



Meeting Minutes - Final
City Council

Monday, April 4, 2016

7:30 PM

Council Chambers

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Mayor Max Bacon, Councilmember Derek Norton, Councilmember Andrea Blustein, Councilmember Teri Anulewicz, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Councilmember Doug Stoner and Councilmember Ron Fennel

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Charles Welch

Also Present: 10 - Mike L Jones, Terri Graham, Scott Cochran, Tammi Saddler Jones, Jennifer Bennett, Kristin Robinson, Ken Suddreth, Dan Campbell, Robert Harvey and Heather Corn

Call to Order

The April 4, 2016 meeting of the Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mayor Max Bacon.

1. Invocation and Pledge:

Pastor Dyke Verkerk (Life Church Assembly of God) was called upon by Mayor Bacon to give the invocation and lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Agenda Changes:

There were no Agenda Changes.

3. Mayoral Report:

Cobb County Commissioner Bob Ott came forward and made a few comments about the great relationship between the City of Smyrna and Cobb County. He also reminded all of the primary on May 24th.

Mr. Luke Lantta would be running for State Court Judge in Cobb County. He gave his personal background and professional background as a business attorney.

4. Department Head Reports:

City Administrator Mike L. Jones called on Finance Director Kristin Robinson to come to the podium and give the information for the finance department. She remarked that several months and weeks have been focused on budget prep and department meetings.

She noted great discussion with the Department Heads and spoke about the different way they had approached their meetings with no set limit for each department. Each was asked to bring their complete wish/want list to the table. After many conversations, the current reduced overage sits at \$330,000.

The next step will be to run the legal notice, meet at the April 28th COW Agenda meeting with the first presentation, Come back to the May 12 COW Agenda meeting with the final budget. It will be presented to Mayor and Council on May 16 with an anticipated vote for approval at the June 6 Mayor and Council meeting.

Finance had also completed the CIP process.

Applications are still being accepted for the Comptroller position and she gave recognition to the Purchasing Department as well as Parks / Rec and Building / Grounds for their collaborative effort to remodel all the Community Center bathrooms in house for a substantial cost savings.

Jennifer Bennett, Community Relations Director came forward to give her quarterly report

She presented a printed handout to Council from which she highlighted the different points in her verbal presentation. The printed outline is as follows:

Slide 1 reviewed the various publications and timelines for distribution.

- In the last Quarterly Report we indicated that you would be mailed a series of publications. That has happened.

- In February, you would have received the new Citizen Guide which included information on your Council representatives and how to reach them. It also included meetings information and the holiday sanitation guide for the year.

- In your March mailing was the latest City Newsletter for spring 2016. The Spring Newsletter includes development updates on

-Belmont

-Jonquil Village

-Smyrna Grove

-Riverview Landing

-Concord Road

-It also includes a listing of events from March through May

-On the cover is a story about the Bike Share program (in case you missed the media attention and social posts).

-Other information such as the awards that your Keep Smyrna Beautiful program keeps winning

-In this Month's mailing is your annual Event Calendar with a listing of City events running April through December.

-Of note is a new event with Star 94 titled "Woofstock" – it's a pet-centric day-long festival scheduled for October 1.

-Some of the Upcoming Events that we find are very popular with our community are as follows:

-These include events from April through the August City Birthday Celebration

-These events are in the printed calendar and they get entered into the event listing on the City website. We also push information and reminders about these events out on City social media channels.

Slide 2 was about the new city website.

-You may recall that during the last quarterly report it was mentioned that a new City website was on the way. It launched last Monday – Monday, March 28.one week ago today.

-A note: When a site (especially one as large as ours) experiences a redesign like the one that ours did – migrating from an older Content Management System to a newer, updatable CMS, pages may go through renaming as ours has done. We have also converted to a system that will allow friendly URL naming of pages.

Search engines will need to index the new pages. The structure of our site was altered very little for this migration, but it will take a bit more time for search engines to index the site and that means that our internal search feature (which is fueled by Google) will take a bit more time to populate/organize. If you get broken link messages, don't panic, just be patient and use our site directly to find information.

-We have a new look and more features and options particularly with our home page.

-She gave the highlights briefly and then very quickly showed how those items are found and how they function in real time.

-Search Feature - The site Search feature that had degraded on the old site has been reset, but is subject to indexing by Google. This can take up to or in the range of at least two weeks and we are one week in to the process.

-Site Map – a site map is available in the footer navigation

-Events/New – You are now able to toggle between the Events and News selected to show on the homepage. You may also access the full calendar and the news rack from these home page views

-Feature/Image carousel – There are now three large image/feature boxes that may be used as static display or linked to information. You may toggle between them manually or leave it to auto forward.

-In The Spotlight – There are now two Spotlight options with graphics where we once had only one text-based option. You may move back and forth between these Spotlights manually or leave it to forward on its own.

-Social Icons – Social icons are now available at the top as well as the bottom of the site.

(Real time website was shown)

Slide three showed the navigation speed of the site.

-With Mouse-over, open “Index Card” views of items available under the top-level navigation and the option for left-side navigation on click through as well as multiple paths throughout the navigation, it is possible to find information on where your tax dollars are allocated generally as easy and as fast as you may find information of renting and riding a bike.

-The website address, again, is www.SmyrnaCity.com

-Please, while the site is indexing, become familiar with the new website and use it as your resource for events and City services information.

-More resources include the City Facebook page and the Twitter feed.

5. Land Issues/Zonings/Annexations:

A.

Approval of subdivision plat for two residential lots in the R-15 zoning district - 1.08 Acres - Land Lot 524 - 3154 Dunn Street - John Bradford

Sponsors: Stoner

City Administrator Mike L. Jones read aloud the following background at the Mayor's request:

The applicant is proposing to split one lot into two lots and retain the existing R-15 zoning at 3154 Dunn Street. The applicant requests a variance to reduce the minimum lot width requirement from 85 feet to 75 feet for the creation of a two lot subdivision on the subject property. The minimum lot width of 85 feet is based upon the zoning standards associated with the R-15 zoning district. The subject property is currently zoned R-15, has an area of 1.08 acres, and a lot width of 150 feet. The subject property currently consists of a single family house and accessory buildings. No land use change is necessary as the proposed lot split is 1.85 units per acre and up to 3 units per acre is allowed. The Planning and Zoning Board approved the subdivision for two residential lots March 14, 2016 by a vote of 7-0.

Community Development has reviewed the proposed subdivision against the requirements of the R-15 zoning district. Staff believes the proposed subdivision meets the intent of the requirements of the R-15 zoning district with the exception of the lot width reduction. Community Development has analyzed the lot width reduction and found it to be in conformance with the existing neighborhood character, and therefore recommends approval of the requested subdivision and lot split reduction with the following conditions:

1. Approval shall be conditioned upon substantial compliance with the site plan submitted for plat approval on 2/4/16.

2. Approval shall be conditioned upon the front elevations utilizing different building materials and colors, as well as other accents that differentiate the two homes.

3. Both properties shall meet the City's Stormwater Management requirements set forth in Chapter 46, Article V. City Engineer shall approve final design of any Stormwater Management Best Practice measures prior to issuance of a building permit.

Community Development Director Ken Suddreth came to the podium and read additional background and showed some elevation pictures as well as spoke about the storm water requirements for the property.

Councilmember Doug Stoner asked Mr. Suddreth if the applicant was aware of the conditions and approved of them, asked about there being no precedence set for the variation of lot sizes in the subdivision and asked if the proposed elevations were in proportion to the existing neighborhood. Mr. Suddreth responded yes to all questions asked.

A motion was made by Councilmember Doug Stoner to approve item 2016-116 for the approval of subdivision plat for two residential lots in the R-15 zoning district on 1.08 Acres, Land Lot 524 located at 3154 Dunn Street for applicant John Bradford, to include staff recommended stipulations; seconded by Councilmember Ron Fennel. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Anulewicz, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Stoner and Councilmember Fennel

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Welch

6. Privilege Licenses:

There were no Privilege Licenses.

7. Formal Business:

There was no Formal Business.

8. Commercial Building Permits:

There were no Commercial Building Permits.

9. Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Teri Anulewicz for approval of the Consent Agenda as read aloud by City Administrator Mike L. Jones; seconded by Councilmember Doug Stoner.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Councilmember Norton, Councilmember Blustein, Councilmember Anulewicz, Councilmember Wilkinson, Councilmember Stoner and Councilmember Fennel

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Welch

A. Approval of Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2016

Sponsors: City Council

- B.** Award of RFP 16-025 Property & Casualty Insurance to Georgia Local Government Risk Association (GIRMA) and authorize Mayor to execute any related documents

Sponsors: Blustein

- C.** Approval of extended work hours from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Saturday for Plateau Excavation, Inc. for the Jonquil Village Redevelopment Project.

Sponsors: Anulewicz

10. Committee Reports:

Ward 1: Councilmember Derek Norton had no report.

Ward 2: Councilmember Andrea Blustein reminded citizens of the Ward 2 meeting on May 7 from 10:00am - 12:00pm.

Ward 3: Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Teri Anulewicz remarked that she had received a lot of positive feedback in regards to Jonquil Plaza. She also spoke about the Vision Implementation meetings, invited citizens to participate and gave out Community Liaison Kelsey Scotts email and phone number for contact.

Ward 4: Council member Charles Welch was out of town.

Ward 5: Councilmember Susan Wilkinson had no report.

Ward 6: Councilmember Doug Stoner thanked the Police Department for being responsive to folks in the neighborhood regarding speeding and warned people about potential ticketing.

Ward 7: Councilmember Ron Fennel spoke about the new website and said he sent out a newsletter last week. Appreciation was shown for the work to get the website up and running. He also spoke about the fiscal positioning of the City and was looking forward to the budget process. He mentioned hosting the County Commissioner Bob Ott at Whitfield Academy on April 14 at 7:00pm. He will be giving County updates and receiving comments.

City Clerk, Terri Graham reported of the change in Council meeting time to 7:00pm for all future meetings and the change in day for all COW / Agenda meetings to Thursday preceding the Council meetings.

11. Show Cause Hearings:

There were no Show Cause Hearings.

12. Citizen Input:

Cynthia L. spoke about congestion in the area of Argyle Elementary. She noted the impact construction would have. She also spoke about her pleasure with the parks in the area and an issue with water runoff from the nearby ball fields.

Alex Backry talked about an incident involving the Smyrna PD and a No Parking Zone.

Scott Haney is a resident for 57 years. He travels for a living and was invited by City to be a participant in the Concord Road meetings. He and the other participants thought it was very clear as to their suggestions for the use for Concord Road. His home backs up to the restaurant moving in and he will have a dumpster against his home. He remarked that doing the opposite of what the citizens want is not representation.

13. Adjournment:

The April 4, 2016 meeting of the Mayor and Council was adjourned at 8:09 PM.