



City of Smyrna

2800 King Street
Smyrna, Georgia 30080

Meeting Minutes - Final Committee of the Whole

Thursday, January 28, 2021

6:00 PM

Smyrna Community Center / Magnolia Room
200 Village Green Circle SE

MASKS REQUIRED / TEMPERATURE WILL BE CHECKED

Roll Call

Present 8 - Mayor Derek Norton, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Austin Wagner, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Mayor pro tem / Councilmember Tim Gould, and Councilmember Lewis Wheaton

Also Present 1 - Jeffrey Tucker

Staff 10 - Joe Bennett, Penny Mocerri, Heather Peacon-Corn, Jennifer Bennett, Robert Harvey, Dat Luu, Terry McCormick, Kristin Robinson, Carol Sicard, and Joey Staubes

1. Call to Order

Mayor Derek Norton called the January 28, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. New Business

City Lobbyist Cash Travedi gave an update to Mayor and Council about meetings at the Capitol and discussed ideas on funding of South Cobb Drive projects. He also discussed the House Bill in review regarding fireworks as well as the automated School Zone Cameras.

Mayor Norton spoke about the upcoming Planning and Zoning joint meeting with Mayor and Council to discuss procedures and protocol. The meeting will be held at the Community Center on February 11, 2021 at 5:00pm in the Magnolia Room. Mayor Norton and the Council will request all Planning and Zoning Members obtain GMA training in addition to the ARC training they currently attend. New Board members have attended training with the exception of Ward 5 Boardmember JD Smith.

A. [COW21-06](#)

Open Positions Review and Discussion - HR - Carol Sicard

Human Resources Director Carol Sicard presented and discussed a list of open positions previously held for filling until January 2021 by the Mayor and Council due to COVID19.

Council concurred that open positions needed to be filled as soon as possible and HR was given direction to move with the posting of the positions.

The only position not intended on being posted is the Data Analyst position.

Additionally Public Works will reclass the CIP Project Manager position to CIP Project Coordinator and the second Assistant Director position until July 2021.

B. [COW21-08](#)

CIP Projects and Vehicle Replacements Discussion - Finance Director

Kristin Robinson / CIP Coordinator Landon O'Neal

Finance Director Kristin Robinson presented the list of CIP Vehicle replacements.. The list was approved by Mayor and Council after questions were answered regarding the age of some of the vehicles as well as a vehicle that was totaled.

C. [COW21-04](#)

MLB All Star Update - Robert Harvey

Acting Police Chief Robert Harvey gave a brief presentation regarding the upcoming Major League Baseball All Star Event to be held at Truist Park. The Mayor and Council were advised that Public Safety Had been asked to participate at a cost to the City, however, the revenue and the advertising the event was expected to generate in the City could be an offset to the payroll expense. A schedule had been created to allow for the public safety staff to have adequate coverage int he City as well as allow for rest period.

D. [COW21-03](#)

Update and Discussion regarding Schneider Electric - Joe Bennett

Interim City Administrator Joseph Bennett discussed a recent article found on Google regarding Schneider Electric and a contractor under their employ that was found by the Department of Justice to be inflating costs on Federal projects in the form of kickbacks and overcharges. The company paid 11 Million dollars to resolve civil and criminal probes.

Mr. Bennett has asked Schneider to present to Mayor and Council and the next Committee of the Whole meeting an explanation of the events that occurred as well as discuss the procedures they have enacted to assure the integrity of their contract with the City,

3. Review of the 02-01-2021 Mayor and Council Agenda**A. [COW21-07](#)**

Review of the February 1, 2021 Mayor and Council Meeting DRAFT Agenda

Mayor Norton reviewed the February 1, 2021 Preliminary Agenda.

- Item 3A:

Proclamation in honor of Black History month

Councilmember Lewis Wheaton will present the proclamation and he thanked Penny, staff and the BHM Committee for their efforts in presenting a month long event calendar.

- Item 3B

Performance by Tomaree Tarpley and Mikari Tarpley from The Breakthrough Fellowship in honor of Black History Month

-Item 3C

Smyrna Education Foundation Report

-Item 4A

Zoning Request - Z20-015 - Allow rezoning from NS to GC for the use as a corporate office - 1.5 acres - Land Lot 523 - 1298 Concord Road - Shamrock Building Systems Inc.

Planner II, Joey Staubes discussed the conditions that had been updated to this item as well as the use of the space as strictly offices for the Headquarters of Shamrock Building Systems.

Several Councilmembers discussed and reviewed the zoning from NS to GC as well as wanting assurance that the company understood no building supplies of equipment would be stored at this location.

Mr. Staubes read aloud the conditions again and answered all questions.

The Mayor and Council were found to have a consensus to move forward with this item for a final vote.

-Item 6A

Authorization to enter into contract with His Hands Tree Preservation, LLC. 111 Barrett Springs Drive, Holly Springs, Georgia 30115 for arborist and landscape consulting services for the City of Smyrna and to authorization the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Our current arborist has created his own company, His Hands Tree Preservation, and staff is requesting to contract with him under the new entity at the same rate as previously contracted for arborist services to the City.

Council is agreeable to this new contract, the cost and terms.

-Item 6B

Authorization for the City of Smyrna to enter into a fifteen (15) year Revenue Sharing Contract with one five year renewal option with Plainview Outdoor Advertising for the digital advertising on the City's bus shelters and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Interim Assistant City Administrator Penny Mocerri has reviewed the previous bus shelter contract in the City, has obtained an RFP for a new contract as the previous one expired in January 2021.

Request for Proposals for Bus Shelter Advertising, Installation and Maintenance was advertised on November 9, 2020. The program's intent was to repair/replace the existing bus shelters and provide advertising, maintenance and revenue sharing. Twenty-five (25) firms viewed the RFP requirements and we received two (2) proposals. The proposals provided their best solution and were scored based on the following evaluation criteria: Financial Strength, Qualifications and Experience, References, qualification of Proposed Project Team, Business and Sales Plans, Innovative Approaches and Compensation Plan. The proposals were scored by staff from Public Works, Administration and Purchasing.

Plainview Outdoor Advertising Score of 80.20

Signal Outdoor Advertising Score of 58.47

Plainview Outdoor Advertising Revenue Sharing Proposal:

BASE CONTRACT YEARS 1 - 15

Contract Years 1 - 5 / Minimum Guarantee \$67,200.00

Contract Years 6 - 10 / Minimum Guarantee \$70,560.00

Contract Years 11 - 15 / Minimum Guarantee \$74,088.00

Option Years 1 - 5 / Minimum Guarantee \$77,792.00

Based on the evaluation scores and revenue share (See attachments for details) we recommend award of this project to Plainview Outdoor Advertising for a 15 year contract (as attached) with one five year renewable option. Plainview Outdoor Advertising has proposed a solution to use a portion of the revenue share to replace a percentage of the existing shelters each year and provide weekly maintenance and digital advertising.

Councilmember Wilkinson had several questions regarding the shelters:

- Were the shelters going to have a specific look and could she review the options.
- Was the digital signage going to allow for City Event Advertising.
- Was Adventure Outdoors and local Churches going to be able to purchase advertising.
- Was there a list of specific locations of all the shelters.
- What shelters would get the priority in replacement and how would that be determined.

Ms. Mocerri answered the questions she had documentation for as well as referred to the contract and offered to provide additional information in the coming days.

- Item 8A

Consent Agenda

The minutes were reviewed and there were no questions from Council.

4. Other Business (as needed)

Councilmember Corkey Welch encouraged Council to drive around and look at town homes, specifically the one he has previously spoken of, as he feels that build has a nice look that has longevity.

Councilmember Travis Lindley briefly noted the Traffic Calming Committees upcoming meeting. He also discussed a problem with a person who entered a home in his neighborhood. He thanked the Police Department for their quick response and heavy presence. He expressed concerns to Mayor Norton last week regarding Planning and Zoning and the upcoming joint meeting. And lastly he would like to see some teeth put into the Zoning and specifically addressing town homes.

Councilmember Welch said there are several critical areas to be addressed:

- Exterior building materials
- Garages and distance to sidewalk

Councilmember Glenn Pickens requested that the voting machines be brought to the large gym to insure the integrity of Council votes moving forward. He had concerns that other members could be swayed on a vote based on seeing how other members voted with a show of hands. Dat and Heather will work on getting this resolved and having the machines available for voting.

Councilmember Wilkinson doesn't think that is happening. Travis Lindley disagreed and said it has been noticed that what Councilmember Pickens is saying is correct.

Councilmember Tim Gould spoke about the upcoming beautification event at Campbell Middle School on Saturday.

He also spoke about continuous requests for detached dwelling for family, etc. and he'd like to see some more detail added to the requirements for these allowances. It is currently a gray area.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, regarding accessory structure, she has a lot in Ward five that have these dwellings and she would like to be involved in the conversation. She also reiterated that she did not feel that she nor other Councilmembers were swayed by watching how other members voted.

Councilmember Lewis Wheaton spoke about the events upcoming for Black History Month and the tremendous work staff and the committee had done to bring this virtual events to fruition and have interactive activities.

5. Executive Session (as needed)**A. [COW21-05](#) Executive Session - Court Personnel Discussion**

Mayor Norton asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel.

A motion was made by Councilmember Travis Lindley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould. The motion carried 7-0.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made to return to regular session by Councilmember Travis Lindley and seconded by Councilmember Corkey Welch.

The motion carried by a vote of 7-0.

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the January 28, 2021 meeting of the Committee of the Whole at 7:51PM.