

MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, February 15, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.
City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wheeler called the Committee/Work Session to order immediately following the special called meeting at 6:15 p.m. Present were Council Members Susan Coletti, Steve Higgins, Chakira Johnson, Richard Mailman, Andrea Redmond and Steve Wells which constituted a quorum.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Council Member Higgins gave the invocation and Council Member Wells led the pledge of allegiance.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Wheeler read one piece of communication received from a previous resident of Stone Mountain, Robin Meyer, commending City Clerk ChaQuias Miller Thornton on her performance in an effort to help Ms. Meyer to select and to purchase a cemetery plot for Ms. Meyer's mother.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY

Council Member Johnson made a motion to adopt the agenda of the day. Seconded by Council Member Susan Coletti.
Motion approved 6-0.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Ms. Sara Abrams of 976 Ridge Avenue addressed Council regarding her proposal to initiate a program to revitalize Randolph Medlock Park. The park is located at 735 Ridge Avenue. The initiative will include seeking grant opportunities to repair, maintain and upgrade the park. Ms. Abrams submitted her proposal to Council in writing.

Ms. Fritha Dinwiddie of 5502 East Mountain Street addressed Council. She requested that Council and those in attendance at the open meetings would stand during the invocation as well as during the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Diana Hollis of 735 Mountain Village Drive addressed Council with her disapproval of the East Mountain Street Project. Ms. Hollis informed Council of her thoughts on the City's need for a mosquito control program and she asked that all in attendance during open meetings would place their hands over their hearts during the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Clint Monroe of Woodsong Trace addressed Council. Mr. Monroe gave Council some information on the population of mosquitos as well as information on the spread of diseases and viruses (including the Zeka virus) spread by mosquitos as reported by the Center for Disease Control. He also gave some information on the possibility of DeKalb County wanting to start a monitoring station within the City of Stone Mountain. Mr. Monroe will email the City Clerk with the information shared during public comment.

Ms. Joan Monroe of 5499 Woodsong Trace addressed Council. Ms. Monroe expressed her concerns on the heightened threat and activity of mosquitos and that she would like Council to consider larger measures on vector control. Ms. Monroe presented a letter as documentation of the items she brought before Council.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

Planning and Zoning – City Clerk ChaQuias Thornton addressed Council during the Planning and Zoning Committee report. Ms. Thornton informed Council of the committee's recommendation regarding the proposed amendments to Appendix A, Zoning of the City's Code of Ordinances. It was the recommendation of the committee to approve the proposed amendments providing that the changes are adequately replaced/addressed in other sections of the code as applicable.

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Community Affairs – No. report.

Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority – DDA Executive Director Mechel McKinley gave the DDA report. Ms. McKinley presented a report detailing such things as monthly training participation, program income/expenses, Board meeting notes, Organization notes, the number of downtown events held, the number of persons attending events, the number of volunteer hours, and Promotional Notes (publications and press releases), new business openings, business closings, Economic Restructure notes, private rehabilitation projects, and Design notes. Ms. McKinley informed Council that a Boost Award was presented to The Thirsty Mona Lisa in the amount of \$1,000 and that the DDA annual meeting will be held on February 18th, 2016 at Silver Hill Manor from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Finance – No Report.

Community Outreach – Council Member Redmond gave a brief history of her account of the discussions had on the topic of mosquito control. She informed the public that line items for such things as bug spray and tablets were included in the fiscal year 2016 budget. She gave information on the dangers of the population of mosquitos and asked that Council consider more measures of control. Ms. Redmond voiced her concerns about the East Mountain Street Sidewalk Project, gave an update on the request to MARTA for covered bus stops, thanked Stone Mountain Police Sergeant Floyd for his assistance in the situation of a missing senior citizen; and reported that senior center type activities will begin March 2nd, 2016 at Mount Carmel Church, 6015 Old Stone Mountain Road, Room 210.

Public Safety – No report.

Public Works – Council Member Wells reported on his concerns about mosquito control. He expressed his concerns on fogging and informed Council that he will continue to look into information on the topic receiving some information from his wife who is an Infectious Disease Response Planner for Cobb County.

Historic Preservation Commission – HPC Chairman Al Capogrossi addressed Council. He informed Council of the items that were discussion, and the decisions made by HPC, during the monthly HPC meeting held Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Mr. Capogrossi asked Council to consider granting the Commission the authority to enforce action against those within the historic district who disregard the requirement to acquire Certificate of Appropriateness. The City Manager is to look into the matter.

Visitor Center – VC Manager Kim Cumbie reported for the Visitor Center. She reported on the number of visitors for the month of January 2016. She also reported on upcoming meeting and events. Ms. Cumbie gave information on how citizens could submit their comments supporting Community Development Block Grant funding for train depot renovation.

STAFF REPORTS

Code Compliance – Code Compliance Officer Sanja Roseberry reported for Code Compliance. She gave her monthly status report and report of the code compliance related issues from January 20, 2016 to date. Officer Roseberry's report included the date of incident, the location of issue, and the action taken for each.

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Public Works

Director Jim Tavenner's report included community service detail, 2016 LARP program funding information, drainage project update, the amount of trash collected year to date, information on the replacement of stop signs, and. He informed Council that request will be made to the Environmental Protection Division for permission to close the well as the property on the corner of Mountain and Main Streets. There are several storm water drains that need to be cleaned out for an estimated cost of approximately \$6,000. The department has repaired the guardrail on West Mountain Street and have been picking up bulk items and trash that have been missed by Advanced Disposal. The City Manager is to address the issue in more detail in his report.

Public Safety

Chief Troutman provided Council reports of police activity statistics and individual police officer activity reports for the pay periods ending 12/15/2015 and 01/11/2016. He also informed Council of a child molestation arrest on Ridge Forrest Drive. Chief Troutman asked for the prayers of the family of Major Barney of the Riverdale Police Department who was shot and killed in the line of duty. He also reported on recent burglaries reported within the City and informed Council of newly hired police officer Denson Sterling.

City Clerk ChaQuias Miller-Thornton had nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

None.

Maintenance Agreement – City of Stone Mountain and Fulton Communications - Phone System (Mitel 5000), Digital Phones and T1/PRI

The agreement is the same amount and same terms as the previous year.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2016-04 Amendments to Chapter 3, Alcoholic Beverages

Council Member Chakira Johnson rendered first read of "AN ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN TO AMEND CHAPTER 3, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, FOR FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Ordinance 2016-05 Amendments to Chapter 5, Buildings

Council Member Chakira Johnson rendered first read of "AN ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN TO AMEND CHAPTER 5, BUILDINGS, TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AND EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Ordinance 2016-06 Amendments to Chapter 10, Fire Prevention and Protection

Council Member Johnson rendered the first read of “AN ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN TO AMEND CHAPTER 10, FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Ordinance 2016-07 Amendments to Chapter 19, Parks & Recreation

Council Member Chakira Johnson rendered first read of “AN ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, PARKS AND RECREATION, FOR FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Ordinance 2016-08 Text Amendments to Appendix A, Zoning

Council Member Chakira Johnson rendered first read of “AN ORDINANCE BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF STONE MOUNTAIN TO AMEND APPENDIX A, ZONING, FOR FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS; CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Resolution 2016-10 Set the fees for fire safety inspections and plan review

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that the proposed fees are comparable with the fees currently being charged by DeKalb County and are determined by the amount it will cost to provide the service plus 10% for administration cost.

Resolution 2016-11 Set the fine for violations of Article III, Chapter 10 of the Fire Prevention and Protection Code

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that this resolution will address fines for violations for the failure to number buildings primarily for emergency response purposes.

Resolution 2016-12 Appointment of L’Erin Barnes to the Office of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that this proposed resolution is for the appointment of L’Erin Barnes to the position of Assistant Prosecuting Attorney. Ms. Barnes is to succeed Mr. Larry Steele.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT –City Manager Gary Peet gave a Revenue and Expense Summary Report. The report detailed General Fund revenues and expenditures and General Fund budget analysis for the month of January 2016.

City Manager Gary Peet gave the City Manager’s Report. Mr. Peet reported such matters as the vacant registry ordinance, the demolition of the house located on 5429 E. Mountain, group dental plan, missed service for commercial and residential collections, the 2016 Service Delivery Agreement, the FY2015 financial audit, the non-receipt of the facility use agreement for Ray of Hope, and the City of Stone Mountain Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Council Member Johnson asked that Council would conduct a Saturday work session on March 5, 2016 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the Alcohol Beverage Ordinance and the Service Delivery Agreement.

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Council Member Higgins asked if the issue of mosquito can be discussed during the March 5th, 2016 work session. Mayor Wheeler decided that the issue can be added as a third item on the Saturday meeting's agenda and will be discussed as time permits.

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that the administration has received acknowledgement of Ms. Kate Settle's acceptance of the employment offer for the position of Assistant City Clerk upon Council's approval of the amendments to the Personnel Classification Plan. Ms. Settle is to report to work on March 8th, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Council Member Wells thanked those citizens that voiced their concerns about mosquito control. He also thanked Ms. Abrams for her initiative to take on the Medlock Park project.

ADJOURNMENT - Council Member Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Motion approved 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Patricia Wheeler, Mayor

ChaQuias Miller Thornton, City Clerk