

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION
Monday, September 19, 2016
Immediately Following the Special Call Meeting @ 6:30 pm
875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, GA
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Chakira Johnson, Council Members: Susan Coletti, Steve Higgins, Richard Mailman, Andrea Redmond.

ABSENT: Mayor Patricia Wheeler, Council Member Steve Wells.

STAFF: City Manager ChaQuias Thornton, Visitor Center Manager Kim Cumbie, Executive Director DDA Mechel McKinley, Director of Public Works Jim Tavenner, Chief of Police Chauncey Troutman, City Clerk Kate Settle

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Council Member Redmond gave the invocation. Council Member Mailman led the pledge.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY - *Request for unanimous consent to bring back to the table under Unfinished Business: D. DeKalb County Use of Facilities Agreement – Rock Gym – \$16,500.* Council Member Redmond made the motion to adopt the agenda of the day with the addition of Item D., DeKalb County Use of Facilities Agreement – Rock Gym – \$16,500. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.

Motion approved 4-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Joan Monroe, 5499 Woodson, announced the National Day of Remembrance of Murder Victims is September 25th. She thanked Sergeant Roseberry for her work on the Williams case. Ms. Monroe recently dialed 911 and was put on hold for five minutes. She would like Council to consider bringing dispatch to the City. She voiced her concern regarding her perception that some police officers are not fulfilling their responsibilities. Ms. Monroe had recently learned the employees of the Police Department are not furnished with coffee. She asked that Council also consider providing employees with coffee. In the interim, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe and Mr. and Mrs. Hollis made a donation of coffee and sugar to the Police Department.

Sara Abrams, 976 Ridge, updated Council on Medlock Park. She had spoken with the football coach that uses the park. He has become frustrated with those citizens who walk their dogs in the field and do not pick up after their pets. She hoped signage could be put up at the park to inform citizens that they need to curb their dogs. Two of the volunteers that helped to put together the dedication at Medlock Park are involved in the school systems music departments. They would like to put together a Holiday Drum line competition of high school drum lines at Medlock Park.

Hubert Jordan, 5483 E. Mountain, had a concern regarding the East Mountain sidewalk. The sidewalk ends at the Women's Center, you then need to cross E. Mountain on the blind curve to get to New Gibraltar and cross again to get to the park. He suggested developing a relationship with the park in order to complete the sidewalk to the park.

Clint Monroe spoke of shot fired on Second Street. When the 911 call was made, the caller was put on hold. He asked Council to consider Shot Spotter during budgeting.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. *Planning and Zoning*: None.
- B. *Community Affairs*: Council Member Coletti announced the City Wide Yard Sale will take place on October 22, 2016. She will be out of the country for it and Council Member Redmond will be coordinating. Council Member Johnson reported the Historical Society would be holding their spaghetti dinner on October 17.
- C. *Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority*: Ms. McKinley reviewed her report with Council. She reminded Council and those present that the Fish Fry and the movie, Zootopia would be held at VFW Park on September 24th. The Diorama open reception will be October 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Depot. The exhibit will run from October to March. Savannah Seafood and Loving Care Chiropractic opened in the City this month.
- D. *Finance*: Council Member Higgins announced the finance reports are available for anyone to review.
- E. *Community Outreach*:
Discussion and consideration regarding budgeting for Mosquito Control in 2017: Council Member Redmond reviewed the handouts submitted with the packet with Council Members. A question and answer period followed including input from Jim Tavenner, Director of Public Works. Topics discussed were educating the public, the Zika virus, whether spraying twice a year will be enough, spraying during the incubation period and the City developing a plan where to spray. *Public Comment was opened*. The following citizens came forward to give their concerns, opinions and suggestions: Joan Monroe. The public comments were closed. The Yard of the Month went to Jeanie Eagen, 5222 Poplar Springs. Council Member Redmond spoke of the truck traffic that is going through Main Street. She hoped the citizens would call the companies and let them know that unless there is a delivery to be made in the village, they should not be using Stone Mountain as a cut through to another location. She was happy to report that the librarians at Sue Kellogg Library have been talking to the parents about picking up their children earlier from the library. She reported the Annexation Committee meetings are open to the public and she hoped staff would post the agendas in a timely manner. October 15 the event, "It takes a Village" will be held in town and the organizers are planning lots of activities. Council Member Redmond is

working with staff on the City Wide Yard Sale and will be putting a page on Facebook shortly. The City Wide Yard will take place on October 22, 2016.

- F. *Public Safety:* Council Member Mailman reported the library has started to sponsor events for the children and there are more children inside the library than outside the building. He has heard several request for a dog park and will be looking into it. Council Member Mailman reported they have a suspect for the burning of McCurdy Park. He hoped to coordinate a clean-up of the Park with Council Member Wells and the Public Works Director. Public Comments were opened: Clint Monroe asked if the City has looked into grants. Joan Monroe reported that are many grants available for small cities, particularly for police departments. Public comments were closed.
- G. *Public Works:* None.
- H. *Historic Preservation Commission:* Al Capagrossi requested the Council consider giving Historic Preservation Commission a budget. He reported there were four cases to be considered. They were all approved. He reported that Court was still in session when the Commission arrived for their meeting and he had to be let into the Conference Room in order to hold the meeting.
- I. *Visitor Center:* Kim Cumbie reviewed her report with the Council. Susan G Breast Cancer three day is going to be in town on October 7th. The Visitor Center will have a DJ and coffee as they have in the past.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. *Code Compliance Officer:* Officer Roseberry reported on recent code cases and reviewed her report with Council. The following topics were discussed: rooming houses, electrical issues at an apartment complex; unsightly trash in front of Rankin Street; businesses putting signs in the window before they have a CO. Council Member Johnson thanked Sergeant Roseberry for her work.
- B. *Public Works Director:* Jim Tavenner reported community service 22 people worked last month; 13 so far this month. He hoped to use the incoming State Funding for Roads on major streets as opposed to the subdivision. Mr. Tavenner wanted to focus on Ridge Avenue. He reported on his maintenance cost for the Rock Gym and the electrical work necessary for the light fixtures. Discussion turned to demolition of Medlock Park and approaching Advanced Disposal for a free dumpster. Mr. Tavenner asked, when Advanced Disposal provides dumpsters for the Citizens, could he put them in one place instead of throughout the City? There was consensus from Council for Public Works to move forward with placing all dumpsters in one location at the next opportunity. Discussion then turned to mosquito control and how to educate the public.
- C. *Chief of Police:* Chief Troutman reviewed his report with Council. He reported the Police Department writes a number of citations for trucks passing through town. Council Member Coletti noticed there is one officer that writes many more citations than others.

- D. *City Clerk*: Ms. Settle thanked Council for sending her to training and referred to her report in the packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. *East Mountain Street Sidewalk Project – 2nd Street Consideration*: City Manager Thornton reported the two way option would cost an addition \$116,923.05. Council Member Coletti asked for clarification regarding grading. The other option was to move forward as it was bid. It was the consensus of the Council to move forward as it was bid. Public comment was opened. The following audience members came forward to give their concerns, opinions and suggestions: Mark Keyton, Joan Monroe. Public comment was closed. The item will be removed from any further agendas.
- B. *Ordinance 2016-14 - Text Amendment to Appendix A Zoning – Accessory Structures - Continue*
Discussion: City Manager Thornton reported Planning and Zoning did not consider the garage dimensions in their discussion about the proposed ordinance. Council Member Johnson reviewed the proposed ordinance intent was to include both accessory and garage into one category and to include the wording “no larger than 24 x 24.” By the Planning and Zoning Committee not considering the garage as part of their discussions, they greatly reduced the size that is currently allowed for garages.
- C. *Discussion Regarding Funding Options for Acquiring Tasers*: City Manager Thornton reported Officer Hillis received a quote of \$10,412.95 for purchase of six tasers. The price of a course is not included. Discussion included training by Stone Mountain Park; Stone Mountain Park not responding to the request as of the date of the meeting.
- D. *DeKalb County Use of Facilities Agreement – Rock Gym – \$16,500*: City Manager Thornton reported on a meeting held with DeKalb County Schools. The county is willing to take in-kind services as part of the cost of the rent. Council Member Johnson asked for the timing for this agreement. The City is currently not under the lease agreement.

Public Comment was opened. Mary Beth Reed, 769 Lake Drive, Snellville. She explained her understanding of how to put together in-kind services together to present to the DeKalb County Schools. She was very clear that this is a long term project. Ms. Reed felt there should be an inspection of the property in order to put a plan together. Council Member Mailman asked if the City should consider purchasing the property. Ms. Reed felt it might be better to rent and work on it before approaching DeKalb County Schools with an offer.

Gary Peet reported before he left the City’s employment; the school system referred to an assessment. He felt the assessment would be a good tool to use in creating a plan.

City Manager Thornton reported that she had asked about the assessment and was told it was not completed. She spoke with Gary Mulinex of Safe Built to provide an

assessment of the building. Ms. Thornton reported once we have the assessment in hand, the City is more liable and we are aware of exactly what is wrong with the building. She would need direction and a commitment from Council that once the City is aware, the City will need to make it safe or decide whether to allow anyone to use the building. Mr. Tavenner felt in order for the building to be brought up to code, it would be costly.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. *Consent Agenda:* None.
- B. *East Mountain Street - Additional Sidewalk Consideration:* City Manager Thornton reported she was made aware on September 7 that there was a deviation from the construction plan. It was confirmed that approximately \$11,000 of additional construction of the sidewalk was completed. Additional sidewalk was being considered; a change order was not completed; and the funding had not been approved. She asked for direction from Council if they would like to have a change order completed and if they wanted to pay for the cost of the sidewalk. Discussion included negotiating the cost; the cost of any administrative fees; violation of the contract; considering the benefit of the work completed; possible litigation fees; including the City Attorney in discussion; possibly having a meeting with the City Attorney and the Engineer; and possibly covering the cost of materials. It was the consensus of the Council to negotiate the amount for the additional sidewalk.
- C. *Report of the Annexation Study Committee – Annexation Study 2016:* Mr. Gary Peet reviewed his report on possible annexation of the City. The annexation will double the area and increase the population to 10,000 residents. The report is to cover the significant findings of the City. He reviewed the changes in staff that might occur should annexation pass. He reported on the crime rate in Stone Mountain is 3.44 per 1,000 population. Mr. Peet reviewed the proposed timeline. He asked for \$2,000 for legal services. He recognized the members of the Annexation Committee.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. *Ordinance 2016-17 - Amendment to Chapter 28, Article VI, Floodplain Management, Section 28-601(d)(1):* Council Member Johnson read the preamble into the record. City Manager Thornton reviewed the need for the ordinance. She reported there are two references in our code that reference the map. The map needs to have a date of May 16, 2013 in order to make it legal binding.
- B. *Ordinance 2016-18 - Amendment to Chapter 8, Article II, Flood Damage Prevention:* Council Member Johnson read the preamble into the record. City Manager Thornton reported this goes in line with the Ordinance 2016-17 in that the referenced map needs to have a date of May 16, 2013.
- C. *Resolution 2016-33 - FY 2016 Budget Amendment:* City Thornton reported on the line items that need adjustment. The administration requests for \$2,000 for the annexation

process and take that from the funds for the part-time position for the annexation that was not filled. She requested the remainder of the funds be put into a training item.

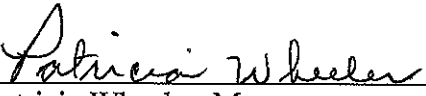
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: City Manager reviewed her report with the Council. She thanked the Council Members and the residents for coming out to McCurdy Park to discuss the rebuild of the park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR: None.

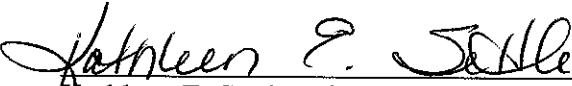
ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Redmond made the motion to adjourn. Council Member Coletti seconded the motion.

Motion approved 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.



Patricia Wheeler, Mayor



Kathleen E. Settle, City Clerk