

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

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:

Community Service Center

Community Service Center Deputy Director Karina Costantini reviewed the budget information for the department and commented on the goals for the upcoming year. There was discussion about the Senior Life Center in regards to exploring options for a new facility to include a needs assessment. Council asked several questions about the transit system in regards to primary use and level of ridership compared to the previous year.

In response to Mayor Dunagan's request for transit system comparison information in regards to ridership and fares, Community Service Center Director Phillippa Lewis Moss stated the system is in line with similar sized transit agencies; however, the timing of this increase in the middle of a down economy was less than ideal. As a direct result of the increase in fares, ridership is decreasing for the first time in nine years. She also indicated that due to sequestration, the transit division may not receive capital funds to replace vehicles and other items for another three to four years.

Council Member Wangemann expressed pleasure with the elimination of the waiting list for Meals on Wheels. It was noted more volunteers are needed.

Council expressed a desire to recognize Wyc Orr for his efforts toward eliminating the Meals on Wheels waiting list.

Communications/Tourism and TV-18

Communications and Tourism Director Catiel Felts commented on pending projects as well as the goals for the upcoming year. She indicated some exciting things are about to happen in the downtown area. There was discussion about the QR Code Project, visitor passes and marketing through social media.

In regards to TV-18, Eye on Gainesville has a new five-minute segment allowing the community to meet staff. There was discussion about expanding the TV18 viewer base. There was also discussion about the upcoming events including the dedication of a tree honoring Mr. Marvin Orenstein (owner of Gem Jewelry).

Community Development Department

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon commented on FY2013 accomplishments and on the FY2014 goals.

Council Member Wangemann asked about relocating the armory to allow the current location to be developed. It was noted that staff was already working on this and it is anticipated that the armory would expect the City to help find a new location as well as assist with funding. It was noted that the armory's request had similarities to the request to relocate the Green Street Post Office.

Administrative Services Department

Chief Financial Officer Melody Marlowe presented the budget information and commented on goals associated with software enhancements. She also discussed the goals for FY2014.

PUBLIC UTILITIES ISSUES:

Project Resolution: Riverside Drive Water Treatment Plant Chemical System Improvements Design and Bidding Services

Engineering and Planning Section Chief Mak Yari stated this project was briefly discussed during the Public Utilities Department Workshop.

Civil Engineer Joel Altherr presented the resolution indicating the plant was originally constructed in 1953. Jacobs Engineering Group identified a need to address safety issues that would eliminate gaseous chemicals. There was discussion about the chemical substitutions to be addressed. There was also a brief discussion about the building indicating staff anticipated a single level structure that may be as tall (or taller) than a two level structure. Staff plans to work closely with the surrounding community. There will be extensive consideration about the appearance of the facility.

The proposed resolution authorized Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. to proceed with several tasks associated with designing the building. It authorized staff to apply for the necessary permits/licenses as well as acquire property. It authorized the execution of necessary documents and the expenditure of \$800,000 from the Public Utilities Capital Projects Fund.

Council Member Wangemann expressed a concern about the impervious surface and runoff water.

Council Member Hamrick asked if the community's thoughts should be taken into consideration before proceeding with design and bidding services.

Assistant Public Utilities Director Don Dye stated the department planned to include the community early enough to allow changes to the plan, if necessary, without getting too far into the design process. He also stated if the location of the building changes, the cost of the project will change.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Project Resolution: FY2013 Water Treatment and Water Reclamation Facilities Maintenance

Construction and Project Management Section Chief Jarrett Nash stated this project was a continuation of the yearly maintenance efforts. The proposed resolution authorized an agreement with Lanier Contracting to perform work at the Riverside and Flat Creek Plants. It authorized the execution of the necessary documents and allowed the expenditure of \$1,104,500 from the Public Utilities Capital Projects Fund.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

PUBLIC WORKS ISSUES:

Detention Ponds

Upon inquiry from City Manager Kip Padgett, Senior Civil Engineer Stan Aiken commented on the available resources regarding detention pond inspections. He also indicated staff plans to inspect each pond in the city limits by the end of June, i.e., approximately 200 ponds. Moving forward, every pond will be inspected annually. The property owner will be contacted to resolve any compliance issues.

Mr. Padgett stated staff will be working with the Communications and Tourism Director to educate the community on the environmental issues associated with mosquitos.

Project Resolution: FY2012 Road Paving Project Award of Contract

Senior Civil Engineer Stan Aiken presented the proposed resolution indicating the project included portions of eight streets: Beverly Road, Burns Drive, Comer Street, North Enota Avenue, High Street, Melody Lane, Mulberry Lane and Prior Street. The project involves approximately 2.5 miles of paving. He anticipated the project would begin in six weeks.

City Manager Kip Padgett noted the department will be doing some in-house work while this project is ongoing.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Springview Drive

Mayor Dunagan reported curb damage on Springview Drive.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:

Public Hearing items for the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting

Planning Manager Matt Tate presented two items for the upcoming meeting.

Ketan/Gopalji Patel

Rezone 1.26± acres at 1572, 1582 and 1586 Parkhill Drive

The request involves the construction of two buildings on three properties. The comprehensive plan supports the request. The Planning and Appeals Board approved the request with five conditions. There was no opposition.

Phil and Beth Sutton

Abandon a 0.1172± acre portion of unopened right-of-way known as Fern Street intersecting Queen City Parkway and Gordon Avenue

The owners want to make the lots larger for marketability purposes. This is in the midtown area which has some restrictions. The Planning and Appeals Board approved the request. There was no opposition.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Agenda

CITY MANAGER'S ISSUES:

May 16th Work Session

City Manager Padgett asked Council to change the start time of the May 16th Work Session to 2:00 PM to allow the Land Bank Authority representatives to attend the meeting.

Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Braselton

Assistant Public Works Director Don Dye distributed a revised IGA with Braselton and reviewed the changes to date.

City Manager Kip Padgett stated other jurisdictions are considering a similar IGA.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Business Resolution: Authorization to Execute Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Gainesville and Hall County for Transfer of Property at 300 Henry Ward Way and 430 Prior Street and to Rescind Business Resolution 2013-14

Assistant City Manager Angela Sheppard distributed a proposed resolution with supporting documents involving the building swap for the Joint Administration Building and the Community Service Center. She reported Hall County and the Health Department were not ready to enter into a Lease Agreement for space in the City's portion of the Community Service Center. As such, the proposed resolution was prepared to rescind the previous resolution and to remove the lease agreement from the IGA.

Council Member Hamrick asked if the Mayor should be authorized to sign the necessary documents instead of the City Manager.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Project Resolution: Authorization to Attach Final Redevelopment Plan to Ordinance 2012-35

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon stated the proposed resolution addressed a housekeeping matter to allow documents to be attached to the referenced ordinance.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Wangemann

Announced the Great American Cleanup starts on April 15th.

Mayor Dunagan

Shared appointment information regarding the Development Authority.

Placed on the April 2, 2013 Council Meeting Agenda

RECESS: 11:05 AM
RECONVENE: 11:13 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Manager Padgett requested an 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 11:13 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

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

Council Absent: Bruner

COUNCIL PRESENT: Dunagan, Wangemann, Hamrick, Figueras
COUNCIL ABSENT: Bruner
STAFF PRESENT: Padgett, Sheppard, Palmour, Jordan
OTHERS PRESENT: Frank Jenkins, Rusty Ligon and Matt Tate attended until 11:40 AM
Melody Marlowe attended until 12:11 PM

Motion to close the Executive Session and continue the Work Session at 12:20 PM.

Motion made by Council Member Hamrick

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

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

Council Absent: Bruner

OTHER ISSUES:

Interchange Beautification Project

City Manager Kip Padgett commented on the Chamber's beautification initiative several years ago to improve the appearance of the Gainesville exits along I-985. The Department of Transportation (DOT) couldn't contract with Chamber so the City entered into an intergovernmental agreement with DOT to maintain Exit 20 and oversee plantings with money raised by Chamber. DOT recently approached the Public Works staff about this project. Staff is considering the possibility of creating a capital project for this work.

Budget Request from Lanier Tech

City Manager Kip Padgett reported Lanier Tech was asking for continued funding and requested direction from Council.

Council Member Figueras suggested reducing the amount in ½ for the upcoming budget year. Then, discontinue funding in the following year.

Council concurred with Ms. Figueras' suggestion.

City Council Budget

City Manager Kip Padgett reported a cost center was created for the Council with goals and a budget for FY 2014. The budget will include additional funds to cover expenses associated with adding an elected official, to include mandatory training.

Elected Mayor's Salary

City Manager Kip Padgett asked if Council was ready to discuss the elected Mayor's salary.

Council Member Hamrick felt the information that was provided indicated the salary should remain the same.

Council Member Figueras agreed with Council Member Hamrick.

There was consensus among Council for the elected Mayor's salary to be the same as the appointed Mayor's salary.

Economic Development Council (EDC)

Mayor Dunagan reported the Economic Development Council (EDC) was looking to increase its funding partners by changing the composition of the Executive Committee. There have been meetings to discuss how to accomplish the changes which did not include the Chamber. He recently learned the matter was discussed in a public meeting held by another entity and the media contacted the EDC for a comment. The Mayor and City Manager planned to meet with the Chamber to share more information.

City Manager Kip Padgett reported receiving the job description for the EDC Project Manager.

Changing the Name of Streets

Council Member Figueras reported receiving a request to rename Boone Street in honor of Arabella Potlow, a longtime resident of the City, noting the requester had been told this was an unusual request because the City's standard process considered the renaming of a street posthumously. She requested Council's opinion on this matter.

Mayor Dunagan felt any action would open the door for similar requests throughout the City.

ADJOURNMENT: 12:53 PM

/dj