



Meeting Minutes - Final
City Council

Monday, May 6, 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: 18 - Tammi Saddler Jones, Scott Andrews, Scott Cochran, Terri Graham, David Lee, Roy Acree, Joe Bennett, Robert Harvey, Frank Durrance, Terry McCormick, Jon Carter, Dat Luu, Ashley Youmans, Tina Monaghan, Kristin Robinson, Rick James, Andrea Boyes and Ken Owens

Call to Order

Mayor A. Max Bacon called the May 6, 2019 Mayor and Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Invocation and Pledge:

Pastor Richard L. Bush, Mt. Zion Baptist Church (1789 Hawthorne Ave) delivered the Invocation and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Agenda Changes:

There were no agenda changes.

3. Mayoral Report:

- A. [2019-157](#) Proclamation in Recognition of Memorial Day Poppy Distribution, May 11th, 18th and 27th, 2019

Sponsors: Welch

Councilmember Charles "Corkey" Welch read aloud the Poppy Distribution Proclamation. The proclamation was presented to Ms. Cheryl Waybright and Junior Auxiliary Courtney Waybright. May 11, 18, and 27 will be the dates for poppy distribution in various locations around the City. The poem "In Flanders Field" was read aloud by Ms. Courtney Waybright.

- B. [2019-161](#) Presentation of GACP State Certification to Smyrna Police Department

Sponsors: Norton

Police Chief David Lee spoke briefly about the certification process and the \$35,000 a year saving in liability insurance. He then introduced Mr. Mark Bender who was present to represent the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police.

Mr. Bender shared information about the standards and requirements that it takes to earn the certification. He then presented the certification plaque to Chief Lee.

Chief Lee recognized Andrea Boyes who serves as the City's certification manager. She was presented an award from Mr. Bender for her hard work as well.

- C. [2019-160](#) Recognize City of Smyrna Employee Dat Luu as recipient of the "City of Smyrna Award for Ongoing Excellence in Customer Service" and Andrea Boyes as recipient of the "Jonquil Award for Service Excellence in Action"

Management Fellow Ashley Youmans gave the presentation for the Award for Ongoing Excellence in Customer Service to Mr. Dat Luu (IT Manager) and the Jonquil Award for Service Excellence in Action to Ms. Andrea Boyes (Certification Manager for the Police Department). City Administrator Saddler Jones presented the recipients with their certificates and photos were taken.

4. Land Issues/Zonings/Annexations:

There were no Land Issues/Zonings/Annexations.

5. Privilege Licenses:

There were no Privilege Licenses.

6. Formal Business:

- A. [ORD2019-09](#) Adopt Ordinance 2019-09 to amend the City of Smyrna Code of Ordinances, Chapter 50, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article 1, In General, by adding Section 50-7 Outdoor Burning, of the Smyrna Fire Code.

Sponsors: Norton

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones advised Mayor and Council as to the background on the Ordinance. The City of Smyrna has never had an ordinance that addresses outdoor burning. With the dense population in a relatively small geographic area, outdoor burning of yard waste and trash has become an issue. This amendment would address and define what is, and what is not, allowed while burning outdoors. Restrictions on outdoor burning would not apply to grilling or cooking using charcoal, clean wood, propane or natural gas. A free residential burn permit would be required for burning clean wood. Those permits will only be issued October 1st through March 30th. The burning of recreational fires within any property used for anything other than a residence for 1 or 2 families shall require a special use permit from the Fire Marshall's Office. Our Fire Chief recommended approval of the proposed ordinance amendment.

Councilmember Derek Norton made a motion to approve and adopt Ordinance 2019-09 to amend the City of Smyrna Code of Ordinances, Chapter 50, Fire Prevention and Protection, Article 1, In General, by adding Section 50-7 Outdoor Burning, of the Smyrna Fire Code. Councilmember Maryline Blackburn seconded the motion to approve.

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. [2019-159](#)

Authorization to pass along credit card processing fees to the customer effective July 1, 2019 in coordination with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget.

Sponsors: Fennel

Ms. Tammi Saddler Jones reviewed the pertinent information for this agenda item. The City currently accepts online credit card payments through several platforms for various City services. When customers pay in person using a credit card, the City currently pays the fees associated with these transactions. However, staff recommends we make a change to allow the customer to pay the processing fees. The annual budget savings of passing along the online processing fee to the customer would be approximately \$100,000. A processing fee would not apply to automatic bank draft, it would not apply when using an individual's personal bank's online bill pay, it would not apply for mailed payments, and it would not apply when cash or check payments are made at the Utility Services office at City Hall. Staff recommended the authorization to pass along the credit card processing fees to the customer effective July 1, 2019.

Councilmember Ron Fennel made a motion to approve the authorization to pass along credit card processing fees to the customer effective July 1, 2019 in coordination with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 budget. The motion to approve was seconded by Councilmember Derek Norton.

The motion to approve was carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blackburn, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Gould and Councilmember Fennel

Nay: 1 - Councilmember Wilkinson

7. Commercial Building Permits:

There were no Commercial Building Permits.

8. Consent Agenda:

Ms. Tammi Saddler Jones read aloud the consent agenda.

Councilmember Tim Gould made a motion to approve the consent agenda as read aloud by City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones 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

A. [2019-155](#)

Approval of the April 15, 2019 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes.

- B. [2019-156](#) Approval of the April 15, 2019 Pre-Council Meeting Minutes.
- C. [2019-145](#) Approval of the April 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes.
- D. [2019-149](#) Approval of Property/Liability Insurance annual renewal with Georgia Local Government Risk Management Agency (GIRMA) for \$607,263 and authorize Mayor to execute related documents
Sponsors: Blackburn
- E. [2019-150](#) Approval of Excess Cyber Security coverage renewal with Towers Watson/Chubb Insurance for \$6,879 and authorize the Mayor to execute related documents
Sponsors: Blackburn

9. Committee Reports:

Mr. Ron Fennel spoke about the progress in the budget process and thanked staff for their hard work and diligence in maintaining the required balanced budget.

Mr. Tim Gould spoke about the Campbell High School Education Foundation Golf Tournament which raised \$12,000 for various programs at the school. He thanked the Mayor for hosting the Education Awards earlier that evening.

Ms. Susan Wilkinson announced that Food Truck Tuesdays start May 7, 2019 at Taylor Brawner Park and will run throughout the summer.

Ms. Maryline Blackburn talked about how enjoyable the Campbell High School golf fundraiser was and also how much she enjoyed the Mayor's Education Awards.

Mr. Derek Norton talked about the Arthur Bacon Golf Tournament that he played in with his father the past weekend. He noted that his dad came all the way from Iowa to play in the tournament. He also thanked Mary Moore and the rest of the staff at the Library for putting on the Kid Con event that he took his two children to and a fun time was had by all.

10. Show Cause Hearings:

There were no show cause hearings.

11. Citizen Input:

Ms. Elesia Glover, 1693 Donna Lynn Dr, SE, spoke about sustainability. She focused on the economic development aspect of sustainability. Dr. Glover also talked about a nonprofit she has started called Posh Pack which helps girls conveniently get the resources needed to avoid missing school.

Ms. Arjho Turner, 4239 Millside Walk SE, signed up to speak about sustainability in the City of Smyrna. She thanked Councilwoman Blackburn for inviting her to the meeting. She said she has gotten to know more about what the City does as far as sustainability from Keep Smyrna Beautiful (KSB). Her children love the parks in the

City.

Mr. Leonard Robinson, 1809 Teasley Drive SE, spoke about sustainability. He shared some information about a grant that will help with sustainability. The grant ranges from \$75,000 to \$150,000 a year for two years. The only requirement to receive the grant that the City is missing is a person with an official title relating to sustainability. He offered to supply the information to anyone who was interested.

12. Adjournment:

Mayor Bacon adjourned the May 6, 2019 Mayor and Council meeting at 7:34 PM.