



# City of Smyrna

2800 King Street  
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

## Meeting Minutes - Final Committee of the Whole

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Thursday, April 1, 2021

6:00 PM

A. Max Bacon City Hall  
HR Training Room

2800 King Street SE, Smyrna, Ga 30080

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### **MASKS REQUIRED / TEMPERATURE WILL BE CHECKED**

#### **Roll Call**

**Present** 7 - Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Austin Wagner, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Mayor pro tem / Councilmember Tim Gould, and Councilmember Lewis Wheaton

**Also Present** 1 - Scott Cochran

**Staff** 5 - Joe Bennett, Penny Mocer, Heather Peacon-Corn, Julie Barwig, and Frank Durrance

#### **1. Call to Order**

Mayor Derek Norton called the April 1, 2021 meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 6:00PM.

Mayor Norton opened the meeting by speaking about the following:

Vaccines: The City received 100 doses that were posted for appointment only and were all spoken for in about 26 minutes. We are hopeful the next shipment will be between 500 and 1000 doses of the Phizer vaccine for distribution.

A post has been made on Facebook and the City's website. He would like to see moving forward us open the large gym for these vaccines as well as have some mobile units that go out into some of the neighborhoods and offer the vaccines as well.

Legislature:

Annexations: We were successful with our annexation requests for the unincorporated islands.

Red Speed Cameras: We were unfortunately not successful with the school speed zone cameras and the legislation failed by four votes. We will continue to work towards getting the areas around our schools protected.

#### **2. Executive Session**

Mayor Norton asked for a motion to move into executive session at 6:12PM.

Councilmember Glenn Pickens made a motion; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The vote to move into Executive Session to discuss Personnel and Land Acquisition matters passed unanimously, 7-0.

**A.** [COW21-24](#) Discussion regarding Personnel.

B. [COW21-25](#) Discussion regarding Land Acquisition.

### 3. Other Business

Mayor Norton asked for a motion to return to regular session at 6:46PM.  
Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion; seconded by Councilmember Glenn Pickens.  
The vote to move back into regular session passed unanimously, 7-0.

Mr. Bennet has turned in to Cobb County a list of all infrastructure asks for the next round of stimulus. A flyover has been added as well.  
Intersection of Windy Hill and Atlanta Road drive had a previous concept for a flyover but because of the railroad bridge there it made it a very ambitious project according to Greg Teaque of Croy.

Fiscal Surplus: We had \$2.9 Million from last fiscal year. We sat on a lot of that due to COVID and now we have a better picture of our financial picture and now, not only do we have that surplus but in addition, we have an anticipated surplus of \$3 - 4 million from the current fiscal year. We previously spoke about a potential use of the funds.

Already Spent:

Church Property \$577,345.00

Church Street \$113,575.00

Admin Car \$37,925.00

Specific Project Recommended Use of Surplus:

Stands \$300,000

Traffic Calming \$500,000

Mosquito Treatment \$20,000

Sustainability Study - Schneider \$60,000

Glendale Extension \$30,000

Server Refresh \$275,000

Band for Birthday Celebration \$90,000

Remaining Surplus / Drop to Equity \$799,284.00

City Administrator Joseph Bennett has spoken to Schneider's new project manager. His fear is if we pick a small project this could drag on and he prefers the collective decide to pay off the report we received and move forward without Schneider.

Mr. Bennett stated that the process we are having processing bills every month is related to our servers. Finance Director Kristin Robinson has put in an additional 40 hours of overtime and had Tyler Munis working on her computer for 4 consecutive days. Councilmember Susan Wilkinson asked how old the current server to be replaced is and Mr. Bennett responded that they were between 5 -10 years old.

Band / Event Discussion: Community Relations Director Jennifer Bennett has been working with several bands to secure entertainment for our events. We will need to rent a larger stage which is approximately \$90,0000 for the rental and Mayor Norton would like that to come out of surplus.

That leaves us with just under a million dollars that Mayor Norton would like to have that remain in General Fund especially as we continue to get higher and higher on the Windy Hill Project.

Councilmember Corkey Welch asked about Windy Hill costs and Greg Teague of Croy noted that Windy Hill was being handled in house by Public Works Director and Assistant Director. He has a concern that Change Orders have occurred that have not been before Council. Mayor Norton suggested we Mr. Martin and Mr. Jones come before Council at the next Committee of the Whole meeting and review the project and the numbers with the Council.

Mayor Norton spoke about the incoming stimulus monies and noted we are reviewing the guidance as to how it can be spent.

A motion was made for Keith Zgonc to be the finalist for the position of Chief of Police by Councilmember Travis Lindley; seconded by Councilmember Charles Welch.

The motion to approve Mr. Zgonc as finalist passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0.

A motion was also made to cancel the April 5, 2021 meeting of the Mayor and Council by Councilmember Travis Lindley; seconded by Councilmember Glenn Pickens.

The motion to approve the cancellation of the April 5, 2021 meeting of the Mayor and Council passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Norton asked Council for Ward updates:

Ward 5: Councilmember Susan Wilkinson noted that drivers were avoiding Church Street and the speed tables by traveling on Flagler. The Flagler residents would like to be considered for speed tables.

She also asked for some clarification regarding Windy Hill.

Ward 4: Councilmember Corkey Welch has no report.

Ward 6: Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould thanked staff for their assistance with Creatwood Forest entrance. Also he went to a meeting in Athens regarding road construction. The City received an award on the traffic circle on Roswell.

Ward 2: Councilmember Austin Wagner spoke about the legislature and spoke briefly about mixed drinks to go passing as well as it pertains to our local restaurants.

Ward 3: Councilmember Travis Lindley - recognized the statewide teacher of the year, Lisa Rogers, and she will be recognized at the April 19th meeting.

Ward 1: Councilmember Glenn Pickens had a meeting regarding short term rentals and Rusty Martin, Community Development Director, will work on a draft ordinance to be reviewed by Council.

Ward 7: Councilmember Lewis Wheaton had no report but did mention the meeting regarding trail opportunities in his area. It was a good starting point.

Councilmember Lindley had questions regarding notice of the annexation process. City Attorney Scott Cochran spoke about the timeline and processes.

Mr. Bennett spoke about the last couple of weeks and the budget meetings completed with departments. This year we started with a zero based budget and worked from there. Mr. Bennett will be on vacation for 5 days the following week and Fire Chief Roy

Acree would be in charge in his absence. Assistant City Administrator Penny Mocerri would also be out for a couple of days next week as well.

#### **4. Adjournment**

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 7:38PM.