

**Pre-Council Meeting - Final**  
**June 18, 2018**  
**6:00 PM**

*Present: Mayor A. Max Bacon                      Andrea Blustein                      Charles (Corkey) Welch*  
*Derek Norton                                      Maryline Blackburn                      Susan Wilkinson*  
*Ron Fennel*

*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 (Senior Planner), Christy Ullman, (Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council), Maxwell Ruppensburg (Special Projects Coordinator), David Lee (Chief of Police), Joe Bennett (Deputy Chief), Scott Stokes (Public Works Director), Kristin Robinson (Finance Director) and Avern Gumb (Intern)*

**Mayor A. Max Bacon Called the Pre-Council Meeting to Order at 6:00 PM.**

**City Administrator Report:**

City Administrator, Tammi Saddler Jones asked Assistant City Administrator Scott Andrews to provide the information concerning the Smyrna email addresses for the Planning and Zoning Commission and DDA/UDC Board Members. Mr. Andrews said he would personally contact the Board Members to give them the email addresses. The email addresses are standard for the city, first initial, last name smyrnaga.gov.

Mayor Bacon asked Community Development Director Ken Suddreth if the city has given out the Planning and Zoning Board Members email addresses in the past. Mr. Suddreth responded that they had given email addresses for the Board Members, but they have always encouraged the person asking if they could get their name and have the board member get in touch with them. If the person requesting was insistent that they wanted the contact information, the email address was provided. There was discussion regarding email addresses and if they were subject to open records.

Ms. Saddler Jones continued with the City Administrators report with a new GPS program for the Police Department. Police Chief David Lee explained that they have been trying to put GPS on all the police cars. The problem has been the expense; they have worked out a good deal with OSSI their records management system. Police Deputy Chief Joe Bennett spoke about GPS for patrol cars. When they started looking at a system the cost was \$178,000 to \$220,000 to outfit the patrol cars with GPS. When they ordered the new 800 MHz radio system through the SPLOST project, GPS was included, with anticipation of this program coming on line. There has been a delay with Cobb County with the processing of the GPS data. Cobb County will have the GPS feed into the radio system no later than January 1, 2019. That information allowed them to reach out to the records management vendor to find out what would be involved in transferring the GPS data into the computer dispatch system. The cost went down significantly

from \$178,000.00 to \$46,580.00; this is a onetime fee. They planned to use leftover funds from FY18 and asset forfeiture; with these funds they were able to come up with the funds to put GPS in the patrol cars. There is an annual fee of \$8,752.00. After running the numbers using what the city currently uses the cost is \$33.00 per unit, over 5 years, which would be \$178,200, compared to using the discussed solution the total cost of \$90,340, saving the tax payers almost \$88,000.

Mr. Welch asked if they were tracking the radios or the cars. The radios will be tracked, but they will have the ability to track both portable and mobile radios, eventually they should be able to transfer this to the Fire Department for an extra cost. They will be able to track the officer in real time.

The City of Sandy Springs Police Department reached out to Smyrna; they are looking at using the Smyrna jail to house their prisoners that are transported to and from court. Chief Lee noted that they have negotiated a contract with Sandy Springs for \$50.00 a day for housing prisoners. Deputy Chief Bennett explained they are currently housing prisoners in Pickens County. They are interested in housing between 4 to 10 only for court days, three (3) days a week. He noted that would average out to be 4 prisoners every 24 hours. The only downside to this is that our jail staff will have to transport prisoners to court three (3) days a week. Sandy Springs Officers will transport them back to the Smyrna jail if necessary. If the prisoner is sentenced to jail time Pickens County will pick them up and transport them to Pickens County for them to serve their time. This was costing Sandy Springs more than what it would cost to use Smyrna Jail.

Parks and Recreation Director Richard Garland spoke about the event at the Concord Linear Park. In cooperation with Smyrna Art Alliance they will be co-hosting a Chalk Art and Lantern Parade. They have about 7 artists that will be drawing on the sidewalks with chalk and they will have a battery operated light parade on the trail through Concord Road. They talked to Wades and they will be doing some dinner specials. They talked to Tillman church, Victory Hardware, Regions Bank and have an agreement with them to allow parking that night in their lots to try to alleviate cars from parking in and around the neighborhoods.

Mr. Andrews gave an update on the museum. The museum will be closing July 2, 2018 to start the process of cleaning out and reorganizing. Harold will be recovering his items. Harold has many items that are not in our collection, he is hoping that some of the items find their way back to the museum. Mayor Bacon had asked Scott to look into how many people visit the museum weekly, Mr. Andrews replied, (seven) 7 people a week.

Ms. Saddler Jones shared that Library Director Mary Moore informed that Google Fiber gave the Library a donation of \$2,500.00. It will be stem program, hands on workshop for children of all ages.

At the request of the Mayor they were asked to get some information on training regarding hostile work environment and sexual harassment. GMA is willing to provide this training at no cost for the council. This goes along with the insurance we have through them. She would like to know if they prefer day or evening training. Ms. Saddler Jones commented that she will get some dates and let them know details so they can decide.

Mayor Bacon went over the agenda for June 18, 2018. All this information was covered Thursday night during the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Mr. Fennel asked if there was a public hearing associated with the budget adoption, the answer was no. He inquired if the Finance Department planned to speak about the item. Finance Director Kristin Robinson commented that they did not plan to do a presentation. She can go over the summary of the budget and answer questions. Councilmember Fennel stated that he was fine with Ms. Saddler Jones going over the summary information in the issue sheet.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson brought up information that Mr. Andrews shared regarding Smyrna Soccer regarding the sharing of maintenance of the soccer fields they use. Mr. Andrews researched with Parks Director Richard Garland and there was information given by Smyrna Soccer that was not factual.

They broke down the field times and schedules, they said there were a lot more times they could not play or practice as much as they should have been able to. Mr. Garland interjected that it was because of all the rain through the spring. The Little League had the same issues.

Mr. Garland commented that Smyrna Soccer planned when they were going to play on the fields on their own and did not take into consideration the condition of the fields. He commented that Parks and Recreation manage the fields and allow playing time in accordance with the field's condition. Part of the reason, the fields are in the condition they are in today is because no one was taking a constructive forward position to say the fields are not playable. They are currently managing the fields accordingly.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM