

MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, April 20, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.
City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Patricia Wheeler called the Committee/Work Session to order at 6:09 p.m., immediately following adjournment of the special called meeting. 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 Redmond gave the invocation and Council Member Wells led the pledge of allegiance.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

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 passed 6-0.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Larry Williams and Sarah Hester of 565 Rockborough Drive, addressed Council. The residents informed Council of a code compliance issue regarding an accessory structure located on their property. Council advised Mr. Williams and Ms. Hester to set up appointment with City Manager Gary Peet to discuss the issue.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

Planning and Zoning – None.

Community Affairs – Council Member Susan Coletti reported that the Spring Yard Sale will be held this coming Saturday, April 25th, 2015 and that the yard sale trail will be implemented at a cost of \$5 for city residents. She also reported that ProShred will be available for shredding services during the event and that dumpsters have been placed throughout the City and will be available until May 1st, 2015.

Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority – Executive Director Mechel McKinley gave the DDA report. She informed Council of her activity for the month of April 2015. She also informed Council that 1) the Farmers Market will be held weekly through November 24, 2015; 2) the Depot Ribbon Cutting will be held Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 11:00 a.m; 3) there will be a Historical Society meeting April 23rd, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with David Steele from Lord, Aeck, & Sargent; and 4) cemetery clean-up will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Ms. McKinley thanked everyone for their support of the Granite Grasshopper Festival and informed Council that the event is scheduled to be held again next year on April 16th, 2016. She further reported that “Tunes By The Tracks” will be held in the municipal parking lot every Friday in May 2015, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event series is free to the community.

Ms. McKinley discussed with Council the proposed Possession of Alcoholic Beverages Exceptions Ordinance. City Manager Gary Peet also weighed in on the discussion. Topics for discussion included event areas being defined by resolution, ways to distinguish event participants, extended time periods defined by resolution, incorporating business outside of the downtown area, and other parameters of the ordinance.

Finance – No report.

MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, April 20, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Hall
Page 2

Community Outreach – Council Member Redmond reported that the community watch group will meet Friday, May 1st, 2015 at 1023 Forest at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Redmond thanked DDA for its efforts to present “Tunes By The Tracks”. She reported that dance size and senior size classes are set to begin in June at the Methodist Church. More information on the classes is soon to come.

Council Member Johnson added that DDA is helping to promote the “Tune By The Tracks” event series. The Stone Mountain Business Association and individual citizens are heading the event.

Public Safety – Council Member Mailman encouraged citizens to report suspicious people and suspicious activity to the police.

Public Works – Council Member Wells reported that the McCurdy Park clean-up that was held April 11th, 2015 went well and had a great turn out. He thanked all of those that attended and supported the clean-up effort. Council Member Mailman reported on the 150 year old cross that was donated and placed in Shermantown Cemetery.

Historic Preservation Commission – Mayor Wheeler reported that a letter of interest and resume’ have been submitted for one of the open seats on the Historic Preservation Commission. Mayor Wheeler will make contact with the applicant.

Visitor Center – Kim Cumbie, VC Manager reported that the Visitor Center had 271 visitors from 15 states and 4 countries during March 2015. She informed Council that there were 2,900 persons registered for the 2015 Color Vibe event as of Friday, April 10th, 2015 and that she will be canvassing neighborhoods to inform residents of street closings for the event. She asked that the event route map be sent out in the next newsletter. Ms. Cumbie further reported that there is an event for all current VC volunteers, as well as for those interested in becoming a volunteer. She announced the ALL THINGS STONE MOUNTAIN DAY to be held Monday, May 4, 2015 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The VC is now open Sunday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS

Code Compliance – Code Compliance Officer Sanja Roseberry reported for Code Compliance. She informed Council that she has been working with Administration and with SafeBuilt on compliance issues with the apartment communities within the City. Ms. Roseberry discussed the code compliance issue with the accessory building at 565 Rockborough Drive, the sidewalk issue at 975 Main Street, and the possible code related issues at a property VFW Drive. She further informed Council that she is working with a member of DeKalb County Code Enforcement to get assistance with demolition properties.

Public Works

Ernest Hicks, Public Works Foreman reported on the following: (1) There is a tree that has been cut down in the City cemetery, (2) mulch has been put down at Leila Mason Park and (3) public works is continuing to cut grass in the City’s parks and right of ways.

Council Member Chakira Johnson reported that a storm drain has been damaged on Mackin and 3rd Street and she thanked Public Works for its help during the Granite Grasshopper Festival.

Public Safety

Chief Troutman reported the March 2015 statistics for citations and warnings issued. Mr. Troutman further reported on the burglaries. He informed Council that an arrest has been made for the burglary in the Garden

MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, April 20, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Hall
Page 3

Walk/Garden View area. He reported on the departments Z scores and gave detail of some of the criminal arrests made in the City, giving information about the suspects and the nature of the criminal activity. Chief Troutman informed Council that he will be able to definitively report something on the sergeant's position tomorrow. He will make his report to Mr. Peet. Chief Troutman encouraged citizens not to hesitate to contact 911 and informed Council that he will have the police department Records Clerk Vickie Tucker to make follow-up calls for some cases and will encourage officers to give open case updates to those persons who have filed reports. Council Member Johnson thanked the Police Department for its work during the Granite Grasshopper Festival.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent Agenda

None.

City of Stone Mountain FY2014-15 MS4 Annual Report and Dry Weather Screening Proposal – Clark Patterson Lee

Council Member Johnson received confirmation that this proposal is in line with previous years proposals.

Non-Exclusive License Agreement between Courtware Solutions, Inc. and the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia
City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that there will be an increase in fees paid to Courtware, but he has determined that current court costs are adequate to accommodate the increase in fees.

Software License Agreement between Vigilant Solutions and the City of Stone Mountain, Georgia
City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that the agreement includes the licensing/servicing of one system, 2 cameras, in one vehicle.

Proposal for Environmental Services – S&ME, Inc. – Stone Mountain Streetscape Phase I – Proposal Number 44-1500130

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that it is the recommendation of the administration to proceed with Option A of the proposal.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2015-03 – Possession of Alcoholic Beverage Exceptions

Ordinance was discussed during the DDA report.

Ordinance 2015-04 – Damage to City Property

City Manager Gary Peet informed Council that restitution on cases of damaged property is difficult to attain. He suggested that this ordinance will allow for easier recourse.

Resolution 2015-15 – FY 2015 Budget Amendment

City Manager Gary Peet explained the proposed budget amendment. He informed Council that the City will need to take a good look at possible shortfalls before time to set/adopt a millage rate.

MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, April 20, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.
City Hall
Page 4

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT –City Manager Gary Peet gave a Revenue and Expense Summary Report for the month of March 2015. He informed Council of the city's receipt of an application for right of way from Tower Cloud, Inc. Tower Cloud provides fiber optic services to wireless telecommunications companies. Mr. Peet also informed Council of 1) the meeting that was held with DeKalb County School Superintendent Michael Thurmond to discuss repairs to the historic rock gym, 2) onsite work by City Auditor Jimmy Whitaker was completed on April 10, 2015 for fiscal year ending December 31, 2015, and 3) loan closing for the Tax Anticipation Note for this fiscal year was held on April 10, 2015 – the loan is in the form of a line of credit in the amount of \$850,000. He also discussed capital project updates with Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Coletti. Motion approved 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

Patricia Wheeler, Mayor

ChaQuias Miller Thornton, City Clerk