

Pre-Council Meeting - Final
April 1, 2019
6:00 PM

Present: *Mayor Max Bacon* *Tim Gould* *Andrea Blustein*
 Maryline Blackburn *Derek Norton*
 Susan Wilkinson *Ron Fennel*

Absent: *Charles “Corkey” Welch*

Also Present: *Tammi Saddler Jones (City Administrator), Scott Andrews (Assistant City Administrator), Jeffrey Tucker (Assistant City Attorney), Terri Graham (City Clerk), Ken Suddreth (Director of Community Development), Rusty Martin (Senior Planner), Kevin Moore (City Engineer), Tom Boland (Economic Development Manager), Major Frank Durrance (Police Dept.), Christy Ullman (Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council), Ashley Youmans (Management Fellow), and Tina M. Monaghan (Deputy City Clerk)*

Mayor Max Bacon called the Pre-Council Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM.

City Administrator Report

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones turned the meeting over to Director of Community Development Ken Suddreth to speak about the annexation study.

Mr. Suddreth explained that it was an annexation feasibility study which was budgeted for in the amount of \$25,000. A map of the City was broken into four quadrants and areas adjacent to or surrounded by the City were being looked at. He suggested putting together a technical advisory committee to assist with the process. The scope of the project would include doing a background and demographic profile, study area revenue projections as well as expenditure projections. The goal of the study is to allow the City to be strategic when it comes to annexation in a cost effective fashion. Mr. Suddreth stated that he would be sending the information out to Mayor and Council for their review and welcomes feedback. The point of the discussion was not to seek an immediate decision but to get the information out there in order to move forward to the next steps.

There was discussion among Mayor and Council about the presentation including some of the history behind what areas were already annexed. The ability to annex areas with only 60% rather than the full 100% of support was also talked about. Law allows municipalities to annex with only 60% of residents in support although Smyrna has yet to use this method.

Mayor Bacon spoke of meetings with other cities about the Upper End Study of 285. This would be a transportation study and the costs would be similar to what the City already anticipated on paying. The cost will be divided among the participating cities. Final information will come forward in the near future for an official vote.

Review of the Agenda for the April 1, 2019 Council Meeting

Mayor Bacon opened discussion of the agenda. The Proclamation will be moved to the next meeting but was not removed because it had been posted as a part of the final agenda. Both 4A and 6B were being tabled to later meetings.

Assistant City Attorney Tucker recommended restating the motion for 6E because it is not yet a contract. The motion needs to read approve the proposal to contract rather than approve the contract.

There was some discussion regarding the Gann Road bridge project. Due to the small size of the bridge, some wanted an explanation for the high cost of the project. Representatives from Croy Engineering explained all that was going into the project including the advanced engineering to help with water flow and flooding in the area. The bridge will be removed and replaced with one that is wider to allow for pedestrian safety and a bit longer for better structural support. The initial estimate was lower because it lacked some of the recently discovered necessary components.

The Mayor expressed concern with the amount of time that the road would be closed. As of the date of the meeting, there is an anticipated road closure time of 120 days however they are working to decrease that time.

A review of the issues that caused a delay on the Roswell Road Roundabout was had. The main issue was with Georgia Power having to move existing lights which took almost a year to resolve. Laws regarding right of way ownership have made things take longer than they once did. Mayor Bacon feels that effected residents need to be notified of the timeline for the project since so much time has passed since the initial information was released.

The Mayor asked Council if there were any further questions regarding the minutes that were tabled from the previous meeting and no one spoke.

Mayor Bacon then went around the room for announcements.

City Clerk Terri Graham reminded Council that Campaign Disclosure Forms were due by Friday.

Ms. Blackburn noted that Café Lucia wanted to host a small egg hunt for children as they have in the past.

Mr. Fennel said that he had been watching the budget come together and that a Finance Committee Meeting should be coming soon.

Mayor Bacon spoke about the monthly finance report which revealed extensive overtime that was occurring within certain departments. This was a concern since there were recent items such as Ad Valorem that will lead to a potential decrease in revenue.

Mayor Bacon adjourned the Pre-Council Meeting at 6:43 PM.