

COUNCIL PRESENT: Bruner, Dunagan, Wangemann, Hamrick, Figueras
STAFF PRESENT: Padgett, Sheppard, Palmour, Jordan, Grayson

Mayor Bruner called the meeting to order at approximately 9:44 AM (immediately after the Special Session regarding Redistricting).

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE ISSUES:

Alcoholic Beverage License Application

City Marshall Debbie Jones presented the following applications indicating they were both in order.

- 3 Lil Pigs BBQ, 1705 Cleveland Highway, a new application for consumption on the premises of beer.
- Rick's Smokin Pig BBQ, 130 John W. Morrow Jr. Pkwy, a new application for consumption on the premises of beer.

Placed on the August 16, 2011 Council Meeting Agenda

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER ISSUES:

Resolution: Authorize CSC to Apply for and Accept FY12 Legacy Link Grant, \$1,230,956

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Lewis Moss presented the resolution noting the \$1.2M amount represents the total cost of offering services through the Meals on Wheels Program and the Senior Life Center. The actual amount to be received from Legacy Link is approximately \$592,000. She stated this has been an annual contract for more than a decade.

Placed on the August 16, 2011 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Resolution: Authorize CSC to Apply for and Accept a \$29,956 IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site (VITA) Grant

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Lewis Moss stated the total grant amount was for \$119,868 which would be disbursed in increments over the next 3 years. Mrs. Moss noted the benefits to applying for the three year grant was to eliminate the annual application process and in anticipation of program cut backs by Congress. She clarified that the contract would reflect the three year amount.

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PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES:

Resolution: Inmate Boarding Agreement Between Hall County and the City of Gainesville

Captain Chad White stated this was a request to renew the inmate boarding agreement with Hall County. Upon inquiry, Captain White confirmed there were changes made to the original contract after discussion and negotiations with Hall County. He stated there were no fee increases.

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PUBLIC UTILITIES ISSUES:

Resolution: Flat Creek Stream Restoration – Upper North Fork of Flat Creek and Midtown Greenway Award of Contract

Special Projects Manager Jessica Tullar used a powerpoint presentation to discuss the Midtown Greenway Project. Discussions included the conversion of an active rail line to a trail; completion of Phase I; and a tree planting consisting of fifty-nine trees utilizing funding from the Georgia Growing Green Fund Grants in the amount of \$16,000. The next phase will include a walkable and usable trail. She stated the biggest component of the plan was a strategic public investment to spur development in this area. She reviewed properties that have been rehabbed by property owners noting major cleanups have occurred in this area as well.

Ms. Tullar stated this was a joint effort with the Public Utilities Department to design the Midtown Greenway and Stream Restoration projects together. She noted multiple funding has been received for Phase I.

Ms. Tullar reported Phase II would be for completion of the Greenway noting some funding had been received. She discussed the downtown connection to Parker Street which would give two options to get to downtown.

Upon inquiry from Mayor Bruner, Ms. Tullar stated there were plans to obtain a single landscaper to complete the landscaping on the trails. This would minimize the maintenance that will be turned over to Parks and Recreation when completed.

Council Member Wangemann noted he had received some citizen concerns about the Midtown Project. He asked about funding from private owners in the area noting the City has been acting as a catalyst for other improvements in Midtown.

City Manager Kip Padgett stated potential hoteliers are currently in the talking stages.

Civil Engineer Barclay Fouts stated four bids had been received for the Upper Flat Creek and Midtown Greenway Project noting the various projects included in the bid. The total bid was for \$1.65M which was over budget. They worked to scale back the project to meet the budget. The end result included the sections from Bank Street to High Street which reduced the amount of the bid to a total project cost of \$1.4M of which 44% will be allocated to the Stream Restoration project and 54% allocated to the Midtown Project.

City Manager Kip Padgett stated the goal was to complete the project from the Red Cross to Martin Luther King (MLK) Boulevard. The \$400,000 received from the Georgia Department of Transportation TEA-Grant would fund the project from MLK Boulevard to Industrial Boulevard.

Mr. Fouts stated the project would be completed in phases, displayed a visual reference of the work being done; then provided information as to the areas that have been completed.

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

Resolution: Application for Participation in the 2011 Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH)

Housing Program Manager Chris Davis stated the proposed resolution was for an application to participate in a three-year program that partner with the Georgia Municipal Association, University of Georgia and Department of Community Affairs. He gave a quick overview of the application noting it addresses the community housing and community development needs, provides technical support and helps with action plans through implementation. There was no cost to participate. They are currently recruiting for a community development housing team from the community. The program does not guarantee assistance from funding sources but does put the City in a favorable position to apply for other funding sources.

Mayor Bruner and Council Member Wangemann commented on other cities utilizing this program and how it can be helpful.

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Resolution: Acceptance of 2011 Community Development Block Program (CDBG) Grant Number B-11-MC-13-0012

Housing Program Manager Chris Davis stated the proposed resolution was to accept the grant that was submitted to and approved by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) this year. The grant award amount was for \$363,664.00 noting this amount was less than the amount awarded last year. Council Member Hamrick expressed concern that this may be the last CDBG grant received.

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CITY MANAGER'S ISSUES:

Business Resolution: Gainesville-Hall County Development Authority Issuance of Revenue Bonds for the Benefit of IMS Gear Georgia, Inc.

City Manager Kip Padgett stated this resolution was previously approved in the amount of \$5M for the private revenue bond issuance for IMS Gear Georgia, Inc, indicating the amount was revised to \$6.5M.

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Temporary Relocation of Hall County Fire Station 4

Fire Chief Jon Canada gave a brief overview regarding the temporary relocation of the Hall County Fire Station 4 due to renovations of their facility that may take 90 to 180 days to complete. This would require the housing of some of the Hall County's Fire Station personnel and equipment. From a financial standpoint, this would be helpful to the taxpayers.

There was consensus from Council.

AARP Article

City Manager Kip Padgett commented on the AARP article noting he received an email from a local realtor stating someone from the Virgin Islands recently visited downtown Gainesville and indicated they left earnest money to purchase a house.

Reception for Carol Burrell

City Manager Kip Padgett reported a reception for Carol Burrell at Quinlan Arts.

COUNCIL ISSUES:

Mr. Hamrick

Inquired about Holly Park. City Manager Kip Padgett stated Congress is addressing the Holly Park issue. Assistant City Manager Angela Sheppard confirmed the matter was being handled.

Council Member Figueras

1. Commented on the economic development report and redistricting map indicating the need for island annexations.
2. Reported the Childhood Obesity initiative was moving forward. The next meeting would be on September 12th at the Fair Street Neighborhood Center at 5:00 PM.

Mayor Bruner

1. Commented on the paving on Main Street.
2. Received complaints about the stop sign on Piedmont Way. City Manager Kip Padgett stated this is a road geometry issue.

George Wangemann

1. Provided an update on a community cleanup.
2. Reported a Comprehensive Plan Workshop would be held at the Fair Street Neighborhood Center.
3. Commented on Hall County's Parks and Leisure Services. He asked if the City and County could work together to continue these services. He also asked City Manager Kip Padgett and staff to meet with the County to find a solution. Council Member Dunagan stated he disagreed noting it was unfeasible and could jeopardize the City's Parks and Recreation accreditation status. Council Member Figueras felt the bottom line was the County program needed funding. City staff would be a burdened to take on such a task. Council Member Hamrick noted this has been reviewed several times. City Manager Kip Padgett stated he would revisit the matter with staff; however, the major issue of funding still remains.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:35 AM

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