

**CITY OF SUGAR HILL
MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015, 8:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5039 WEST BROAD STREET
SUGAR HILL, GEORGIA**

CALL TO ORDER – by Mayor Edwards. Present were Mayor Steve Edwards, Mayor Pro Tem Brandon Hembree, Council Members Marc Cohen, Susie Gajewski, and Mike Sullivan. Council Member Curtis Northrup was not present for the first portion of the meeting. Also present were City Manager Paul Radford, Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche, City Clerk Jane Whittington and City Attorney Frank Hartley.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – led by Boy Scouts Seth Cohen and Zane

INVOCATION – given by Mayor Edwards

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Council Member Gajewski seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Intergovernmental Agreement, Suwanee Dam Rd at Riverside Rd – Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche explained the agreement with Gwinnett County to improve the intersection of Riverside Rd. and Suwanee Dam Rd. The cost will be split with the county and the City's share of the project will be \$350,000. The developer of the Kroger shopping center agreed to pay \$125,000 toward the cost of the signalization at the intersection. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Gwinnett County and the City for the Suwanee Dam Rd./Riverside Rd. Intersection Improvement Project. Mayor Pro Tem Hembree seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Construction Agreement, Suwanee Dam Rd. Intersections & Roadway Improvements – Assistant City Manager Troy Besseche explained that the City ran the ads accepting bids for the intersection and roadway improvements to Suwanee Dam Rd. at Whitehead Rd and Suwanee Dam Rd. at Ramey Rd. In addition the resurfacing program was packaged with this work to help keep the overall cost of construction down. The bids were due February 5th and four contractors submitted bids. The lowest bid was Reeves Construction at \$1,057,282.75. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the construction agreement with Reeves Contracting to construct improvements to the Suwanee Dam Road/Whitehead Road intersection, the Suwanee Dam Road/Ramey Road intersection and to Brogdon Road in the amount of \$1,057,282.75. Council Member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

DDA Budget Amendment – the City Manager Paul Radford explained that the DDA is actively marketing the annex for a restaurant tenant and has reached a preliminary agreement contingent on some improvements needed to accommodate the change in use. Based on estimates from the contractor \$125,000 will be needed to bring the restaurant to downtown and to renovate and retrofit the annex to serve as a marketable restaurant space for the future. The proposed amendment is to transfer \$125,000 from the right of way acquisition line item in the capital budget (Fund 320) to the annex building improvements line item in the DDA budget (Fund 800). Mayor Pro Tem Hembree motioned to approve the proposed budget amendment to allocate \$125,000 from the 2015 ROW Acquisition project to the 2015 DDA Budget line item for the Annex improvements. Council Member Gajewski seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Budget Amendment Trust for Public Land – the City Manager explained that the City recently closed on the purchase of property on Highway 20 from The Trust for Public Land. The land was purchased to further the city’s greenspace/park/sugar loop greenway trail development efforts. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the transfer of \$1,499,274.30 from unrestricted reserves into the General Fund operating revenue budget (100-0000-39-1203) and General Fund expense budget (100-1500-54-1100) for the recently authorized and closed purchase of 71 acres from the Trust for Public Land. Council member Sullivan seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.

Resolution Truck Size or Weight Increases – the Assistant City Manager explained that the Legislature is requesting that we pass this resolution on truck size and weight increases. This will put the City on record to oppose weight increases to protect infrastructure and to reduce traffic fatalities and wrecks. The staff recommends approval. Mayor Pro Tem Hembree requested to be recused from the vote due to a conflict of interest. Council Member Cohen motioned to approve the Resolution Opposing Truck Size or Weight Increases. Council Member Gajewski seconded the motion. Approved 3-0-1 with three Council Members voting yea, no nay votes and one abstention.

Discussion of Ice Rink @ Sugar Hill – The revenues have fell short this year and some of the reasoning is due to the lack of a tent structure in the beginning. The future of the continued ice rink in future years and possible tent purchase will be discussed at the March meeting. The staff is to look at what went wrong and what was right and bring ideas back to the Mayor and Council for discussion.

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

PUBLIC ACTION TAKEN OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – there was no action taken out of Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – Council Member Northrup entered the meeting during Executive Session. Council Member Gajewski motioned to adjourn. Council Member Cohen seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Steve Edwards, Mayor

Jane Whittington, City Clerk