

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

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order.

Reverend Calvin Haney, St. Paul United Methodist Church, delivered the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

CITIZEN'S ISSUES:

Teresa Webb, 3761 Maple Forge Lane, opposed the millage roll-up. She commented on situations she categorized as not being good stewards of the tax-payer dollars. She felt the Council was deaf to citizen concerns. She referenced the Property Tax Reform Bill, SB346, indicating the tax increase was a blatant misuse of power. She felt an increase should only be considered when every cut had already been made.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolutions:

- A. AR-2012-08 Regarding Third Quarter Budget Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2012
- B. BR-2012-19 Property and Casualty Insurance Provider
- C. BR-2012-20 Adoption of the Community Agenda as Part of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan
- D. PR-2012-26 Request to Apply for FY13 VITA Grant
- E. PR-2012-27 Riverside Water Treatment Plant Maintenance Project
- F. PR-2012-28 Authorization to Accept a \$9,000 Historic Preservation Fund Grant

Motion to adopt the resolutions as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

APPOINTMENTS:

Airport Advisory Committee - Hall County Representative

Motion to reappoint Alan Wayne to serve another three year term on the Airport Advisory Committee.

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

**Golf Course Advisory Committee – City Council Representative
(To fill the unexpired term of Gary Palmer)**

Motion to appoint Gene Weschler to fill the unexpired term of Gary Palmer on the Golf Course Advisory Committee.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

**Historic Preservation Committee – Ward 5
(Position currently held by Jack Bailey)**

Motion to reappoint Jack Bailey to serve another three year term on the Historic Preservation Committee.

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

GENERAL LEGISLATION:

Proposed Ordinance

Amend Chapter 1-6 Entitled Personnel

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-12, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 1-6 ENTITLED "PERSONNEL" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA; TO AMEND SECTION 1-6-50 TO ESTABLISH A MERIT PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION IN WHICH ALL PERSONNEL MATTERS OF THE CITY SHALL BE DETERMINED SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF MERIT AND QUALIFICATIONS, WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION; TO AMEND SECTION 1-6-51 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF EMPLOYEE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

City Manager Kip Padgett stated this ordinance will provide a more streamlined process for employee appeals to be heard by an Administrative Hearing Officer.

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

BUDGET HEARING:

City Attorney Palmour reviewed and conducted the public hearing process.

Presentation of FY2013 Proposed Budget

City Manager Kip Padgett stated the proposed budget was the same as presented in May for \$27.9 million. This budget meets Council's objectives of maintaining consistent service levels; the City's paving needs; and employee retention. The budget includes a millage roll-up component as recommended by the Chief Financial Officer and the Parks and Recreation Board, which is to meet some debt obligations from previous years.

Mayor Dunagan read the following prepared statement:

At the January City Council retreat, staff was directed to prepare a budget that:

1. Maintained the current service levels;
2. Addressed capital needs. We have police cars that are approaching 200,000 miles and roads that need resurfacing at \$56,000 per mile; and
3. Ensured employee retention. Department Directors have expressed concerns regarding turnover and the cost to train new employees and its effect on service delivery. Therefore, we believe that a Cost-Of-Living Adjustment is necessary to show our commitment to our employees. Trained, experienced employees assure we maintain a high level of service that is expected by our citizens.

Also at that time, our Chief Financial Officer indicated to Council that a millage roll-up may be required for the future stability of projects Council approved some time ago.

Now, I would like to address the roll-up of the millage rate. While the millage rate is increasing, it is a revenue-neutral-multiplier that ensures the City receives the same amount of tax revenue as the previous fiscal year. The impact on individual taxpayers will vary based on their personal property assessment.

The roll-up is being considered for three reasons. First, the City Council has existing debt obligations. Payments must be made from the debt service millage rate. The reduction in property assessments has affected the revenue for those bond obligations. In order to meet these commitments made by this Council, a roll-up is necessary.

Second, the Parks and Recreation Agency is comprised of a Board that is appointed by Council. This Board is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the park system and has budgetary oversight. They have recommended a roll-up to their rate so they can maintain our quality park system at current levels while facing an increased demand for services.

Lastly, in 2009, we accepted a grant to hire additional fire fighters. It was determined by our Fire Chief, and approved by this Council, that such a move would prepare us to better address the fire protection needs of our community. This grant will expire in the next two years and the City will assume all costs associated with the grant. This was made clear to us at the time we approved the grant. It is important we keep the tax revenue neutral so that we do not have a bigger deficit to close once the grant runs out.

Financial decisions are always difficult, especially in these challenging times. During the budget process, we strive to balance the needs of our citizens, while remaining a financially responsible City. Over the past few years, budgets have included employee furloughs, a 10% reduction in workforce, retirement/health benefit reductions for new hires, consolidation of departments, and mandatory cuts to departmental operating budgets.

In fact, the 2013 proposed budget for the general fund is 2.1% less than the 2008 adopted budget despite substantial increases in the cost of fuel, electricity, and most other operating costs. We have maintained a good budget.

We are proud of the financial position that we have achieved through careful planning and diligent management. We feel that this budget has been developed to continue on that path and provide the services that our citizens expect.

Upon inquiry from Council Member Figueras, City Manager Kip Padgett stated the development agreement that was entered into required that there would be no reimbursement for the bridge until one of two items occurred, i.e., a certificate of occupancy is issued for one of the first two office towers or a development agreement suitable to the City is entered into with a hotelier to build a hotel.

Public Comments regarding proposed budget

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments.

Mike Parker, 6728 Willowbrook Trail, stated he lives in Flowery Branch but works in the City of Gainesville. He had been watching the process for several years. When you work with a budget, you work to maximize all assets. In harsh times like today, the tendency has been to not acknowledge human capital and to cut services that hurt humans more than necessary. There are people in the community that have made contributions to society. We have not honored the debt to them. We should not cut services such as the Red Rabbit, Gainesville Care and Home Care. Mr. Parker was ashamed of the County for forcing these decisions on the City. Government isn't like a Waffle House or a business. It must continue existing no matter what. Many people have talked about their job as an elected official and who they represent. Mr. Parker felt government was designed to be a guardian of humanity. Government's goal is to balance the budget and to lift up society as well as the community without leaving anyone behind.

Chris Romberg, 340 Dixon Drive, Vice Chair for the Parks and Recreation Board, stated he didn't want to pay more taxes. Gainesville Parks & Recreation is a good steward of its funds. If the increase does not occur, there will be a loss of services and we will continue to get further behind. He felt it was necessary to proceed with the increase noting you don't always get what you want but most of the time you get what you need.

Douglas Aiken, 6230 Brady Road, Murrayville, stated he was an admirer of the City of Gainesville. He stated we are in tough times. We are all tightening our belts and the City should also. Now is the time to give the City property owners a break. He was a manager for the southeastern region of AT&T for many years. They tightened the budget and were able to get it done. It's tough but that's what Council must do. He commented on Gainesville being the largest municipality in Hall County. He was against the roll-up. He shared thoughts about Local Option Sales Tax and Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. If we can all hold on, we will make it. It will be tough but it can be done. The City hasn't failed yet and it won't fail now.

Council Member Wangemann stated he received a number of calls about the budget. The economy is not in a robust state but is showing signs of improvement. The City is in good financial condition even though some businesses/citizens are still struggling. Staff has done an excellent job in keeping the City on sound and stable footing.

Council Member Wangemann indicated he had a slight change of heart then submitted an addendum to the City Manager's proposed budget. Based on comments from citizens, most don't want the roll-up which amounts to 14/100 of a mill. He proposed to retain the same millage rate as the current budget by reducing the rainy day fund to a 1.8 month level. He felt the City was still in hard times and proposed a stair step approach to increasing the reserve.

Upon inquiry, City Manager Kip Padgett confirmed the City had already achieved a two month reserve.

Council Member Wangemann requested to reduce the two month reserve to a 1.8 month reserve to eliminate the roll-up. He felt this would satisfy the taxpayer by providing a break. It would also satisfy the City by still having a reserve but not at the desired level. Rebuilding the reserve could be addressed at a later date. The fund balance is an ongoing fund that occurs once a year that could be used to rebuild the reserves. This would keep the millage at 2.92 instead of increasing to 3.06. He proposed to reduce the reserve to keep the millage rate stable as it was in the last budget and, at an appropriate time in the future, consider rebuilding the reserve back to a two month reserve.

Motion to amend the ad valorem tax rate to 2.92 mills.

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann
The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Bruner stated Council Member Wangemann's proposal did not address Parks and Recreation needs. During hard times, people use free services more than ever. If we don't increase the budget, we will be in worse shape in 2015. Mrs. Bruner didn't feel the proposal addressed all of the issues.

Council Member Wangemann felt the figures would hold up and requested that the Chief Financial Officer work out the details of the proposal.

Council Member Figueras felt there were many perceptions. She had looked at charts and confirmed the amount of property taxes for the general fund was 19%. She felt her taxes were going to increase regardless. She stated she could not support the motion. Council Member Figueras expressed a desire to accept the City Manager's budget. She later asked citizens to think about what has been cut and how that will impact the future.

Mayor Dunagan stated the City does not take increasing taxes lightly. He commented on the things that have been cut/delayed to keep the budget as low as possible.

City Clerk Denise Jordan clarified tonight's agenda addressed the proposed ordinance to set the millage rate. The resolution to adopt the budget would be considered at the next Council Meeting after second reading of the millage rate ordinance.

Proposed Ordinance
FY2013 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the City of Gainesville
(Exclusive of the Gainesville Board of Education)

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-13, AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA, TO FIX THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA EXCLUSIVE OF ACTIVITIES OF THE GAINESVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013; AND OTHER PURPOSES.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras
Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner
Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Figueras, Bruner
Opposed: Wangemann
Absent: Hamrick

Proposed Ordinance
FY2013 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for the Gainesville Board of Education

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-14, AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA, TO FIX THE AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR THE GAINESVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013; AND OTHER PURPOSES.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras
Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner
Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner
Absent: Hamrick

PUBLIC HEARING:

Annexation/Zoning Items

City Attorney Palmour reviewed and conducted the public hearing process.

Request from the City of Gainesville Public Utilities Department to annex a 2.3± acres tract located on the southwestern corner of the intersection of Marler Street and Hancock Avenue (a/k/a 1198 Marler Street) and to establish zoning as Heavy Industrial (H-I). Ward: Three. Tax Parcel Number: 01-031-004-002 (Part). Request: Public Utilities shop/office.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon presented the item. The Planning and Appeals Board voted to approve the request.

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments.

FAVOR:

Public Utilities Director Kelly Randall stated the City purchased the property in August 2010 and requested that it be annexed into the City.

Council Member Figueras requested some cleanup in the Marler Road area.

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments. There being none, the hearing was closed and the matter was returned to Council for a decision.

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-15, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING A 2.3± ACRES TRACT LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARLER STREET AND HANCOCK AVENUE (A/K/A 1198 MARLER STREET); ADJACENT TO BUT NOT NOW WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to City Limit Boundary)

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-16, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA BY ESTABLISHING THE ZONING ON A 2.3± ACRES TRACT LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARLER STREET AND HANCOCK AVENUE (A/K/A 1198 MARLER STREET) AT THE TIME OF ANNEXATION AS HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (H-I); REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to Zoning Map)

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Request from WAG Properties, Inc. to annex a 0.68± acre tract located on the east side of Thompson Bridge Road, south of its intersection with Sandridge Court (a/k/a 1868 Thompson Bridge Road) and to establish zoning as General Business (G-B). Ward: One. Tax Parcel Number: 00-097-001-020. Request: Transportation logistics brokerage.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon reviewed the application. The Public Utilities Department stated there was sufficient water and sewer capacity to serve the proposed use. The Planning and Appeals Board voted to approve the request with the following condition:

The existing freestanding sign shall be improved as a monument sign to meet City of Gainesville standards.

It was noted that the sign had been removed and the condition was no longer needed.

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments.

FAVOR:

Sabrina Cape, Chief Financial Officer for WAG, stated the facility was a new location to allow for expansion and adding of new jobs.

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-17, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING A 0.68± ACRE TRACT LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THOMPSON BRIDGE ROAD, SOUTH OF ITS INTERSECTION WITH SANDRIDGE COURT (A/K/A 1868 THOMPSON BRIDGE ROAD); ADJACENT TO BUT NOT NOW WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to City Limit Boundary)

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-18, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA BY ESTABLISHING THE ZONING ON A 0.68± ACRE TRACT LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THOMPSON BRIDGE ROAD, SOUTH OF ITS INTERSECTION WITH SANDRIDGE COURT (A/K/A 1868 THOMPSON BRIDGE ROAD) AT THE TIME OF ANNEXATION AS GENERAL BUSINESS (G-B); REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to Zoning Map)

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Request from Pacolet Milliken Enterprises, Inc. to annex a 68.223± acres tract located on the north and south side of Jesse Jewell Parkway, between and across from its intersection with Limestone Parkway and White Sulphur Road (a/k/a 601 White Sulphur Road) and to establish zoning as Planned Unit Development (P-U-D). Ward: Two and Three. Tax Parcel Number: 09-123-000-008 (Part). Request: Commercial / office / multi-family development.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon reviewed the application. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) commented that Access Management has been in contact with the developer and is currently working on access issues and should continue to coordinate with GDOT. The Public Utilities Department stated there is sufficient water and sewer capacity to serve the development. The Planning and Appeals Board voted to approve the request with the following six conditions:

1. The applicant's narrative and exhibits A thru E of the Planned Unit Development (PUD) application shall be part of the zoning ordinance, and development shall be generally consistent with the narrative and exhibits.
2. The proposed design of the commercial and office buildings and free standing signage within the development shall be architecturally consistent throughout and shall conform to the existing building architecture of the nearby New Holland Mill.
3. Any loading dock and dumpster pad areas shall be sufficiently screened from all public roads and all properties adjacent to the subject property. In addition, all above ground

detention pond areas shall be screened or constructed in a manner as a landscaped feature.

4. The proposed development shall be buffered from the adjacent residentially zoned properties located south of the subject property off of East Main Street, and the adjacent New Haven Congregational Holiness Church property located to the north of the subject property. The buffer shall consist of an opaque fence or evergreen trees. The final installation, placement, maintenance and type of the buffer shall be subject to the Community Development Director approval.
5. There shall be no vehicular access from the development to the adjacent residential homes located off of East Main Street.
6. All access point design shall be approved by the Gainesville Public Works Department, in conjunction with the needs and requirements of the Hall County Traffic Engineer and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).

Upon Council Member Bruner's request, Mr. Ligon briefly commented on the history of the property noting it would be the first commercial development for the property owner in over 100 years.

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments.

FAVOR:

Linda Bryant, 627 White Sulphur Road, stated her parents live near the development and are concerned about where they will be during the course of this project.

Mike McNicholas, Carolina Holdings, stated he was the development consultant for the applicant. The company has worked with Milliken for a number of years. Milliken has been part of the community for over 100 years. They are excited about the possibility of this project. It is their plan to initiate construction in September. An extensive traffic study was completed and improvements will be installed at the applicant's expense. They have worked very hard to come up with an overall plan for a detailed and unified architectural, signage and landscaping design. There are plans to employ 150+ people in the first phase with an expenditure of approximately \$30 million. There was a meeting with neighbors at the Frances Meadows Center to address concerns. They have addressed buffer concerns. The narrative includes a tree-lined landscape along both sides of Jesse Jewell which is intended to be consistent with the mill property. He requested that a street be allowed within the 12 acre tract. Additionally, there was discussion about deeding land to provide "Welcome to Gainesville" signage.

Mr. McNicholas used a power point presentation to display the architectural plan, design features and photos of other developments to give the best representation of what the proposed New Holland development may resemble. He stated the market will be the driving force in determining the outcome. He also displayed architectural designs and photos of a unified signage plan.

In response to the neighbor, Mr. McNicholas stated he was unclear about the geographic location; however, they do not plan to purchase additional properties at this time. Community Development Director Rusty Ligon read the condition that protects the property Ms. Bryant questioned.

Mr. McNicholas stated there had been some clarification in the last few days regarding condition #2. He indicated some, but not all, buildings will have architectural elements incorporated that are similar to the New Holland Mill.

There being no further comments, the hearing was closed and the matter returned to Council for a decision.

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-19, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING A 68.223± ACRES TRACT LOCATED ON THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF JESSE JEWELL PARKWAY, BETWEEN AND ACROSS FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH LIMESTONE PARKWAY AND WHITE SULPHUR ROAD (A/K/A 601 WHITE SULPHUR ROAD); ADJACENT TO BUT NOT NOW WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to City Limit Boundary)

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Motion to hold first reading Ordinance 2012-20, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA BY ESTABLISHING THE ZONING ON A 68.223± ACRES TRACT LOCATED ON THE NORTH AND SOUTH SIDE OF JESSE JEWELL PARKWAY, BETWEEN AND ACROSS FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH LIMESTONE PARKWAY AND WHITE SULPHUR ROAD (A/K/A 601 WHITE SULPHUR ROAD) AT THE TIME OF ANNEXATION AS PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT, WITH CONDITIONS (P-U-D-c); REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (Amendment to Zoning Map) with conditions and with changes to condition 2.

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

Request from Eddie Martin Sr. to abandon a 0.39± acre (465± linear feet) unopened portion of Walker Street right-of-way located north of its intersection with Virginia Avenue having a zoning classification of Residential-I (R-I). Ward Number: One. Request: Abandonment of right-of-way.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon reviewed the application. If approved, the abandoned right-of-way will be combined with eight adjacent properties to be maintained by private property owners. The Planning and Appeals Board voted to approve the request with the following condition:

The existing 18-inch and 8-inch sanitary sewer mains and 6-inch water main located within the portion of right-of-way to be abandoned shall be maintained. A combined water and sanitary sewer perpetual easement encompassing the total area to be abandoned shall be recorded by plat and referenced to within the deed provided by the applicant or property owners.

City Attorney Palmour opened the floor for comments.

FAVOR:

Eddie Martin, 1735 Riverside Drive, requested Council's consideration on this matter so as to keep Walker Street a nice residential area.

There being no further comments, the hearing was closed and the matter returned to Council for a decision.

Motion to hold first reading on Ordinance 2012-21, AN ORDINANCE OFFICIALLY DISCONTINUING, CLOSING AND ABANDONING, WITH CONDITION, A 0.39± ACRE (465± LINEAR FEET) UNOPENED PORTION OF WALKER STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY; WITH ALL ACREAGE BEING LOCATED WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA; TO RESERVE A UTILITY EASEMENT THE FULL WIDTH OF THE RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN EXISTING AND FUTURE UTILITIES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Bruner

Votes favoring the motion: Dunagan, Wangemann, Figueras, Bruner

Absent: Hamrick

OTHER ISSUES:

Council Member Figueras

Announced an upcoming Second Saturday Meeting (The One Community Organization) at the Fair Street Neighborhood Center at 9:30 AM.

Council Member Wangemann

Commented on Keep Hall Beautiful's litter cleanup efforts.

Council Member Bruner

Commented on the Red Bud Project and the opening of the new walking trails.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:49 PM

DJ:ag

C. Danny Dunagan, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk