the last two months due to employment obligations. The Golf Course is closed due to inclement weather and maintenance work and will hopefully be reopened next month. Mr. Johnson has sent out a letter and survey at no cost to the taxpayers or the city, (3,500 has went out and another 1,500 will go out) 1,000 have been returned and the response is very positive. Met with Congressman John Linder about the Post Office, he is working on this and will be talking to the Post Master General in behalf of Sugar Hill, Berkeley Lake, etc. in hopes of getting us a Post Office.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor Gary Pirkle reiterated Mr. Johnson's statement concerning the problems at the Golf Course due to the excessive rains. The principal design of the Golf Course is to be used as a spray field. In addition to these rains, additional water is being put on the course from the Treatment Plant. Meetings with Gwinnett County and EPD have taken place to look at finding a long-range solution to alleviate some of problems with the spray field. The spray effluent fields are creating heavily to the water problems.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Kim Landers stated the Clerks office had nothing to report.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Copy of Report attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 1" to these minutes.

City Manager Bob Hail stated that the rainy weather has slowed everything down. The new sports lighting was to be installed in February, the base poles are being set today and if the weather stays good they should be up and running within 7 days. As part of this program there will be new lights on the Tennis Courts, Volleyball Courts, and feed over for the Basketball Court. By suggestion of the Mayor additional sidewalks have been added and are in place to the Amphitheater parking since they were running through the pavilion, this should help with overcrowding if both areas are being utilized. The sports lighting also includes safety lighting around the walking perimeter for the citizens to enjoy even at night. The grinding has started for the road program, there is some patching that has to be done, citizens are asked to be patient because this will take some time, even if the grinding and patching takes place the top coat requires the temperature to be higher. Spring Hill Drive is coming right along it just needs a topcoat and it will be complete from Whitehead Road to Old Spring Way. The replacement mailboxes were installed today for the ones that got damaged during construction. Hydro-seeding has taken place from Spring Hill Drive up Whitehead Road to West Broad Street. The addition to City Hall broke ground today. The city is working with an Engineering Firm, Environmental firm and EPD diligently to find a solution to the Golf Course water situation. The sewer treatment plant on Suwanee Dam Road is where the effluent is coming from. This treatment plant is planned to be off line within 3 – 4 years, an 8 foot tunnel being constructed under the golf course connecting to South Gwinnett, force feeding it up to the Wayne Hill plant when complete will allow the City to take as much water as needed and not have to take more than needed. This problem will go away in due time.

Council Member Kim Hall thanked City Manager Bob Hail for budgeting our renovations for City Hall out of our cash reserves and acknowledged this could not have been done without Mr. Hails fiscal conservativeness and watching our pennies.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Swear in James Holt to the Alcohol Review Board.**
Copy of Oath attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 2" to these minutes.
Mayor Gary Pirkle swore in James Holt for the Alcohol Review Board.
2. **Swear in Dr. Joe Clarino to the Planning Commission.**
Copy of Oath attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 3" to these minutes.
Mayor Gary Pirkle swore in Dr. Joe Clarino for the Planning Commission.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS:

There were no citizens and guests comment

NEW BUSINESS:

Council Member Kim Hall made a recommendation to amend the agenda under New Business to add City Clerk Reference. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

1. City Clerk Reference:

Mayor Gary Pirkle announced the retirement of our City Clerk Shirley Gibbs. She has been with the City for 13 years, the last 6 being City Clerk. The Mayor and Council would like to thank her for her service to the City and wish her well in the future. The Mayor and Council have asked her to serve in a consulting role for the next six months during the transition and she's will to do so for us. Mayor Gary Pirkle called for a motion to approve the consulting agreement with the same salary and insurance for the next six months. **Council Member Kim Hall** made a motion to accept City Clerk Shirley Gibbs resignation effective March 2, 2003 and the city will enter into a consulting agreement with Shirley Gibbs effective March 10, 2003 thru August 31, 2003, Mrs. Gibbs would then receive her normal compensation, and benefits during this period and would receive her accumulated vacation period pay, and would provide consulting to us on an as needed basis. **Council Member Thomas Rhodes** made the second. Motion passed on a vote of 4-1. Council Member Ron Johnson opposed.

2. Discussion on inmate work crew:

Council Member Ron Johnson stated he's spoke with Warden Krauss at the Gwinnett County Jail. Council Member Ron Johnson stated that one of the comments he received from the letter he sent out was that there was a lot of trash around the city and couldn't the City bring back a prison crew to pick up along the right of ways. There is not a crew available from the State, so he contacted the Sheriff's Department and they put him in touch with Warden Krauss. Warden Krauss does have a program that allows County inmates to pick up the trash along the right-of-ways. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made a motion to allow City Manager Bob Hail to negotiate a contract with Mr. Krauss to for a prison crew to pick up trash along the City right-of-ways. **Council Member Kim Hall** asked if the prison crew for the Golf Course was being utilized since the Golf Course was shut down. City Manager Bob Hail stated that they have been helping in the Streets Department and with the maintenance at the park. **Mayor Gary Pirkle** stated that the City had been trying to acquire a state crew for quite some time, but there has not been one available. **Council Member Ron Johnson** stated that he would like to add that Mr. Krauss at the forth coming GWMA Meeting he's got a program put together for the cities to utilize the prison crews. **Council Member Thomas Rhodes** made the second. **Mayor Gary Pirkle** stated the cost was not to exceed the current allocated state contract. **Council Member Ron Johnson** stated it was going to be less than the current state contract. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

3. Application for Retail Sale of Beer & Wine, Sugar Hill Shell:

City Manager Bob Hail requested that this information be tabled until the April Meeting. There are some issues that need further investigating and therefore he's asking to table this issue. **Council Member Chris Abbey** made a motion to table this issue. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

4. Transmittal/Resolution to submit Short Term Work Program to Atlanta Regional Commission:

Copy of updated information attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 4" to these minutes.

Assistant City Manager for Development Jim Osborn stated what he was handing out was different from what was placed in the packet. Every five years each County and City in the State of Georgia is required to update his or her Short Term Work Program of the Comprehensive Plan. This includes a report of accomplishments from the previous five years in the case being 1998 – 2002. Each project has been summarized for what has been completed or where it is at to date. Some items will carry over into the new Short Term Work Program for 2003 – 2008. The information handed out shows a clarification of who's the responsible party and where the funding source is coming from. Once the Mayor and City Council approve the Short Term Work Program and authorize the Mayor to sign the Resolution of Transmittal it will go to Atlanta Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs for review. They will look at it for internal consistency and also for regional consistency. ARC & DCA will approve and forward to the city for official adoption, which should occur sometime in May or June. **Council Member Thomas Rhodes** made a motion for the Mayor to sign the Resolution to submit the five year Short Term Work Program of the Comprehensive Plan to Atlanta Regional Commission for Regional Review. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

5. Accept Annexation Application AX-02-005, Georgia 20 Ventures LLC, Highway 20 at Whitehead Drive: Tax Parcels 7-320-010, 011, 012, 013, 013A, and 7-339-075, 8.55 Acres Currently R-75, C-1 & C-2, requested zoning classification of BG.

Assistant City Manager of Development Jim Osborn stated that this project was at the corner of Whitehead Road and Highway 20. **A copy of the Plat attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 5" to these minutes.** The property consist of 8.55 Acres and is zoned R-75, C-1 & C-2 in unincorporated Gwinnett County. The applicant is requesting to annex with a zoning classification of General Business District for retail use. This property is contiguous by way of Arbor Clos Subdivision. The legal ad has run and signs are posted on the property. The first Public Hearing will be March 17, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. **Mayor Pro-Tem Meg Avery** made a motion to accept Annexation Application AX-02-005. **Council Member Kim Hall** made the second. Motion passed on a 4-1 vote. Council Member Ron Johnson abstained.

6. **Accept Annexation Application AX-02-006, Georgia 20 Ventures LLC, Highway 20 at Whitehead Drive: Tax Parcels 7-320-010, 011, 012, 013, 013A, and 7-339-075, 28.41 Acres Currently R-75, R-100, requested zoning classification of RS-100/PUD.**

Assistant City Manager of Development Jim Osborn stated this was the second part of the development located behind the General Business portion. **A copy of the Plat attached and incorporated as "ATTACHMENT 6" to these minutes.** The property consist of 28.41 Acres and is zoned R-75 & R-100. The applicant is requesting to annex with a zoning classification of RS-100/PUD, Planned Unit Development, single family detached, with 89 lots. This property is contiguous by way of Arbor Clos Subdivision. The legal as has run and signs are posted on the property. The first Public Hearing will be March 17, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. **Council Member Chris Abbey** made a motion to accept Annexation Application AX-02-006. **Council Member Thomas Rhodes** made the second. Motion passed on a 4-1 vote. Council Member Ron Johnson abstained.

Mayor Pro-Tem Meg Avery made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss legal, real estate and/or personnel issues. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Entered into executive session at 8:04 p.m.

Mayor Gary Pirkle called the meeting back to order and stated there were two items of business to take out of executive session.

Mayor Gary Pirkle stated that due to the retirement of the City Clerk Shirley Gibbs our Charter requires the City to appoint an interim during the process of filling the City Clerk position. **City Manager Bob Hail** stated the staff recommendation was for Kelly Canady the Finance Officer to serve as interim during the hiring process. **Council Member Kim Hall** made a motion based on staff recommendation to appoint Kelly Canady as interim City Clerk until such time as the City Council appoints a permanent City Clerk. **Council Member Chris Abbey** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Mayor Gary Pirkle stated the second item out of executive session was real estate. There are portions of easements on SpringHill Drive under Construction now that the city needs to acquire for the shoulders and the sidewalk. The process of negotiating with the homeowners has been taken care of and now a motion is needed to allow the City Attorney and City Manager to finalize the documents and sign them. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made a motion to allow the City Attorney and City Manager to execute the documents and allow the Mayor to sign once executed. **Mayor Pro-Tem Meg Avery** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Council Member Chris Abbey made the motion to adjourn the meeting. **Council Member Ron Johnson** made the second. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Date approved: _____

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Attachments:

1. City Manager Report
2. Oath – James Holt
3. Oath – Joe Clarino
4. Resolution – STWP Comprehensive Plan 2003-2008
5. Plat AX-02-005
6. Plat AX-02-006

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