

# City of Smyrna

*2800 King Street  
Smyrna, Georgia 30080*



## Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, November 15, 2018**

**6:00 PM**

**City Hall**

**Committee of the Whole**

## 1. Roll Call

*Council: Mayor A. Max Bacon, Councilmember Derek Norton, Andrea Blustein, Corkey Welch, Ron Fennel, Tim Gould, Maryline Blackburn*

*Council (Excused): Susan Wilkinson*

*Staff: Tammi Saddler Jones (City Administrator), Scott Andrews (Asst. City Administrator), Terri Graham (City Clerk), Scott Cochran (City Attorney), Christy Ullman (Executive Asst. to Mayor & Council), Elsa Thompson (Administrative Services Coordinator), Ashley Youmans (ICMA Management Fellow), Kristin Robinson (Finance Director), Kay Bolick (HR Director), Janet Liberman (KSB Director), Julie (KSB), Frank Martin (Public Works Director), Frank Durrance (SPD)*

*Guests: Larry Terry (Croy Engineering), Tammy Galvis (representative from Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC)*

## 2. Call to Order

*Mayor A. Max Bacon called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.*

## 3. Auditors Presentation - Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC

*Finance Director Kristin Robinson introduced Ms. Ginni Harris with Nichols, Cauley & Associates, LLC (an auditing firm the City hired). Ms. Harris advised that the auditors' opinion on the City's financial report was called an "unmodified opinion". She noted that the report was submitted to the State and also to the Georgia Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Ms. Harris advised that GFOA would read and grade the report and issue a certificate of achievement if the City has met their requirements – she stated that she was certain that the City would meet the requirements and receive the certificate. Ms. Harris then gave an overview of the City's General Revenue Funds and noted that the net income for the year (fiscal year ended June 30, 2018) was 3.5 million dollars. She advised that the City's "Unassigned Fund Balance" should increase yearly and provided a visual growth chart. Ms. Harris displayed a pie chart which detailed the City's "Governmental Fund" revenues and noted that the largest revenue was from property taxes. She also displayed a pie chart which detailed the City's "Governmental Fund" expenses and advised that the largest expense was in Public Safety. Ms. Harris made note that the City's operating revenues were remaining consistent.*

*Ms. Robinson advised that the water rate would increase 2% in January 2019 and citizens would be notified starting in December.*

## 4. Keep Smyrna Beautiful Presentation

*Janet Liberman, Keep Smyrna Beautiful (KSB) Director, introduced the new KSB Coordinator, Ms. Julie Barwig and spoke briefly about Ms. Barwig's background. Mr. Liberman noted that she often received questions about KSB "the city department" and KSB "the non-profit" and advised how she explained the difference between the two to citizens. She stated that KSB was an award winning program and had been for 22 consecutive years. Ms. Liberman gave a brief overview of KSB's volunteers and their accomplishments as well as provided information about the recycling center and the amount of recyclables that have been processed there from January 2018 through*

October 2018. Ms. Liberman also announced several of KSB's upcoming projects. Councilmember Ron Fennel inquired about recycling capabilities at city parks. Ms. Liberman advised that KSB received a grant from Keep America Beautiful that was "specifically for recycling in parks" and that KSB was still figuring out the logistics. Mayor Bacon advised that he had read that media print paper was no longer of any value and inquired if it was still being recycled at the city's recycling center. Ms. Liberman advised that it was still being collected but that they were not getting any money for it and noted that office paper recycling was producing a lot of revenue. Mayor Bacon advised that he wanted to be sure that citizens know the proper steps to recycle.

## 5. Review of the November 19, 2018 Mayor and Council Agenda

### *Mayoral Report*

*Proclamation in Recognition of Small Business Saturday, November 24, 2018.* Mayor Bacon advised that Councilmember Ron Fennel would be reading that into the record. Mr. Fennel advised that he may not be present at the meeting.

*Land Issues/Zoning/Annexation – no discussion*

### *Formal Business*

*6A – Brunch Bill – Mayor Bacon advised that they would be officially approving the City Election results and made note that Smyrna was the city with the highest approval rate for this bill.*

*6B – Brunch Bill Ordinance – Mayor Bacon advised that the approved ordinance would go into effect the Sunday following the upcoming City Council meeting.*

*6C – Purchase of Fuel Management System – Public Works Director Frank Martin advised that the fuel system at Public Works required upgrading the tower and would also have a smarter system where one could swipe their card for gas. He noted that the upgrade would also be able to tell if a vehicle needed maintenance.*

*6D – Purchase Garbage Truck – Mayor Bacon inquired who the lowest bidder was. Mr. Martin advised that it was a business in Austell, Georgia named Carolina Environmental Systems, Inc.*

### *Consent Agenda*

*8A – D – Approval of Minutes for various meetings – no discussion*

*8E – Smyrna Memorial contract extension with Ashley Shares – Assistant City Administrator Scott Andrews advised that the extension was due to family issues that Ms. Shares was experiencing which have caused a delay to the completion of her work.*

*No items were added to the agenda*

## 6. City Administrator Report

*City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones gave an update on the CDBG Building on Teasley. She advised that she and Councilmember Andrea Blustein had a meeting at Cobb County Community Development with Dana Johnson the Director. She stated*

*that Mr. Johnson advised that the County had assessed the value of the building at \$330,000 but were willing to sell to the City at a reduced cost of \$150,000 – \$180,000. Mr. Johnson also advised that the County had come up with two different options in regards to the property if the City opted not to buy it; option 1 – the County would work with the City to put a CDBG eligible activity in the building and also utilize additional CDBG funds to bring the building up to code (renovations) with an MOU in place for both City and County to layout the process on selection; option 2 – the County would buy out the CDBG federal funds and dispose of the property (sell the building). Ms. Saddler Jones noted that anything other than a “social service” occupying the building would require a Special Use Permit.*

*Ms. Saddler Jones asked Human Resources Director Kay Bolick to speak about Medical Stop Loss. Ms. Bolick advised that VOYA (the City’s current provider for Medical Stop Loss coverage) had given the City a final rate quote which was “much higher than expected, including an increase to the stop loss limit (\$750,000). Ms. Bolick stated that SunLife (an A+ rated company) also quoted and had agreed to maintain the City’s \$700,000 stop loss limit, with a smaller rate increase than VOYA’s original quote. Ms. Saddler Jones noted that the savings would be \$28,940.64 from the initial rate increase quoted by VOYA.*

*Ms. Saddler Jones then showed before and after photos of North Cooper Lake Park and a photo of the “Wall of Excellence” in City Hall. She then advised that there would be a presentation by Eric Bosman from Kimley-Horn at the November 29th Committee of the Whole meeting about I-285 Top-End Feasibility Study.*

## **7. Other Business**

*Councilmember Ron Fennel advertised a football game at Suntrust Park happening in the upcoming weekend.*

*ICMA Management Fellow Ashley Youmans advertised the Meet and Greet for Peace that would take place on December 11th and an upcoming Smyrna Vision Community meeting on January 22nd.*

*City Clerk Terri Graham advised that the runoff election would be taking place on December 4th.*

*Assistant City Administrator Scott Andrews advised that Police Chief David Lee advised that due to the newly implemented recruitment bonus the vacancies at Smyrna Police has lowered.*

## **8. Adjournment**

*Mayor A. Max Bacon adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm.*