

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

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order.

Dr. Steven Winter, Gainesville First United Methodist Church, delivered the invocation after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

PROCLAMATION

Red Ribbon Week

Mayor Dunagan read the proclamation declaring October 23-31, 2012 to be Red Ribbon Week. The proclamation was presented to representatives from the Drug Free Coalition of Hall County.

A red bracelet promoting a drug-free lifestyle was distributed to the Council. Mr. David Smith asked everyone to wear red on Wednesday, October 24th in a community-wide effort to support our children and their decision to be drug free.

Council extended words of appreciation for the efforts of this group.

RESOLUTIONS:

BR-2012-37

Banking Services Contract Award

Administrative Services Officer Alicia Serra stated the proposed resolution awarded the banking services contract to SunTrust Bank. Three proposals were received. A Selection Committee reviewed the proposals to reach the recommendation.

Motion to adopt the resolution as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

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

BR-2012-38

Issuance of Revenue Bond for Georgia Mountains Young Men's Christian Association, Inc. Project

Attorney Tread Syfan stated the Gainesville Hall County Development Authority was presenting a resolution for the refinancing of a 2006 bond to secure better terms. The bonds will be tax exempt. There were no comments at the October 5, 2012 public hearing. The Development Authority approved the issuance of the bonds and asked for approval. The City would have no obligations regarding the payment of the bond.

Motion to adopt the resolution as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Hamrick

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

GENERAL LEGISLATION:

**Second Reading: Ordinance 2012-26
FY2013 Ad Valorem Tax Rate Board of Education**

Motion to hold second reading on Ordinance 2012-26, 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, Hamrick, Figueras, Bruner

REPORT:

Community Development, Planning Division

Action taken by the Gainesville Planning and Appeals Board on October 9, 2012 and new items to be referred to the Planning and Appeals Board.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon stated there were two items to refer to the November 6th Council Meeting including one annexation and one road action request. There were no items to refer to the November Planning and Appeals Board meeting. The report was noted as follows:

This report contains **(A)** action taken by the Planning and Appeals Board during their public hearing held on **October 9, 2012**, and **(B)** all new items, including variance requests, received by Planning Division staff to be referred by City Council to the Planning and Appeals Board for consideration during the public hearing to be held on **November 13, 2012**:

A. Planning and Appeals Board Actions for 10/09/12:

- 1) **Recommended conditional approval** of the request from **Grelove, LLC** to annex a 2.36± acres tract located at the southeast side of the intersection of Athens Highway and Old County Dump Road, across from its intersection with Athens Street (a/k/a **1800 Athens Highway**) and to establish zoning as General Business (G-B).
Ward Number: Three
Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-032-000-035
Request: Retail and restaurant use
- 2) **Recommended conditional approval** of the request from **Harold R. Westbrook** to abandon a 0.115± acre unopened cul-de-sac portion of Longstreet Circle south of its intersection with Longstreet Trail having a zoning classification of Residential-I (R-I).
Ward Number: Two
Request: Abandonment of right-of-way

B. New items to be referred to the Planning and Appeals Board for 11/13/12:

There were no new applications received for the 09/28/12 closing date.

Motion to accept the report as presented.

Motion made by Council Member Bruner

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

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

CITY MANAGER'S ISSUES:

Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Fall District Meeting

City Manager Kip Padgett reminded Council of the GMA District Meeting on Tuesday, October 23rd at 6:30 PM in Clarkesville.

Howard Road Traffic Improvements

City Manager Kip Padgett indicated the traffic signal at Howard Road was flashing and should be fully operational next week, weather permitting.

Mule Camp and Bridge Dedication

City Manager Kip Padgett thanked the Communication and Tourism staff for making the Mule Camp and Pedestrian Bridge Dedication events a success. He also thanked the Community Development staff for their participation in the successful development of the Midtown Pedestrian Bridge.

CITY CLERK ISSUES:

Early Voting

City Clerk Denise Jordan reported early voting began on October 15th and will continue through November 2nd at the Hall County Elections Office (2875 Browns Bridge Road). Citizens can exercise their right to vote on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Saturday, October 27th from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Council Member Figueras requested information about using the Red Rabbit as a means of transportation to the Election Office.

Joint Municipal Association (JMA) Meeting

City Clerk Denise Jordan reminded Council of the JMA Meeting on Monday, October 22nd at 6:15 PM at the City of Buford Community Center.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Council Member Figueras

1. Shared information about the 2012 Generation Inspiration Youth Leadership Academy program and recognized Devade Dean as a scholarship recipient for Generation Inspiration.
2. Provided a brief overview of discussion at the recent One Community Organization (Second Saturday) Meeting.
3. Congratulated Jerome Yarbrough on his recent appointment as Interim Fire Chief.

Council Member Bruner

Commented on the Pedestrian Bridge Dedication Ceremony.

Council Member Wangemann

1. Expressed pleasure with the Mayor's reference to the Pedestrian Bridge as "the Bridge to the Future."
2. Thanked staff for the repairs made to the Grove Street sidewalks.

Council Member Hamrick

1. Stated the Atlanta Journal and Constitution (AJC) reported Suwanee was accepting applications for events in the town square and other parks within their city from October to December. He wondered if the City gained any revenue from the sponsorship of these events.
2. Commented on an advertisement from a local communication company for bundling packages with no taxes/fees for the service. He wondered if there was special legislation exempting the taxes and asked staff to research this matter.
3. Commented on the recent Building Inspection Services Report which showed a significant increase. He felt this was a sign that the economy was improving.

Mayor Dunagan

Reported mediation with Hall County Government had occurred earlier today on the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) issue. The City offered several alternatives but the County was not willing to negotiate. Baseball arbitration was the next step.

ADJOURNMENT: 5:58 PM

DJ:ag

C. Danny Dunagan, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk