

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE/WORK SESSION

875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, GA

Immediately following the January 17, 2017 Special Call Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

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

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE DAY: Motion by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Coletti to adopt the agenda of the day.

Motion approved 6-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (*The public is encouraged to speak but to keep comments to three minutes.*): The following citizens came forward to give their concerns, opinions and suggestions: Jane Rhodes, Nan Nash, Fawn Lowry, Diana Hollis, Sara Abrams.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Planning and Zoning: None.
- B. Community Affairs: Council Member Coletti asked the Council to revisit the Outdoor Café Permit to include alcohol. Council Member Redmond also thought it might be a good idea to allow for alcohol but to reconsider the fee. Council Member Mailman asked for the item to put it on the agenda for the February Work Session.
- C. Economic Development/Downtown Development Authority: Kim Cumbie reported over 10,000 visitors have gone through the Visitor's Center; the economic impact to the community was over \$12,000. At this time, the Visitors' Center is fully staffed with volunteers. The DDA Board has a planning session this Saturday. She is getting the Farmer's Market ready and hopes for the Village's Farmer's Market will be receive the "Georgia Grown" designation. The DDA Regular Meeting will be held on January 23, 2017. Council Member Wells thanked Kim for stepping into the role.
- D. Finance: None. Council Member Higgins encouraged the citizenry to get a copy of the Revenue and Expense Report. He thanked City Manager Thornton for her hard work.
- E. Community Outreach: Council Member Redmond asked for a follow-up on the code violation cases on JBR, Griffin and Sexton Streets. A public hearing for MARTA has been scheduled at the Maloof Auditorium. She hoped many would attend. She reported on a telephone pole in the street at the corner of Rankin and Second Street.
- F. Public Works: Council Member Wells reported on the streetscape project.
- G. Public Safety: Council Member Mailman directed questions for Chief Troutman to answer in written response.

- H. Historic Preservation Commission: Al Capagrossi reported on the January 11 meeting of Historic Preservation.
- I. Visitor Center: The report was given during Economic Development.

STAFF REPORTS:

- A. Code Compliance Officer: Sergeant Roseberry responded to the questions regarding the code cases mentioned by Council Member Redmond. She reviewed her report with Council and updated on a rooming house location.
- B. Public Works Director: Mr. Tavenner reported in the year 2016 the City had 377 people providing community service. Paving and Inlay Project on Ridge will start in March. The playground equipment at McCurdy Park has been removed. The swing sets remain. The crew has completed cleaning out 250 storm drains. DeKalb County has been striping the streets in an effort to complete 2016 requests. Council Members Mailman and Wells asked Jim to let them know Public Works' needs in order to keep the parks better maintained.
- C. Chief of Police: Chief Troutman reported year to date 2016 statistics for the police department: 3,398 calls; 740 arrests; 4,401 citations, 1,349 warnings, 6 DUIs, 160 VGAs. He asked if anyone had any questions about the report distributed. He reported on the suspect regarding the three burglaries in the Village. Chief Troutman reported on changing his officers to a ten hour shift.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consent Agenda: None.
- B. Medlock Park: Consideration for August 26, 2017, Rock the Block Event and Futuristic Retro Super Heroes as the Theme for the Park: Sara Abrams and David Dorbin of the Effort Foundation discussed their plans for Medlock Park Event in August. They would like to renovate the Basketball Court before the event in order to have three on three basketball tournament. Mr. Dorbin discussed his plans for sponsorships, contests and music. He also hoped to charge for parking for the bands. Ms. Abrams hoped to have food trucks and vendors for the event. City Manager Thornton would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the August 26 event and the permitting necessary.

Ms. Abrams hoped to have the theme of the park to be retro superheroes with the wording "You are a Superhero." Ms. Abrams and Mr. Dorbin did not want to start doing renderings without the Council's thoughts. The Council wanted to ensure that the public was involved in the theme and asked for a possible timeline be presented to Council. Mr. Dorbin asked if he needed a permit to renovate the basketball courts.

- C. Local Government Entities Agreement between American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and the City of Stone Mountain: City Manager Thornton reported the City has had the same agreement for a number of years. The agreement protects and assists the City with copyright infringement.
- D. Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Committee - Fred Jackson. Mr. Jackson's resume was reviewed by Council.
- E. Appointment of the Personnel Hearing Officer – Two-Year Term – Latisha Dear Jackson: Council Member Coletti was concerned that Judge Jackson is currently employed by the City and that it might cause the appearance of a conflict of interest. City Manager suggested Judge Jackson be appointed until the City can find someone to fill the spot. Council Member Johnson wanted staff to research how other cities handle the

Personnel Hearing Officer. City Manager Thornton referred to the ordinance and felt the City should appoint Judge Jackson for the immediate future and the City also needs to appoint an alternate.

NEW ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

A. Ordinance 2017-01 – Amendments to the Golf Cart Ordinance: City Manager Thornton explained the ordinance defines two different types of golf carts; low speed vehicles and a motorized cart. The motorized carts would be allowed on a 25mph street and may cross over a higher speed road as long as they are crossing to a street that is 25 mph.

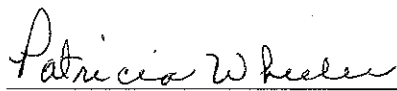
CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: City Manager reviewed the revenue and expenses report. Every fund for the year came under what the funds were allotted for the year. The audit will begin on January 30, 2017. She asked for an Executive Session to update the Council on a meeting with Atwell and what might be a potentially litigated matter. The Work Session was recessed at 8:28 p.m. in order for Council to go into Executive Session. The Work Session reconvened at 8:49 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR: Council Member Wells was concerned about comments made at a previous meeting regarding possible legislation regarding attendance. City Manager Thornton thanked the City for ringing the Freedom Bell on Martin Luther King Birthday.

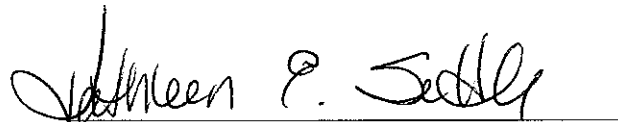
ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Coletti to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.



Mayor Patricia Wheeler



Kathleen E. Settle, City Clerk