

**Pre-Council Meeting Minutes – Final  
Magnolia Room at the Community Center  
February 15, 2021  
6:30 PM**

*Present:*      *Derek Norton*                      *Tim Gould*                      *Lewis Wheaton*  
                  *Susan Wilkinson*                      *Austin Wagner*                      *Glenn Pickens*  
                  *Charles “Corkey” Welch*                      *Travis Lindley*

*Also, Present: Scott Cochran (City Attorney)*

*Staff:*      *Joe Bennett (Interim City Administrator), Penny Mocerri (Interim Assistant City Administrator), Rusty Martin (Community Development Director), Joey Staubes (Planner II, Community Development), Frank Martin (Public Works Director), Jennifer Bennett (Community Relations Director), and Tina M. Monaghan (Deputy City Clerk)*

**Mayor Derek Norton called the February 15, 2021 Pre-Council Meeting to Order at 6:30 PM.**

**Review of the Agenda for the February 15, 2021 Mayor and Council Meeting**

Mayor Norton opened the discussion by asking that Public Works Director Frank Martin speak about the road closure which will be voted on as part of the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Frank Martin explained that a great detour has been set up which should make things move very smoothly. The costs are approximately \$8000.00 per speed table, \$7000.00 for the reflective beacons, and \$80,000.00 for the HAWK signal. Mayor Norton explained that according to Finance Director Kristin Robinson, the additional funding needed for this project will be coming out of the surplus. The rest was budgeted for in a previous fiscal year budget but was put on hold until the effects of COVID on the budget could be determined.

Finance Committee Chair and Councilmember Charles “Corkey” Welch inquired when the annual meeting would take place with the Finance Department to determine where the remaining surplus funds should be assigned. Mayor Norton stated that this meeting will be happening very soon.

Mayor Norton announced that he is wanting to propose a six month moratorium on townhomes in order to look into the zoning aspect which would possibly include putting townhomes into their own zoning classification as many other jurisdictions already do. This will not impact anything already in the works and will allow time to see what the best way would be to proceed in future building requests. This will be advertised and presented at an upcoming meeting for further discussion before a vote will occur.

Councilmember Charles “Corkey” Welch was asked to handle the court finance item on the agenda since he is the Finance Committee Chairperson.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson inquired about the document that was sent out regarding the COVID inspection extension. She was curious to see how it was laid out and what all was included on the document.

Interim City Administrator Joe Bennett reviewed the cell tower lease agreement that would be on the consent agenda for a vote.

The final agreed upon extended work hours for the Campbell High School construction project were discussed. It was decided that Monday through Friday would be from 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Saturdays would begin at 9:00 AM and go through 9:00 PM. This would allow those that reside near by to enjoy some more quiet time on their Saturday mornings which was the main complaint received when the original hours were announced.

City Attorney Scott Cochran announced that the annexations were complete and ready to be sent to the state. He was taking them to the State Legislative Council the next day which would have been Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Interim City Administrator Joe Bennett announced that due to inclement weather, all City Offices would be on a delayed opening. Opening will occur at 10:00 AM as opposed to 8:00 AM.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson asked Community Development Director Rusty Martin about the training status of the Ward 5 Planning and Zoning representative. Mr. Martin explained that the training would occur for both the Ward 5 representative as well as the new Ward 1 representative.

Councilmember Wilkinson spoke about a recent meeting with Mayor Norton and the residents of Smyrna Grove regarding an electric substation located across the street from the entrance of the subdivision. Mayor Norton has spoke with Georgia Power representatives who are looking into ways to address the aesthetics while still staying in conformance with state and federal regulations and requirements.

Councilmember Wilkinson expressed concern about the tree coming down on Campbell Road for the traffic improvement project. Twelve pines are slated to be removed. It was noted that they are all in the right of way and that they are only being removed because of safety and sight distance reasons. They block the view of drivers which would defeat the purpose of all of the other safety measures being put in place. Ms. Wilkinson wanted it on record that she was not happy with the removal of the trees.

**Mayor Norton adjourned the February 15, 2021 Pre-Council Meeting at 6:45 PM.**