



**Meeting Minutes - Preliminary
Committee of the Whole**

Thursday, January 30, 2020

6:00 PM

City Hall

Roll Call

Mayor Derek Norton, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Austin Wagner, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Corkey Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Tim Gould, Councilmember Lewis Wheaton

Also Present: City Attorney Scott Cochran

Staff: City Clerk Heather Peacon-Corn, Finance Director Kristin Robinson, Community Development Director Rusty Martin, Human Resources Director Kay Bolick, Budget Officer Jered Sigmon, Management Fellow Landon O'Neal

1. Call to Order

Mayor Derek Norton called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 6:00pm.

2. New Business

A. Advanced Disposal Services

Honored to have the Mayor of Sugar Hill, Steve Edwards, in attendance, who also happens to be with Advanced Disposal and is here to discuss the current contract extension.

Finance Manager Kristin Robinson spoke about the agenda item being a renewal of the current contract in one year increments with five additional yearly options. Darnell was mentioned as key to having above par service here in the City and although he was gone for a short period, he is back managing the City contract and services. Kristin added that we had previously had quarterly meetings but had recently had to go to monthly meetings to keep the level of service on track. These will continue until things smooth back out.

B. Restated Defined Benefits Retirement Plan

Discussed under the Review of the February 17, 2020 Mayor and Council Agenda.

3. Review of the February 3, 2020 Mayor and Council Agenda

Mayor Norton called for the review of the February 3, 2020 agenda.

Pastor Bush would lead the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. He would also have the group, the Swan Silvertones, sing a song of praise and worship.

Councilmember Lewis Wheaton would read the Proclamation regarding Black History month.

Under Formal Business:

A. Apartment name change - Community Development Director Rusty Martin stated this was a standard name change.

B. Amend the section of the ordinance regarding the City Administrator and City Clerk. City Attorney Scott Cochran remarked that this was to clarify the direction the City Administrator would have over the City Clerk's regular operational guidelines. He noted that he had also defined the word "Control" in the Ordinance.

The City Administrator would not have the hiring / firing capabilities over the City Clerk as defined elsewhere in the Ordinance.

Mayor Norton noted that this was to pull the daily duties of the Clerk to be evaluated by the City Administrator because the Mayor and Council did not have daily availability to the Clerk and her responsibilities.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson had a question and concern about the City Administrator changing the duties of the Clerk and Mr. Cochran replied that the duties of the Clerk were defined in the ordinance and could not be changed. She also still wants the availability to provide an evaluation for the Clerk. Mayor Norton stated this would be a separate discussion and not pertaining to this current item.

C. Approval of the appointment of Mr. Ron Davis, to the Downtown Development Authority.

D. Approval of Deputy Chief Joseph Bennett to the position of Police Chief at the retirement of current Chief David Lee.

Under the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of the minutes of the previous Committee of the Whole, Pre-Council and Mayor and Council Meeting.

- Approval to extend the Advanced Disposal Contract.

- Approval and Adoption of the Restated Defined Benefit Retirement Plan documents and authorize the Mayor to execute related documents. Human Resources Director Kay Bolick explained the details of the paperwork and implications. Most will not affect the City's current Plan.

- Approval of the Professional Services Agreement with Diligentia Consulting, LLC.

Mayor Norton discussed the newly created Committee for Policies and Procedure, with Councilmember Austin Wagner as Chairman, Travis Lindley and Susan Wilkinson.

He also traveled to Washington DC recently and met with Administration staff to discuss the possibility for Deputy Secretary's who would come to Smyrna and assist in finding Federal Funding for designated Opportunity Zones.

Councilmember Wilkinson wants Community Development to give a report on the benefits we have had with the current zones in place.

Kristin Robinson, Tammi Saddler-Jones and Mayor Norton went to a meeting in Cobb County where the discussion of SPLOST was held and it was confirmed that each City would be given 3 million dollars. The SPLOST project list would be reviewed and discussed at the February 13, 2020 COW meetings. A huge amount of the overall funds would go to resurfacing of County streets. Councilmember Corkey Welch asked

if there would be additional funds from the current SPLOST and Mayor Norton said there was some discussion.

The intergovernmental agreement was just sent out the previous day and Mr. Cochran was called by the County attorney to discuss, however, he has not seen a copy of the list. This SPLOST will be on the ballot in November 2022. Councilmember Wilkinson wants the costs of the ongoing maintenance related to the splash pad.

The upcoming mini-retreat would be postponed or moved to an earlier date.

Congressman David Scott would be in attendance at the Black History Month Celebration on Saturday, February 15, 2020.

The no smoking signs have been designed and will be placed downtown.

Councilmember Glenn Pickens spoke about the upcoming Spring Road Development public meeting and Mr. Cochran gave them suggestions on the discussion with the public. Most governments that operate zoning, have time limits for public speaking. He suggests that there be a set total limit that is shared by all speakers as long as each side has equal time. A policy would be drawn up to detail the limits.

Councilmember Wilkinson attended classes at the Mayor Day Summit. She took Workforce Development that spoke about the Great Promise Partnership. She thought the City was going to take up this project. Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould remarked that he had spoken to Scott Andrews about it.

She also remarked about the plans for the new Campbell High School expansion and the lack of parking the campus currently has. Rusty Martin remarked that the County is exempt from the City's zoning.

The discussion led to Plat Approvals and whether they require a Public Hearing. Mr. Cochran said the ordinance could be changed to allow for these items to be placed in Consent and not hold a public hearing.

Rusty reiterated that Community Development spends approximately three months with the applicant prior to the item coming before Council. Every opportunity is made for notification and receipt of comment. Everything has met the requirements and is ready to be voted on and if Council prolongs the process because residents want additional conversation, it is a cost that is having to be carried by the applicant and is unexpected. Rusty also asked Council to make arrangements for Public Meetings to be held closer to the notification time and not closer to the Mayor and Council meeting time.

Councilmember Wagner spoke about being on the Policy and Procedure Committee and the vision of housekeeping and moving forward with the City's wants and needs.

Councilmember Lindley spoke about the classes taken at the Mayor's Day Summit and the takeaway that the City has been extremely well run the past years.

He also spoke about the current traffic calming policy and that it is an option for the City to say "no". It is too restrictive. He wants to look at the current policy and revise it to today's needs. Mayor Norton agrees that it needs to be reviewed and possibly revised. Councilmember Welch stated that we need to be careful about relaxing this policy too much and that we hear from all sides.

Mt. Zion Cemetery is going to be moving forward and Mr. Lindley is in the process of having discussion.

*Councilmember Wheaton will be having a meeting regarding traffic calming and City Engineer Kevin Moore will be in attendance.
He also attended the Soapbox Event and the kids spoke about Civic Engagement from many area elementary and middle schools. He would like the kids to participate in an upcoming Council Meeting.
Black History month event is upcoming and the planning has been in full swing.*

The Meet and Greet for Peace was a great event however, Wednesday was a hard night to hold the event. Councilmember Wilkinson asked Landon O'Neal, Management Fellow, about who assisted in the organization of the event.

4. Executive Session (as needed)

A motion was made by Councilmember Corkey Welch to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Tim Gould. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilmember Corkey Welch to enter back into regular session; seconded by Councilmember Tim Gould. The Motion carried Unanimously.

5. Adjournment

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