

**CITY OF SUGAR HILL  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2007  
7:30 PM CITY HALL ANNEX  
4988 WEST BROAD STREET  
SUGAR HILL, GA 30518**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Mayor Pirkle. Present were Mayor Gary Pirkle, Mayor Pro Tem Nick Thompson, Council Members Marc Cohen Steve Edwards, Mike Sullivan and Clint Thompson. Also present were City Manager Bob Hail, City Attorney Lee Thompson and City Clerk Jane Whittington.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**INVOCATION** – The invocation was given by Jeff Garvin of the Family Church.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – The Mayor stated that the City Clerk requested the Agenda be amended to add Item #7 Qualifying Fee for City Election. Council Member Edwards motioned to approve the amended agenda. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - December 11, 2006, Special Called December 20, 2006. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve both sets of minutes as written. Council Member Edwards seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT** – No Report

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

**CITY CLERK’S REPORT** – Jane Whittington reported that Business Licenses are due January 31, 2007.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT** – Bob Hail gave his end of the year report (See Attachment #1)

**MS. ABBIGAIL EDWARDS; COMMUNITY SERVICE** - She told the Mayor and Council about a fellow student of hers at Lanier Middle School that they are raising funds to help with her illness. Her name is Courtney Hickman and the website is [www.cota.org](http://www.cota.org), look under patient campaign and for her name.

**APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE WASHBURN** – Council Member Cohen motioned to reappoint Margaret Washburn as Chief Municipal Judge and Chris Adams and Charles Barrett as Associate Judges. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**MAYOR PRO TEM** – The Mayor opened the floor for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Sullivan nominated Steve Edwards. There were no other nominations so the Mayor swore him in.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS – No Citizen or Guests Comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING, RZ-06-010;** Tax Parcels: 7-272-007, 008, 009, 022, 023, 024, 025, 272, 273, 274 and 281. Rezone 2.93 acres on Highland Ave. and Sylvan St. from MH and RS-100 to RM for duplex homes as part of the Mossy Creek Development. Director Awana explained the rezoning application. This will be 11 lots with 22 town homes being built on them. They are requesting a reduction in the zoning buffer to 10 feet. The staff recommends to rezone to RM with conditions. The Public Hearing was opened and the applicant spoke briefly. There were no comments from the public in opposition so the Public Hearing was closed. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Rezoning request RZ-06-011 with 11 staff conditions. Council Member Edwards seconded for discussion. He had a question regarding the conditions and his second stands. The motion was approved 4-1 with Council Member Clint Thompson voting nay.

**PUBLIC HEARING, RZ-06-011;** Tax Parcel: 7-291-029. Rezone 2.494 acres on Suwanee Dam Road zoned RS-150 to change zoning conditions. The Public Hearing was opened and no one spoke for or in opposition to the project so the Public Hearing was closed. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the rezoning application RZ-06-011 with the 3 conditions as outlined by staff. Council Member Clint Thompson seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**Senior Net support.** – Council Member Sullivan asked Tommy Brightwell to again review the request for support for the Senior Net group. Mayor Pirkle explained that there were two choices; an intergovernmental agreement with Gwinnett County with the funds to go to the Senior Net Group at George Pierce Park, or a contract to define that this will benefit the Sugar Hill residents and the funds should be earmarked for George Pierce Park. Council Member Cohen expressed concerns that all groups that need help would request donations from the City. Council Member Sullivan motioned to approve that the City Attorney draft a contract for \$1,000 to be donated to Senior.net group. Council Member Edwards seconded the motion. Approved 4-1 with Council Member Cohen voting nay.

**Resolution for support of legislation allowing for Tax Allocation Districts.** – Mayor Pirkle explained that if the City passed this resolution it would show support to get the Legislature to pass the idea of allowing tax allocation districts. If a City wanted the districts they would have to have a referendum on the ballot for the City residents to vote on. Gwinnett Municipal Association requested that the Cities in Gwinnett pass this resolution. The City Attorney explained that even if the whole City voted on the TAD, only the specified district would incur the tax. Council Member Sullivan motioned to approve the Resolution. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**Appointment of Planning and Zoning Commissioners.** The Mayor opened the floor for nominations.

Post recently held by Stephanie Goeman – Council Member Sullivan nominated Rosemary Walsh. There were no other nominations so Mayor Pirkle swore her in.

Post currently held by John Postell, Post #2 – Council Member Cohen nominated Jeanne Ferguson. There were no other nominations so Mayor Pirkle swore her in.

**Appointment of Downtown Development Authority Members.** The Mayor explained that all seats expire this year concurrently. Robert Kauffman and Andrew Rodgers will not seek reappointment. Council Member Edwards nominated Brett Werrbach for Robert Kauffman's seat. Council Member Edwards nominated Dwayne Sudderth for Andrew Rodgers's seat. Dawn Gober, Tom Baughman, Allen Jorgensen and Nick Thompson will all be reappointed. Council Member Cohen nominated Dawn Gober, Council Member Sullivan nominated Tom Baughman, Council Member Cohen nominated Allen Jorgensen, Council Member Edwards nominated Nick Thompson as the Council liaison. Mayor Pirkle administered the oath to them jointly.

**Qualifying Fee for 2007 Election:** The fee should be set as required by the Georgia State Election Code. The fee for City Council seat would be \$108. Council Member Sullivan motioned to set the qualifying fee for the 2007 City Election at 3% of the annual salary of the proposed seat Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONNEL:** Council Member Cohen motioned to enter Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0  
The meeting was reconvened at 9:58 p.m. and Council Member Edwards motioned to approve a 5% salary increase for Jane Whittington City Clerk as well as Bob Hail City Manager. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Council Member Cohen motioned to adjourn at 10:00 p.m. Council Member Clint Thompson seconded the motion.

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Gary Pirkle, Mayor

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Jane Whittington, City Clerk