

**Pre-Council Meeting Minutes – Final  
Magnolia Room at the Community Center  
March 15, 2021  
6:30 PM**

*Present:*        *Derek Norton*                                *Tim Gould*                                *Lewis Wheaton*  
                      *Susan Wilkinson*                                *Austin Wagner*                                *Glenn Pickens*  
                      *Charles “Corkey” Welch*                                *Travis Lindley*

*Also, Present: Jeffrey Tucker (Assistant City Attorney)*

*Staff: Joe Bennett (City Administrator), Penny Mocerri (Assistant City Administrator), Rusty Martin (Community Development Director), Joey Staubes (Planner II, Community Development), and Tina M. Monaghan (Deputy City Clerk)*

**Mayor Derek Norton called the March 15, 2021 Pre-Council Meeting to Order at 6:30 PM.**

**Review of the Agenda for the March 15, 2021 Mayor and Council Meeting**

Mayor Norton opened the discussion by noting that there would be no formal business on the agenda.

Ward 6 Councilmember Tim Gould noted that he wanted to make sure that the proposed two car garage would be a key element of the addition to the Cliffwood Drive variance request. He intended to speak to the applicant before the meeting for clarity on the issue.

Councilmember Travis Lindley stated that there was nothing new to discuss on the two annexation requests that will become part of Ward 3.

Assistant City Attorney Jeffrey Tucker explained that agenda items 4B, C, and D are all part of the same request and items 4E, F, and G go together as part of an additional request. First is the public hearing, then the annexation vote and the final vote which is the approval of the variances and/or rezoning.

Mayor Norton noted announced that the Edgeline project will be tabled to the April 19, 2021 Mayor and Council meeting at the request of the applicant. He also reminded everyone that the public hearing for the Townhome Moratorium would take place this evening. Community Development Director Rusty Martin shared that an additional application for a townhome development had been received last Friday. This was to update Mayor and Council from the information presented Committee of the Whole meeting.

With no further questions or concerns regarding the agenda, Mayor Norton opened the meeting for announcements.

Mayor Norton announced that the April 5, 2021 Mayor and Council meeting would be cancelled since there would not be enough elected officials present to make a quorum due to Easter vacations. There will be a Committee of the Whole meeting on April 1, 2021 and he asked everyone to be there for that. He concluded his announcements by reminding everyone that the next Mayor and Council meeting will be on April 19, 2021.

Councilmember Charles “Corkey” Welch inquired about the funding that the city would receive as a result of the passing of the stimulus. Mayor Norton said the amount slated for the City of Smyrna was \$17.85 million and that there would be upcoming discussions on how that money should be allocated.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson asked about the proposed \$2.00 streetlight fee that was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Many municipalities utilize the fee in order to help offset the costs of streetlights throughout the city.

Councilmember Gould noted that a resident from Ward 6 would be coming to speak at Citizen Input regarding the Creatwood Forrest neighborhood. They are seeking assistance in cleaning up the areas around the entrances as well as asking the city to assist with the placement of a sign that the residents are raising funds for. There is no clear marker at the beginning of the neighborhood like most subdivisions have and they are hoping to change this.

Councilmember Wilkinson announced that representatives from the Smyrna Grove neighborhood had a meeting with Georgia Power regarding the aesthetics of the substation that is located across the street from the entrance to the subdivision. Georgia Power said they could possibly raise the wall from ten feet to twelve feet but are unable to plant anything due to the underground wiring that the roots would damage. Discussions are still ongoing.

Mayor Norton announced that Representative Terri Anulewicz introduced the annexation bill of which the purpose is to bring in unincorporated islands and make them part of the city.

**Mayor Norton adjourned the March 15, 2021 Pre-Council Meeting at 6:44 PM.**