

Pre-Council Meeting - Final
July 20, 2020
6:30 PM

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

Also, Present: Scott Cochran (City Attorney)

Staff: Tammi Saddler Jones (City Administrator), Heather Peacon-Corn (City Clerk), Roy Acree (Fire Chief), Brian Marcos (Deputy Fire Chief), Richard Garland (Parks and Rec Director), Rusty Martin (Community Development Director), Frank Martin (Director of Public Works), Jennifer Bennett (Community Relations Director), Kristin Robinson (Director of Finance), Penny Mocerri (Special Projects Liason), Landon O’Neal (Management Fellow), Tina M. Monaghan (Deputy City Clerk)

Mayor Derek Norton called the July 20, 2020 Pre-Council Meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Review of the Agenda for the July 20, 2020 Mayor and Council Meeting

Mayor Norton began the discussion of the agenda by noting that items 4B and 4C were going to be tabled at the request of the applicants.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson questioned item 4D because it was in Ward 5, but she did not see her name attached to the item where it once was. There were changes made to the format of the agenda, but the property was in her Ward and therefore her item to present.

The two items relating to the installation of the stop signs were not being recommended by staff however Councilmembers still wanted these items to move forward.

Councilmember Austin Wagner asked how to handle tabling the agenda item in his Ward. Due to the fact that it involved a public hearing it had to be table to a certain date which was August 17, 2020.

Councilmember Travis Lindley thanked Fire Chief Roy Acree and Deputy Fire Chief Brian Marcos for their helpfulness.

Councilmember Lewis Wheaton gave an update on the Georgia Smart Community Grant that was applied for. Through this, another grant that required no financial commitment from the City was discovered and is also going to be applied for. The only thing that is required to move forward with the second grant would be a letter of commitment from the City.

Mayor Norton provided information relating to a meeting that he had about a Racial Trust Building Initiative that another City had participated in that resulted in much success. It would be an alternative to the Health Equity Program that was presented at an earlier meeting. The Trust Building Initiative allows for the process to be continuous and keeps the conversation going unlike the other program which has a stopping point.

Fire Chief Roy Acree spoke about updates regarding COVID including the testing that will be made available for City Employees in the coming weeks.

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones updated Mayor and Council on the progress of funding received from Cobb County as a result of the CARES Act. There are meetings in the upcoming weeks which will shape the funding received and what it will be used for. She also gave some information regarding the increase in cost of hazard pay if additional departments were added.

City Clerk Heather Peacon-Corn noted that there would be a sign language interpreter at the Mayor and Council meeting to assist citizens with public comment. There will be a meeting with the Cobb County Board of Elections about the use of our facilities for the upcoming elections.

Councilmember Travis Lindley took a moment to speak about the ballot boxes and the communications he had with the Board of Elections regarding having one of these boxes in the City of Smyrna.

Mayor Norton adjourned the July 20, 2020 Pre-Council Meeting at 6:50 PM.