

**CITY OF SUGAR HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008
7:30 PM CITY HALL ANNEX**

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pirkle at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Gary Pirkle, Mayor Pro Tem Mike Sullivan, Council Members Marc Cohen, Steve Edwards Susie Gajewski and Nick Thompson. Also present were City Manager Bob Hail, City Attorney Lee Thompson and City Clerk Jane Whittington.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – Boy Scout Troop 608 led the pledge of allegiance.
INVOCATION – given by Mayor Pirkle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – modified to add Plaza Security under Old Business. Council Member Edwards motioned to approve the modified Agenda. Council Member Edwards seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 13, 2008 Council Meeting – Council Member Sullivan motioned to approve the Minutes as written. Council Member Gajewski seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT
COUNCIL REPORTS
MAYOR’S REPORT
CITY CLERK’S REPORT
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

OLD BUSINESS: Plaza Security representatives Director Matt Davey and Dwayne Conckell gave a report on what their services would consist of. Their security officers will be present in the community to deter crime. Presence in the neighborhoods will help with keeping some of the burglaries and small crimes out. They will deal with vandalism and gang activity also.

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS – North Gwinnett DECA Co-Presidents Kyle Hardaway and Brian Gile, spoke regarding the upcoming Toys for Tots program. Bins have been placed in all the schools, banks etc. for collection of toys. DECA wants to make sure that all local children get to experience the holidays in a positive manner.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proclamation – November Family Month – Mayor Pirkle explained how November Family month was brought forward. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints sent the Mayor an email requesting a proclamation and after reviewing it, it appeared to be an inspiration for families. Governor Sonny Perdue has issued one the past several years also. This proclamation encourages people to spend time with their families during the month of November. Bishop Marlon Sheridan and George Wagamon of the Gainesville City Council came forward to accept the proclamation on behalf of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They spoke regarding the importance of family. They also donated 40 cases of peaches for the North Gwinnett Co-op collection for the needy families.

Jeanne Ferguson Election Update – Ms. Ferguson updated the Council on the November General Election. She thanked the City Hall Customer Service staff and the Recreation Department staff for their assistance during the election process. The run-off will be held December 2nd.

Gwinnett County Emergency Operations Plan Resolution – the City Manager explained the program. The County sponsors training sessions every quarter and meetings every month. The staff recommendation is to approve the Resolution and forward it to Gwinnett County for participation as a member of the Gwinnett County Emergency Response Team. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Resolution and staff recommendation. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING -VAR-08-004, Jeffrey Crecelius, 1051 Fishback Way, variance to allow utility trailer to be stored on concrete driveway – Director Awana explained the variance application and how the variance came about. Notices were sent and there was no public response. The staff recommendation is for denial. The Mayor opened the public hearing and the applicant spoke regarding his request. He has had a DJ business for 32 years and has accumulated equipment and stored it in his garage. He put the storage trailer in his driveway to handle the overflow. He would have placed it in his back yard but he could not get it back there. No one spoke in opposition so the Public Hearing was closed. The Mayor explained that while they understand how you can grow out of your house, in residential zoning they try and keep the business in character of the neighborhood. He told Mr. Crecelius that he could put a gravel driveway strip on the side of his house. Mr. Crecelius explained that what makes his situation different is access to the backyard. He has a retaining wall close to the house on one side and the other side is sloped and lacking access through the fence. Council Member Sullivan motioned to deny the VAR-08-004 to stay consistent with what the Council varies for residential neighborhoods. Council Member Gajewski seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONNEL: Council Member Sullivan motioned to enter Executive Session at 8:43 p.m. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was reconvened at 9:12 p.m. There was no action taken out of Executive Session. Council Member Cohen motioned to adjourn. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Gary Pirkle, Mayor

Jane Whittington, City Clerk