

Pre-Council Committee of the Whole - FINAL
October 16, 2017
6:00PM

Present: *Mayor Max Bacon* *Susan Wilkinson* *Ron Fennel*
 Andrea Blustein *Charles "Corkey" Welch* *Derek Norton*

Absent: *Doug Stoner*

Ward 3 Vacant – Election for Ward 3 seat is November 7, 2017. If there is need for a run-off election it will be held December 5, 2017.

Also Present: Scott Cochran (City Attorney), Tammi Saddler-Jones (City Administrator), Scott Andrews (Assistant City Administrator), Terri Graham (City Clerk), Ken Suddreth (Community Development Director), Rusty Martin (Community Development Senior Planner), Kay Bolick (Human Resources Director), Scott Stokes (Public Works Director), Christy Ullman, (Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council), Maxwell Ruppensburg (Special Projects Coordinator) and Ashley Youmans (Management Fellow).

Mayor Max Bacon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

City Administrator Tammi Saddler Jones discussed the Council-Staff Retreat for Wednesday and Thursday October 18 & 19, 2017. Langford Holbrook should have talked with each of the Councilmembers and the Mayor via phone. She asked if everyone got a chance to talk with him. Each of the councilmember and Mayor had talked to him about concerns and retreat objectives. She also reminded everyone that the retreat would be located at Vining's Bank in the lower meeting room. On October 18, the Mayor and Council will meet with the facilitator from 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM while the staff meets at City Hall in the HR conference room from 9:00 AM – 10:45. The staff will join the group at Vining's Bank at 11:00 AM. Lunch on October 18 will be at Murph's and Willy's will caterer on the 19th.

Jonquil Arts and Cultural Council had a lunch on Sunday October 15, 2017. The Jonquil Trail was very successful and well attended. Harold Smith attended and made some positive comments about the event and the Smyrna Museum. Jennie Eldredge the Museum Manager attended as well and engaged with the council regarding the Smyrna Museum.

Ms. Saddler Jones reminded the Council that she, Ashley Youmans and Maxwell Ruppensburg would be attending ICMA in San Antonio, TX, and Ms. Saddler Jones will leave on Saturday October 21 and return to the office on Wednesday October 25, 2017. Ms. Youmans and Mr. Ruppensburg leave on Friday October 20 and return on Thursday October 26, 2017. Scott Andrews Assistant City Administrator will be in charge on Monday

October 23, 2017. Mr. Andrews will be out of the office October 24 through November 4, 2017 as a previously scheduled trip prior to his hire with Smyrna.

Ms. Saddler Jones requested that Scott Andrews speak about the Historical Society re-engagement meeting. Mr. Andrews stated the meeting of the Historical Society will meet for the first official meeting in over a year - year and a half. The meeting will be October 19 at 7:00 PM. Jennie Eldredge, Museum Manager will lead the meeting, they are expecting 30-40 to attend the meeting. They are all looking forward to the meeting; Mr. Andrews will help to facilitate.

Mr. Andrews spoke about Respect for Fire Fighters and the annual Public Safety event. The fire fighter of the year is Scott Frankovich. Fire Chief Acree made the announcement a few days prior to the event. He would have been surprised if he had not seen his girlfriend, come in, at that time he knew what was happening. Fire Fighter Frankovich was elated to receive the fire fighter of the year award, the Fire Chiefs were pleased to award to him with fire fighter of the year. They will hold the formal announcement at the Public Safety Annual Event. The proclamation for "Respect for Fire Fighters" will be on the Mayor and Council agenda, Council member Derek Norton will present.

Mr. Ruppensburg showed the old City Hall sign they retrieved off the back of the Smyrna Museum. Mayor Bacon asked why it was hanging on the back of the Museum. The sign came off the exterior of the Museum to protect it from the weather to be preserved. They will locate other old city signs to find a place where they can be hung. Councilmember Ron Fennel inquired about the local artist of the old City Hall sign, he suggested donation as an artifact of Smyrna as a signed piece.

Maxwell Ruppensburg spoke about a proposed Citizens Academy. The city received an opportunity from Georgia State University to submit a project for their MPA students. The city submitted a project to help set up a citizen academy for Smyrna as a civics educational class. A student picked up the project idea. The student has been in government for eight years, she is a returning student at mid-career to earn her Masters of Public Administration.

Ms. Saddler Jones touched on an email she sent to all city staff, reminding all that they are not to engage in political campaigns. The city has a policy regarding employee involvement. A candidate photo shopped the Community Center LED sign with campaign information and put it on social media. He took it down and removed it from social media. Another candidate contacted the city to inquire if the city endorses candidates. City Attorney Scott Cochran confirmed the city does not endorse candidates involved in an election. The photo shopped sign appeared on the internet not physically on the actual sign. Mayor Bacon offered that he planned to allow candidates the opportunity to

introduce themselves at the beginning of the Council meeting. If they wanted longer than thirty seconds they needed to sign up for citizens input for three minutes.

Mayor Bacon continued with the Mayor and Council agenda:

Campbell High Schools Varsity Girls Softball team would attend the meeting. They went to the state playoffs and lost in the third game. It is the first time Campbell High Schools Girls Softball has ever gone to state playoffs. The coaches will introduce each of the girls.

Betty Turley will accept the proclamation for "Respect for Fire Fighters". She is with the Optimist Club. This will be her last time to accept a proclamation from Smyrna on behalf of the Optimist Club, she is moving to Kennesaw. Councilmember Derek Norton will present the proclamation.

Land Issues, a resolution to adopt the 2040 Comprehensive Plan is next on the agenda. Mayor Bacon noted that Councilmember Doug Stoner is not present; he queried the council as to who would handle the adoption. Councilmember Ron Fennel said he would present the item. Community Development Director Ken Suddreth stated that Meghan McMullen, Urban Planner from Jacobs, Inc. will be at the meeting to do a short presentation on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Bacon confirmed the public hearing he acknowledged that if anyone wanted to speak on the Comprehensive Plan they would do so at this time.

Formal Business:

Harrison Akin is the recommended appointment as the Ward 1 Tree Board member. Mayor Bacon inquired whom he was replacing. Councilmember Norton responded that Tom Bartlett moved to the Ward 1 appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Harrison Akin would replace him on the Tree Board.

The Mayor runs through the consent agenda pausing on the RFP Sewer Replacement for South Cobb Drive to be awarded to KM Davis for \$181,126.35. He inquired about the sewer replacement and Public Works Director Scott Stokes commented that everything was in order.

The Janitorial contract was up for bid; the contract to be awarded to RL Commercial Systems for \$166,987.44. Mayor Bacon inquired if this was a change in companies. Public Works Director sited that the bid came in \$18,000.00 less than current company performing janitorial services.

Road Closures for Veteran's Day Ceremonies 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, November 11, 2017.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions, or comments on the agenda.

The Mayor went around the conference table asking if anyone had anything they needed to discuss or announce:

Councilmember Andrea Blustein brought up Corn Road and the trucks that park on the road, in front of mailboxes and driveways. Councilmember/Mayor Pro Tem Derek Norton noted, during the meeting with the homeowner there were plans to talk with other neighbors to find out how they are affected by the truck parking.

City Clerk Terri Graham reminded that there were 5 candidates running for Ward 3. There will be one precinct open for Ward 3 voting. All precincts will be open for District 6 Senate Seat voting. Advanced voting began October 16, 2017 at Cobb Elections main office on Whitlock Avenue. Early voting will be held at the Community Center and Cobb Elections main office on Whitlock Ave Saturday October 28 – November 3, 2017. There will be no voting on Monday, November 6th and Election Day is November 7, 2017.

The Pre-Council Meeting was adjourned by Mayor Bacon at 6:25 PM.