

**CITY OF SUGAR HILL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008
7:30 PM CITY HALL ANNEX**

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Pirkle. Present were Mayor Gary Pirkle, Mayor Pro Tem Mike Sullivan, Council Members Marc Cohen, Steve Edwards, and Nick Thompson. Also present were City Manager Bob Hail, City Attorney Lee Thompson and City Clerk Jane Whittington. Council Member Susie Gajewski was not present due to illness.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

INVOCATION – given by Pastor Terry Reece, Regency Church of God.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Item # 4 was removed from the Consent Agenda and tabled for further review. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the amended Agenda. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 10, 2008 Council Meeting, Council Member Edwards motioned to approve the Minutes as written. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

SUGAR HILL ELEMENTARY CHESS CLUB – Council Member Sullivan introduced Sandra Levent, Principal of Sugar Hill Elementary School. She introduced the chess club and reported of their recent accomplishments.

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

CITIZENS AND GUESTS COMMENTS – Tommy Brightwell spoke regarding the Senior Community Center at George Pierce Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Gwinnett County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Resolution**
- 2. Lake Lanier Pipeline Easement Extension**
- 3. Municipal Gas Authority Voting Delegate**
- 4. Solid Waste Collection & Disposal Ordinance (REMOVED & TABLED)**
- 5. Development Regulations – Site Lighting Design**

The Mayor explained the remaining 4 items on the Consent Agenda after the Solid Waste Ordinance was removed. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

VAR-08-001 – Land Solutions Group, 6011 Suwanee Dam Rd., 50% buffer reduction along the Northern property line – Director Awana explained the application. The staff recommended denial but would support a 25’ enhanced buffer if the Council decides to approve one. The Public Hearing was opened and Bo Cone spoke for the applicant. He stated that the Fire Station is 125’ from the property

line and the Council's concerns regarding noise would be minimal. After this distance there would be a 25' enhanced buffer and then a retaining wall. The topography would place the assisted living facility lower than the fire station property. No one spoke in opposition so the Public Hearing was closed.

The Mayor stated that the further away from the fire station that the assisted living facility would be placed on the site, the better. Noise from the emergency and fire vehicles sirens and the loudspeakers could disturb the residents. Council Member Cohen asked Mr. Cone if the applicants were willing to move the orientation of the assisted living facility as was discussed at the Work Session. Mr. Cone stated he did discuss this with his clients and had drawn an alternate site plan with the assisted living facility further away from the property line of the fire station. He showed this site plan to the Mayor and Council. The Mayor asked if the approval of this variance could be site plan specific and the City Attorney Lee Thompson stated that it could. That site plan was named Exhibit #1. The Mayor and Council offered to table the variance request for 30 days to allow Mr. Cone to consult with clients but he requested a vote. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve VAR-08-001 based on the newly drawn site plan known as Exhibit #1 and to reduce the buffer from 50' to 0' as long as the site plan is substantially compliant to Exhibit #1. Council Member Edwards seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

VAR-08-002 – McFarland Dyer & Associates, 4488 Brogdon Park Ct., reduce 30' setback to 17.5' setback adjacent to Brogdon Park Ct. – Director Awana explained how this variance request occurred. He provided pictures of the building to show the property lines and setback lanes at different views. The surveyors discovered the setback mistake adjacent to Brogdon Park Ct. The building was constructed 12' into the setback. The Public Hearing was opened and Chris McCrary of McFarland Dyer & Associates explained how the error in the setback occurred. The surveyors marked the setback lines according to the first application not the final approval. The mistake was not discovered until they did an as-built survey. The building was finished and they were under a temporary C.O. No one spoke in opposition to the variance so the Public Hearing was closed. Council Member Cohen asked Mr. McCrary and also Director Awana if measures were now in place to prevent this type of error from occurring again. They both stated that there were. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve VAR-08-002. Council Member Edwards motioned for discussion. He stated that it is a great looking building and withdrew his second. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion for discussion. He asked the owner about the location address printed on their trucks. The second stands. The motion was approved 4-0.

Gary Pirkle Park Field Design – The City Manager explained the field design and showed a concept site plan. The concession stand would be modeled after the one at E.E. Robinson Park near the current soccer field. The fields would be designed at a ¾% grade to allow water flow. The plan is to have the area East of the main entrance completed and ready for public use this fall. Council Member Sullivan motioned to adopt the concept plan for Gary Pirkle Park and to direct the City Manager to proceed with RFP for field construction and construction of the concession/restroom facility. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

West Broad St. Cemetery Fence – The City Manager explained the fence that would be installed around the cemetery on West Broad Street. The fence would be brick and/or stone and rod iron and would protect and gate the cemetery. The City Manager requested that he be directed to go out for RFP as submitted. Council Member Edwards motioned to direct the City Manager to go out for RFP on the cemetery to construct it of brick and/or stone and rod iron as submitted on the conceptual site plan. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

E.E. Robinson Park Approval of Field Design – The City Manager presented a concept plan for the layout of the newly acquired 18 acre parcel for parking, ball field and pedestrian/vehicle traffic. This would have a gated entry from Peachtree Industrial Blvd. with a covered bridge for vehicular traffic and another bridge for pedestrian traffic. He also presented a layout conversion for the current soccer field to a t-ball and a little league field to be constructed after Gary Pirkle Park has the new soccer fields available. There was also a conceptual layout for Level Creek entrance and additional gated parking area of between 110 to 125 spaces. Council Member Edwards motioned to approve the three conceptual plans and to direct the City Manager to submit an RFP for engineering of the three conceptual plans. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Spring Clean Up Day – The City Manager presented a flyer for the annual clean up day for the Sugar Hill residents. The area North of Highway 20 will be picked up May 14th and the area South of Highway 20 will be picked May 21st. A list of items that they will pick and items that they do not pick up are on the website along with a list of streets and subdivisions indicating North or South. Council Member Edwards motioned to approve the Spring Clean up Day. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Public Safety – No new updates. The attorneys from the Gwinnett Sheriff's Department and the City's attorneys are reviewing the contract for services.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TO DISCUSS LEGAL, REAL ESTATE AND/OR PERSONNEL: Council Member Sullivan motioned to enter Executive Session. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT: There was no action taken out of Executive Session. Council Member Cohen motioned to adjourn. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Gary Pirkle, Mayor

Jane Whittington, City Clerk