

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

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order.

### **BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **Public Works**

Assistant Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky provided an overview of the department. He commented on some of the accomplishments during the current fiscal year and reviewed some goals for fiscal year 2013 pertaining to the Public Lands & Buildings, Engineering, Traffic Engineering, Street Maintenance and the Cemetery Divisions. There was a brief overview of the street paving projects noting staff was currently working on the FY11 paving contract. The FY12 paving list is awaiting approval from GDOT.

Council Member Wangemann shared the following:

1. Reported complaints about Washington Street not offering a smooth ride.
2. Confirmed the Public Utilities and the Public Works Departments are communicating on the utility cuts.
3. Reported a question about the timeline for speed tables on Fairview and Knottingham Drive.
4. Shared concerns about the alignment of a private drive onto Lakeshore Drive.
5. Commented on the dangers of pedestrians crossing Green Street after which Mayor Dunagan requested no left turns on Green Street.

Council Member Hamrick asked about the timeline for the alignment of Enota and Park Hill Drive. He also commented on tents being in the cemetery and questioned whether homeless individuals were living there.

#### **Solid Waste Fund**

Assistant Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky reported there had been some significant changes within this division over the last year. He was pleased with the accomplishments and reported the division was now solvent as well as self-sufficient as an enterprise fund. The revenues are currently exceeding expenditures by 10%. They are hoping to be able to make capital improvements through the unused revenues. He was also pleased to report the recycling containers had been very successfully. They had almost depleted the initial supply of containers and recycled collections had increased. Mr. Rotalsky reviewed the goals for FY2013.

Council Member Wangemann asked how much was accumulated in retained earnings. He also requested recycling literature to distribute as he extends invitations to the Council Meetings.

#### **Airport Fund**

Assistant Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky reviewed the accomplishments and the goals for FY2013.

### **Vehicle Services**

Assistant Public Works Director Chris Rotalsky reviewed the accomplishments and the goals for FY2013. He indicated there had been some personnel changes in this division. A vehicle replacement policy had been implemented using a point system with criteria to qualify for replacement.

### **Georgia Mountains Center**

Assistant City Manager Angela Sheppard reviewed the accomplishments and the goals for FY2013. She indicated they had not been able to increase the number of bookings. The staffing situation has changed significantly but the center has managed to continue to push forward.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ISSUES:**

### **Alcoholic Beverage License Application**

Senior Finance Technician Tracie Morris reported an application was filed by J & S Food Mart, 2224 Thompson Bridge Road for the package sale of beer and wine. The application was in order.

Placed on the April 3, 2012 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

## **PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES:**

### **Project Resolution: Governor's Office of Highway Safety Small Grant FY13**

Police Chief Brian Kelly stated this resolution authorized the acceptance of a \$15,000 grant to be split equally between the Police Department's Traffic Services Unit and the Northeast Georgia Traffic Enforcement Network. The resolution authorized application and acceptance of the funds to offer a quick turnaround.

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### **Project Resolution: FY11-12 Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Acceptance**

Police Chief Brian Kelly stated this resolution allowed the department to receive \$12,852.50 in grant funds to purchase a supply of bulletproof vest. The City must match the grant. Upon inquiry from Mayor Dunagan, Chief Kelly provided an overview of what is done with the older vest.

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### **Project Resolution: Governor's Office of Highway Safety Federal Innovative Grant**

Police Chief Brian Kelly stated this resolution allowed the department to apply for a grant that would provide two additional officers and two fully marked cars. He stated two positions had been eliminated in the budget and frozen. This grant will increase staff to 102 sworn officers. It is a three year grant requiring an application to be filed each year. The grant does not require the department to retain the officers at the end of the grant's funding period.

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT ISSUES:**

**Business Resolution: Georgia Emergency Management Agency - Homeland Security Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement**

Fire Chief Jon Canada stated this resolution will allow the 2002 agreement to be updated. It also allows the department to offer and receive mutual aid from other entities throughout the state.

City Manager Kip Padgett commented on the importance of this agreement noting the Fire Department had recently helped in a state of emergency event in Clayton County.

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**Business Resolution: Georgia Emergency Management Agency - Homeland Security Georgia Search and Rescue Team (GSAR), Task Force #1 Agreement**

Fire Chief Jon Canada stated Gainesville is the host agency for the Georgia Search and Rescue Team, Task Force #1. The resolution authorized the execution of the Memorandum of Agreement.

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**RECESS: 10:27 AM**  
**RECONVENE: 10:33 AM**

**PUBLIC UTILITIES ISSUES:**

**Project Resolution: Year 23, Contract 2, Sanitary Sewer Improvements Award of Contract**

Civil Engineer Joel Altherr stated the bid opening was held on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Strickland and Sons presented the lowest bid, i.e., \$620,760, to rehabilitate approximately sixty manholes. He commented on the products used for the improvements. The project would involve work in the following areas: Holly Drive/Piedmont Avenue, Dixon Drive, Shaw Drive/Teakwood Drive, Valley Road, Bradford Street/Northside Drive and Center Street. The project will be funded through the department's Capital Improvement Plan. Construction would be completed in 180 calendar days. Staff was targeting completion in May. The resolution authorized the execution of the necessary documents to complete the project with a total cost not to exceed \$752,836.

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**Project Resolution: Flat Creek Water Reclamation Facility Maintenance Project**

Assistant Public Utilities Director Don Dye stated this project has a long lead time noting its purpose is to ensure operation and compliance with the State Discharge Permit as well as to avoid excessive downtime. The resolution authorized the purchase of a Recycle Clarifier Drive Unit, the Head Works Screening Belt and the Dewatering Conveyor Belt at a cost not to exceed \$93,395.00 from the department's Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Dye commented on an error within the resolution noting a corrected document would be submitted to the City Clerk for the Council Meeting Agenda Package.

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**Project Resolution: Linwood Creek Water Reclamation Facility Maintenance Project**

Assistant Public Utilities Director Don Dye stated the Linwood Water Reclamation Facility required some maintenance and briefly described the items to be addressed. The proposed resolution authorized the expenditure of \$33,559 from the department's Capital Improvement Plan.

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**Project Resolution: SR347/Friendship & Thompsons Mill Road Utilities Relocation**

Civil Engineer Matt Tarver presented the project indicating it has been split into two phases. Pre-qualified bids were received and the low bidder was Strickland & Sons Pipeline, Inc. at a bid amount of \$579,894. The department recommended a 20% contingency to offset a major difference between the awarded contractor and the next lowest bidder. The proposed resolution authorized execution of the documents to complete the project at a total cost not to exceed \$795,873.

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**Project Resolution: SR 284 Clarks Bridge Utility Relocation 10:44**

Civil Engineer Matt Tarver stated the plans for this project have been approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT). The next step is to enter into an agreement with the DOT which would require the City to reimburse up to \$1,472,590. The proposed resolution authorized the documents to be executed to complete the project.

Mayor Dunagan confirmed staff had an opportunity to review the bid.

Upon inquiry from Council Member Hamrick, it was noted that the existing bridge would be demolished.

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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:**

**Project Resolution: Approval of Local DCA Homeless Assistance Program Applications**

Housing Program Manager Chris Davis stated the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) announced the availability of Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) funding for homeless assistance programs. Three non-profit agencies had filed applications for these funds: Ninth District Opportunity, Inc., the Salvation Army, and Action Ministries, Inc. The department has reviewed the applications to confirm the projects are consistent with the needs of the community and the HUD Consolidated Plan. The proposed resolution authorized the execution of the appropriate documents.

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**Public Hearing items for the April 3, 2012 Council Meeting**

Planning Manager Matt Tate reviewed an application submitted by Gainesville Truck Center, Inc. to annex 14.03± acres at 0 and 2145 Athens Highway to connect to the sewer system. Comments were received from the Public Utilities Department. The Planning and Appeals Board recommended approval. There were no public comments.

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**CITY MANAGER'S ISSUES:**

**Church Street Manor**

City Manager Kip Padgett stated Church Street Manor had been sold. He and the City Attorney reviewed a follow-up request and concluded the property was so small that it did not have any significant value. Paperwork was forthcoming for the Council's consideration.

**CITY CLERK ISSUES:**

**GMA City of Ethics**

City Clerk Denise Jordan reported the paperwork was being processed to obtain the City of Ethics recertification. April 30<sup>th</sup> was the submission deadline.

**HB397 Open Meetings/Open Records**

City Clerk Denise Jordan reported receiving an update from the Georgia Municipal Association regarding the rewrite of the Open Meetings/Open Records Act and shared the following information:

In regards to Open Meetings, the following changes were noted:

- The inspection of facilities, attending statewide, multijurisdictional or regional meetings; meetings with officials of legislative or executive branches of the state/federal offices; traveling to meetings/gatherings; attendance at social, ceremonial, civic or religious events are not considered to be meetings as long as no official business, policy, or public matter is formulated, presented, discussed or voted upon.
- Executive Session Minutes must be kept for in camera inspection by an appropriate court should a dispute arise.
- The Presiding Officer is responsible for ruling on executive session discussions that are out of order and shall cause such conversations to cease.

In regards to Open Records, the following changes were noted:

- The absence of a records officer doesn't justify a delayed response.
- Provisions regarding prepayment were added to the law.
- The destruction of records for the purpose of preventing disclosure is a violation and subject to prosecution.

Violators of the Open Meetings/Open Records Act are guilty of a misdemeanor. Civil penalties may also be imposed.

**COUNCIL ISSUES:**

**Council Member Figueras**

Shared her itinerary for the next few days.

**Council Member Wangemann**

Commented on the Spring Chicken Festival scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup> and encouraged participation

**Council Member Hamrick**

Complimented staff on the completion of the inventory of available retail space. This information indicated Gainesville is a hotspot for retail businesses and felt the staff should work with Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce to establish Gainesville as a retail area.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

City Manager Kip Padgett Executive session to discuss litigation, personnel and real estate matters.

**Motion to close the Work Session to enter an Executive Session to discuss litigation, personnel and real estate matters at 11:10 AM.**

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

**Council Members voting in favor of the motion were Dunagan, Wangemann, Hamrick and Figueras. Council Member Bruner was absent.**

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COUNCIL ABSENT: Bruner

STAFF PRESENT: Padgett, Sheppard, Palmour, Jordan

**Motion to close the Executive Session and adjourn the meeting at 11:45 AM.**

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

**Council Members voting in favor of the motion were Dunagan, Wangemann, Hamrick and Figueras. Council Member Bruner was absent.**

**ADJOURNMENT: 11:45 AM**

/dj