

**Pre-Council Meeting - Preliminary**  
**August 5, 2019**  
**6:00 PM**

*Present: Charles “Corkey” Welch      Ron Fennel      Tim Gould*  
*Susan Wilkinson      Andrea Blustein*  
*Maryline Blackburn (6:05pm)*

*Absent but Conferenced in by Phone:      Derek Norton*

*Absent:      Mayor Max Bacon*

*Also, Present: Tammi Saddler Jones (City Administrator), Scott Cochran (City Attorney), Scott Andrews (Assistant City Administrator), Terri Graham (City Clerk), Rusty Martin (Community Development Director), Frank Martin (Public Works Director), Roy Acree (Fire Chief), Christy Ullman (Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council), Landon O’Neal (Management Fellow), and Tina M. Monaghan (Deputy City Clerk)*

**Councilmember Charles “Corkey” Welch called the Pre-Council Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM.**

**City Administrator Report**

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones began her report by Fire Chief Roy Acree to provide an update regarding Sterigenics and air quality in the City.

Chief Acree announced that Mayor Bacon has decided to form a Joint Oversight Committee as well as an Independent Air Quality Task Force which will help the City navigate through the current situation with Sterigenics. The Joint Oversight Committee will be comprised of local stakeholders in the community. The Task Force will be comprised of professionals and specialists in the area of air quality and testing including a chemical engineer, a toxicologist, an industrial hygienist, and an environmental attorney. The City plans to partner with Cobb County to have independent air quality testing done so it will be a shared expense.

Council were all in agreement that communication with residents is key and that the task force will be helpful in helping people get the answers that they are seeking. Mr. Welch shared a statement that will be read aloud during citizen input if necessary.

A decision was made to have Chief Acree speak during the Mayor’s Report. The goal is to provide an update of information to the general public so that they will know where the City is at on the issue.

Community Development Director Rusty Martin gave Council an update on the annexation study that was approved some time back. There were three companies recommended but only two bids

were submitted. The amounts were \$45,000 and \$55,900 plus expenses. The amount budgeted for the study was \$25,000. Mr. Martin was seeking direction as to the next steps that should be taken.

Assistant City Administrator Scott Andrews talked about the art that is on display around City Hall and noted that there would be a reception for the artists on October 7, 2019. This was arranged by the Smyrna Arts Council and has been a big hit so far with residents doing business at City Hall.

Mr. Andrews then addressed the topic of utilizing money from the Gas South partnership fund to help with events and materials for the Census Committee. Council agreed that this would be a wise use of the funds.

There will be an upcoming Smyrna Day at a Braves game with the date to be announced. Public safety reached out and are responsible for making the event happen. Further announcements will be made as more details become available.

Ms. Saddler Jones asked Chief Acree to speak on the recent fire that took place at S. P. Richards. Chief Acree stated that the company wants to stay in Smyrna and that everyone was working together to make sure that happens.

Mr. Andrews briefly discussed a new business that are setting roots in the City. The company produces mead which is fermented honey. Community Development and Economic Development have been working closely with the owner and a soft opening should be coming soon.

### **Review of the Agenda for the August 5, 2019 Mayor and Council Meeting**

Council reiterated that Chief Acree would present an air quality update during the Mayor's Report.

Councilmember Blackburn volunteered to do the proclamation for Boxer Nathan Lugo since Councilmember Welch would be acting as Chair.

Councilmember Fennel shared information regarding the City's Millage Rate. At least twenty-six years have passed with no increase which should be considered a great achievement.

Councilmembers Wilkinson and Blackburn both had concerns about the recommended vendor and cost for the Community Center restroom renovations. Other notable points of discussion were whether or not Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds would cover the entire project. There was a general consensus that the recommendation should be accepted because of the existing quality relationship had with the company and their previous record of work with the City. Parks and Rec Director Richard Garland was not in attendance at the meeting but conferenced in via phone to answer some questions. It was decided to table the item to the August 19, 2019 meeting so that additional information could be gathered.

The parking agreement with Campbell High School was discussed. Information on cost and length of the agreement was clarified.

**Councilmember Welch adjourned the August 5, 2019 Pre-Council Meeting at 6:58 PM.**