



City of Smyrna

2800 King Street
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Monday, January 7, 2019

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Mayor Max Bacon, Councilmember Derek Norton, Councilmember Maryline Blackburn, Councilmember Andrea Blustein, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Councilmember Tim Gould and Councilmember Ron Fennel

Also Present: 6 - Tammi Saddler Jones, Scott Cochran, Scott Andrews, Dan Campbell, Ashley Youmans and Tina Monaghan

Call to Order

Mayor A. Max Bacon called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

1. Invocation and Pledge:

Pastor Michael Cason, Life Church Smyrna Assembly of God (4100 King Springs Rd) delivered the Invocation.

Boy Scout Troop 220 out of Life Church led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Agenda Changes:

There were no changes to the agenda.

3. Mayoral Report:

There was no Mayoral Report.

4. Land Issues/Zonings/Annexations:

There were no land issues/zonings/annexations.

5. Privilege Licenses:

There were no privilege licenses.

6. Formal Business:

A. [2018-535](#) Adoption of Recreate Smyrna Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Sponsors: Wilkinson

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones summarized the background information. The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking adoption of the Recreate Smyrna Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Parks Master Plan began in June 2017 and has been an eighteen month process. The Recreate Smyrna Parks and recreation Master Plan has been completed by Perez Planning and Design, LLC as per the standards established by the City of Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department. The plan has been transmitted to Mayor, Council, and Administration as each phase has been completed for review.

Councilmember and Parks and Rec Committee Chair Susan Wilkinson thanked Parks and Rec Director Richard Garland and his staff for their hard work on the plan as well as Carlos Perez and his team. Ms. Wilkinson spoke of her insistence on including meeting with neighbors prior to any substantial changes to the parks which was included in the plan.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson made a motion to adopt the Recreate Smyrna Parks and Recreation Master Plan with a second by Councilmember Maryline Blackburn.

The motion to approve was carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blackburn, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Gould and Councilmember Fennel

B. [2019-11](#)

Award RFP19-012 City of Smyrna Lattanzi Field (Ward Park) for a backstop and safety netting system to the lowest bidder Quality Diversified Services, 1975 Lost Mountain Rd., Powder Springs, GA, for \$164,962.50 funded by CDBG and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents.

Sponsors: Wilkinson

The background information was provided by Ms. Saddler Jones. Parks and Recreation requested bids for the construction of a backstop and safety netting system at Lattanzi Field using CDBG funds. Parks and Recreation, Purchasing and Croy Engineering have reviewed the bid and recommend award of bid RFP19-012 City of Smyrna Lattanzi Field (Ward Park) to the lowest bidder Quality Diversified Services, 1975 Lost Mountain Road, Powder Springs, GA for \$164,962.50 and to authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson made a motion to approve and award RFP19-012 City of Smyrna Lattanzi Field (Ward Park) for a backstop and safety netting system to the lowest bidder Quality Diversified Services, 1975 Lost Mountain Rd., Powder Springs, GA, for \$164,962.50 funded by CDBG and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Charles "Corkey" Welch.

The motion to approve was carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blackburn, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Gould and Councilmember Fennel

C. [2019-01](#)

Approval to fix and publish qualifying fees for upcoming 2019 City General Election for Mayor and Council seats the qualifying fee for Mayor will be set at \$756.00 and for Council \$567.00.

Sponsors: Fennel

Ms. Saddler Jones conferred the background information to the Mayor and Council. Pursuant to OCGA 21-2-131 (a) (1), the governing authority of any county or municipality, not later than February 1 of any year in which a general election is to be held should fix qualifying fees. The fee for municipalities should be 3 percent of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year including all supplements authorized by law if a salaried office. Qualifying fees will be published in the Marietta Daily Journal which is the City's legal organ by February 1st.

Councilmember Ron Fennel made a motion for the approval to fix and publish qualifying fees for upcoming 2019 City General Election for Mayor and Council seats the qualifying fee for Mayor will be set at \$756.00 and for Council \$567.00. Councilmember Derek Norton seconded the motion.

The motion to approve was carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blackburn, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Gould and Councilmember Fennel

7. Commercial Building Permits:

There were no commercial building permits.

8. Consent Agenda:

Ms. Tammi Saddler Jones read aloud the consent agenda.

Councilmember Ron Fennel made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read aloud by City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones with a second by Councilmember Derek Norton.

The motion to approve was carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blackburn, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Gould and Councilmember Fennel

- A. [2019-06](#) Approval of the December 17, 2018 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
- B. [2019-02](#) Approval of the December 17, 2018 Pre-Council Meeting Minutes
- C. [2019-08](#) Approval of the November 29, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- D. [2019-09](#) Approval of the December 13, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- E. [2019-03](#) Approval for Atkins Park Tavern to extend premises for Smyrna OysterFest January 26 - 27, 2019 during hours of operation.

Sponsors: Fennel

- F. [2019-04](#) Approval of 2019 17th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration Weekend in the Market Village Saturday, March 16, 2019 11:00 am - 11:00 PM and Sunday, March 17, 2019 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM . Atkins Park Tavern requests street closing for the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Celebration to include West Spring Street from Atlanta Road and terminating at the end of the fountain area at the corners of Atkins Park Tavern and Corner Taqueria.

Sponsors: Fennel

- G. [2019-05](#) Approval of Atkins Park Annual Crawfish Boil Saturday, April 27, 2019, from 11:00 am - 11:00 pm and Sun., April 28, 2019, from 11:00 am-10:00 pm. Atkins Park Tavern requests street closing to include Market Village from Atlanta Road to the midpoint of the Market Village (at the circular brick seating area) and City Hall for the duration of the two-day event. The traffic circle to the midpoint section will remain closed Saturday through event setup and end/cleanup on Sunday (bands - outdoors - must end each evening at/by 10:00 pm) - with all of the Market Village area to reopen upon conclusion of the event on Sunday evening. Vehicle access to/through both sides of the Market Village parking areas will remain open for the duration between the midpoint of the Market Village and the pavilion directly in front of City Hall. Approval is also requested for placement of a beer trailer/station at the intersection of W. Spring Street and King Street to sell to persons attending the Spring Jonquil Festival which is managed by JRM Management.

Sponsors: Fennel

9. Committee Reports:

Mr. Ron Fennel wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Tim Gould announced a Campbell High School Fundraiser, Dancing with the Smyrna Stars, which will take place on January 19, 2019. This event will benefit and help fund the build out of the new weight room and athletic programs at the High School. Dancing participants from the City of Smyrna include Councilmember Maryline Blackburn, Assistant City Administrator Scott Andrews, Sargent Louis Defense, and Mayor Bacon will be acting as an expert judge. He also thanked the Parks and Rec Department for working on Lattanzi Field.

Ms. Susan Wilkinson announced an event co-sponsored by the Library and Museum from noon until 5pm at the Library on Saturday, January 19, 2019. The purpose of the event is to collect items such as photos, letters, and other records for the museum relating to the history of the City in particular the Rose Garden Hills area.

Ms. Maryline Blackburn wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed her belief that this will be an incredible year. She welcomed new employees to the City. Ms. Blackburn attended the Keep Smyrna Beautiful tree chipping event that occurred on January 5th and announced that over 1500 trees were taken care of at the event. Concluding her report, Ms. Blackburn said hello to the Ward 3 residents that were in attendance at the meeting.

Ms. Andrea Blustein hoped everyone had a nice holiday and was off to a good start for the New Year.

Ms. Tammi Saddler Jones introduced her special guest, her four year old son Leland who was in attendance.

10. Show Cause Hearings:

There were no show cause hearings.

11. Citizen Input:

Mr. Alex Backry of 3459 Shawnee Trail spoke highly of the 64% of the City who participated in the recent election. He hopes that the same amount come out and vote in the upcoming City election and suggested that the Council get out and involve the taxpayers in affairs of the City. He was curious as to how the figure of \$82,836 for median income listed in Money Magazine's write up on the City was calculated. He felt that this amount was unrealistic and too high to be accurate.

Mr. and Mrs. Don and Bonnie Berry of 835 Flagler Circle came to talk about a skate park at Cobb Park. They do not have a problem with the concept of a skate park but feel that Cobb Park is not the ideal location as there is not enough parking and they are concerned it will disturb those that live in the proximity of the park. They would like Cobb Park removed from consideration. Ms. Berry has been a resident of the City for ten years and Mr. Berry has lived in the City since 1956. It is their opinion that skate parks belong in sport complexes and not neighborhood parks.

Ms. Jill Gordon-Edwards of 371 Hickory Acres Drive was there to speak about Cobb Park and stated that she echoed the thoughts and feelings of Ms. Berry. She thanked Ms. Wilkinson for the added language in the master plan in reference of neighborhood involvement. On the site called Next Door, there was much conversation in regards to a skate park in Cobb Park and people did not want to see the playground equipment go away. Ms. Gordon-Edwards feels that a skate park is a great idea but not at Cobb Park. She also suggested adding a splash pad somewhere in the City and listed some potential areas in the City where both a skate park and a splash pad could be located. She suggested considering long term residents whenever making changes such as a skate park in a residential park.

Mayor Bacon stated that Cobb Park has not even been officially discussed as far as a skate park is concerned. He was told that there were conceptual plans out there but he had not seen them.

Mr. Dustin Jones of 921 Bank Street SE did not sign up to speak but the Mayor allowed him. He lives very close to Cobb Park and is against the skate park at that location, however he thinks that it would be a good idea in another location.

Mr. Jon Jordan of 2805 Sanford Road, a lifelong resident of the City, came out to speak about Cobb Park. He is not opposed to a skate park in the City but does not want to see one at Cobb Park.

The Mayor closed out by reiterating the fact that there are currently no plans for a skate park and he does know where all of this was coming from. There is a lot of misinformation going around about the possibility of a skate park at Cobb Park.

Councilmember Wilkinson spoke briefly about a recent workshop that had taken place where locations for a skate park had been discussed. She also spoke of a group that is advocating for a skate park and she felt that her constituents should know about it.

Mayor Bacon clarified that he has never seen any skate park plans.

12. Adjournment:

Mayor Bacon adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm.