

MINUTES

City Council Meeting

Monday, February 2, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Andy Quinney presided. Council Members: Bowen Jones, Bessie Kicklighter, Durward Motes, Misty Selph, and Judy Shuman.

Members Absent: Gwyn Hall, Councilmember and Tennyson Holder, Mayor Pro-tem

Staff Present: Brian Johnson, City Administrator; Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles, Clerk of Council; James P. Gerard, City Attorney; Clara Rouse, Finance Director; Pam Franklin, HR Director; Randall Griffin, Public Works Director, David Lyons, Chief of Police; Nathan Mai-Lombardo, Planning Director; Charles Draeger, Water/Sewer Director; Cliff Ducey, Recreation Director and Jimmy Crosby, Fire Chief.

Opening: Mayor Quinney welcomed everyone to the meeting. Councilmember Jones offered the opening prayer and Mayor Quinney led City Council in the pledge to the flag.

Mayor Quinney said City Council held a Pre-Agenda Session prior to tonight's meeting. He said no decisions were made during the Pre-Agenda Session.

Public Hearings:

Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Mayor Quinney opened the public hearing to receive public comment on an alcoholic beverage license application by Franklin Sytsma to sell wine, beer and/or malt beverages at the Food Lion Store located on the corner of Dean Forest and Constantine. He said the Police Department recommends approval.

There being no questions or comments, Mayor Quinney closed the public hearing.

Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Mayor Quinney opened the public hearing to receive public comment on an alcoholic beverage license application by William Hunt to sell wine, beer and/or malt beverages at the Food Lion Store located on the corner of Dean Forest Road and Constantine. He said the Police Department recommends approval.

There being no questions or comments, Mayor Quinney closed the public hearing.

City council Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2009 city council meeting.

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Zoning & Building Committee Report: Mayor Quinney asked Councilmember Motes to give the Zoning & Building Committee Report in Councilmember Hall's absence.

Councilmember Motes said I have nothing to report at this time.

Personnel, Finance & Administration Committee Report: Councilmember Shuman said we filled the Firefighter position and we are still recruiting for police officers. She said staff training is still ongoing and our HR Director has been asked to serve on the Savannah State University MPA Advisory Board.

Parks & Recreation Committee Report: Councilmember Selph said everything is going well with basketball. She said Softball/Baseball/T-Ball signups are underway. She said everything is fine at the Cooper Center and Senior Center. She said the Easter Extravaganza will be held on April 4th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Fire Committee Report: Councilmember Motes said the fire department responded to 35 fire calls during the month of January with an average response time of 5.11 minutes. He said everything is going well in the fire department.

Police Committee Report:

Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Clerk of Council read an alcoholic beverage license application by Franklin Sytsme to sell wine, beer and/or malt beverages at the Food Lion Store located on the corner of Dean Forest Road and Constantine.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to approve the alcoholic beverage license application by Franklin Sytsma.

Alcoholic Beverage License Application: Clerk of Council read an alcoholic beverage license application by William Hunt to sell wine, beer and/or malt beverages at the Food Lion Store located on the corner of Dean Forest Road and Constantine.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Jones, City Council voted unanimously to approve the alcoholic beverage license application by William Hunt

Councilmember Kicklighter gave a routine report. She said the Chief of Police is running for Fourth President of the Georgia Association of Police Chiefs.

Mayor Quinney said is this something different or is it the same thing you have been running for in the past.

Chief Lyons said it is the same.

Public Works Committee Report: Mayor Quinney asked Councilmember Jones to give the Public Works Committee Report in Councilmember Holder's absence.

Councilmember Jones said everything is going well in the Public Works Department.

Water & Sewer Committee Report: Councilmember Jones said everything is going well in the Water/Sewer Department.

City Administrator Report:

Stormwater Management Program: City Administrator said the City has decided that the additional resources are needed within the SWMP to better address the City's overall stormwater program needs as well as customer needs and issues. He said the enhancement of the City SWMP services will enable the City to address the various SWMP issues and priorities of the City. He said the city has decided that implementation of a SW Utility and adoption of a stormwater user fee charge is the most fair, equitable and stable method to fund the SWMP. He said the recommended SW Utility rate structure to the City Council is based on impervious area rate methodology for a developed property.

City Administrator said staff believes that allocation of the future SWMP costs to developed properties within the City, based on the impervious area characteristics of the property, is the most equitable manner to apportion costs in relationship to the demands and services associated with provision of SWMP services to each property. He said staff's decision to utilize impervious area only with regard to the rate structure and methodology is the result of extensive public input and discussion with various customers, property owners and affected parties over the last four months. He said based on these discussion, it is staff's position that the impervious area approach is fair and equitable because it charges all customers the same user fee charge per billing unit per month. He said furthermore, use of the impervious area approach simplifies the overall user fee rate structure because only a property's impervious area characteristics are utilized to calculate the user fee amount, not water quality or other land classifications.

City Administrator said the recommendation within the SW Utility Rate Ordinance for consideration is to (1) adopt an impervious area rate structure and methodology and (2) charge a user fee amount of \$4.75 per Residential Equivalent Unit (REU) per month.

City Administrator said the recommended rate structure and user fee charge amount should be adequate to fund the City's future SWMP at the desired level of service to meet the City's needs

Second Reading, Stormwater Rate Ordinance: City Administrator asked the Clerk of Council to read by title only the Stormwater Rate Ordinance for the second reading.

Clerk of Council read the second reading of an ordinance to amend Chapter 30, Article V, pertaining to stormwater management, as amended, so as to establish and set up a stormwater utility rate structure and billing rate; to provide for definitions; to provide for stormwater utility customer classes; to establish user fees; to provide for exemptions; to provide for credits; to provide for billing, delinquencies, collections, and adjustments; to provide for appeals and hearings; to repeal all ordinances in conflict herewith to provide an effective date; and for other purposes.

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Councilmember Kicklighter made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jones to amend the Stormwater Rate Ordinance to adopt an impervious area rate structure and methodology and charge a user fee amount of \$4.75 per residential equivalent unit (REU) per month. City Council voted unanimously to approve amending the Stormwater Rate Ordinance.

Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Kicklighter, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Stormwater Rate Ordinance on the second reading as amended and to include as part of the ordinance the Stormwater Credit Manual.

Resolution, Stormwater Utility Enterprise Fund: Clerk of Council read a resolution to set up the budget for a new enterprise fund in FY09. The Stormwater Utility Enterprise Fund will reflect the budgeted expenses and projected revenues anticipated to be disbursed and received, respectively in FY09.

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Selph, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the Stormwater Utility Enterprise Fund Resolution.

Resolution, FY09 Budget: Clerk of Council read a resolution to amend the FY09 General Operating Fund to adjust for the differences between the originally budgeted and presently projected revenues and expenditures for certain of the City's various budgets.

Upon motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to adopt the FY09 Budget Amendment Resolution.

Annexation Petition: City Administrator said we have for consideration for processing purposes a petition for annexation of a 7.59 acre parcel in unincorporated Chatham County located at 4907 Ogeechee Road and owned by Ray Crosby (Property Identification No. I-956-2-3).

Upon motion by Councilmember Kicklighter, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to accept the Ray Crosby's annexation petition for processing purposes.

City Attorney Report: City Attorney said I have nothing at this time to report.

Mayor Report: Mayor Quinney we have workshops on the Monday nights opposite council meetings and they are open to the public. He thanked everyone for attending the tonight's meeting.

Adjournment: Upon motion by Councilmember Selph, seconded by Councilmember Shuman, City Council voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

(Absent)

Andy Quinney, Mayor

Tennyson Holder, Mayor Pro-tem

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(Absent)

Gwyn Hall, Councilmember

Bowen Jones, Councilmember

Bessie Kicklighter, Councilmember

Durward Motes, Councilmember

Misty Selph, Councilmember

Judy Shuman, Councilmember

Rhonda Ferrell-Bowles
Clerk of Council