

COUNCIL PRESENT: Hamrick, Figueras, Bruner, Wangemann  
COUNCIL VACANT: Ward 1 Council seat vacant  
STAFF PRESENT: Padgett, Sheppard, Palmour, Jordan  
NOTE: The Ward 1 Council Member was also the Mayor.

***The Work Session began immediately after the Called Council Meeting.***

Mayor Pro Tem Hamrick called the meeting to order and served as the presiding officer.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Economic Development Council (EDC) Update**

Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Representative Shelly Davis (Vice President of Existing Industry) distributed the Wage and Benefit Report. She stated all existing programs are very active. She provided the five-year outlook for companies that are new or have expanded in Gainesville. Ms. Davis extended invitations to attend the Healthcare Reform Seminar on September 18 at the Brenau Downtown Center and the Health Smart Wellness Expo on October 9 at the Civic Center.

Council Member Hamrick commented on statewide demographics as published in the Georgia Trend Magazine and called attention to the number of people employed in Hall County. He expressed appreciation for the Chamber's partnership and for the emphasis on economic development.

**Vision 2030 Update**

Vision 2030 Executive Director Meg Nivens distributed several handouts. It was noted the Vision 2030 Board was reorganized and subsequently reduced from 40 to 20 members. Ms. Nivens discussed the following projects: brochures mapping all public art locations, the Greenspace Initiative, Gainesville Hall '96, the Diversity Committee presentation scheduled for October 22 and the Healthcare Consortium.

**Communication and Tourism**

Communication and Tourism Director Catiel Felts announced 11 Alive would be visiting Gainesville on Friday, September 6 (5:00 AM to 7:00 AM). Staff was planning a downtown party for the occasion.

**Hall Area Transit (HAT) Update**

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Lewis Moss provided an overview of what's happening at the Community Service Center and at HAT. Highlights from the discussion were noted as follows:

- The Meals on Wheels Program needs fifty volunteers to address the waiting list.
- The Transit update addressed service areas and popular destinations, passenger demographics, performance measures, environmental justice, FY13 operational changes, FY13 performance statistics and FY14 recommended operational changes.

- The FY13 changes increased one route to an area with no public demand and decreased operating hours. These changes caused a decrease in ridership and an increase in the cost per rider.
- The FY14 proposed changes were structured to:
  - Increase coverage areas by adding ten sites with no increase to the budget.
  - Allow the City to take full responsibility for the fixed route bus service.
  - Increase operating hours from 10 to 12 hours per day with no increase to the budget.
  - Simplify fare collection by charging \$1 for the general public and students. Individuals with disabilities and riders age  $\geq 60$ , or age  $\leq 7$  would ride for free with an enrollment card.

There was consensus among Council to proceed with the recommended changes.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER ISSUES:**

#### **Project Resolution: Authorization to Apply for and Accept FTA Section 5307 Capital Grant Application**

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Lewis Moss reported receiving a \$101,000 grant to purchase vehicle parts. This would allow the department to have basic repair items in-house. The grant required a local match of \$10,187. The resolution authorized the Mayor Pro Tem to sign the necessary paperwork.

Placed on the September 3, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

**RECESS: 11:10 AM**  
**RECONVENE: 11:22 AM**

### **PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES:**

#### **Project Resolution: Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Acceptance 2013**

Police Chief Brian Kelly reported receipt of Byrne Justice Assistance Grant funds which could be used to purchase equipment and technology related to basic law enforcement functions. The resolution authorized the acceptance of \$10,430 and allowed the City Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

Placed on the September 3, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

### **PUBLIC WORKS ISSUES:**

#### **Ordinance: Amendment to Chapter 4-3 Entitled Solid Waste**

Public Works Director David Dockery presented a proposed ordinance that clarified all future single family dwellings would receive solid waste services from the City. The ordinance applied to all areas that do not have an existing final plat.

Council Member Figueras asked if this applies to the recent annexations. City Manager Kip Padgett stated Community Development was working on this.

Placed on the September 3, 2013 Council Meeting Agenda

**Project Resolution: FY2013 Road Paving Project Award of Contract**

Senior Civil Engineer Stan Aiken stated the proposed resolution allowed the paving of portions of the following streets: Burns Place, Forrest Lane, Glenwood Avenue, Holly Drive, Holly Lane, Monroe Drive and Piedmont Avenue. The work would begin in the next few weeks depending upon execution of the contracts.

Council Member Wangemann asked if the base of the road was considered during the repaving project in light of recent rain events.

Council Member Hamrick confirmed the work does not include curb and gutter.

Placed on the September 3, 2013 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:**

**Project Resolution: Amendment to Housing Rehabilitation Program Policies and Procedures Including Reconstruction Activities**

City Manager Kip Padgett stated HUD reported there was no need to take action on this matter.

**Public Hearing items for the September 3, 2013 Council Meeting**

Planning Manager Matt Tate provided a brief report on the request from the DF Group to annex 1.01± acres at 420 Atlanta Highway. The Planning and Appeals Board unanimously voted to approve the request.

**COUNCIL ISSUES:**

**Council Member Bruner**

Reported the Hall '96 Board will meet in a few weeks.

**Council Member Figueras**

Provided a brief overview of the agenda items for the upcoming Second Saturday Meeting. She also reported the October Meeting was rescheduled for October 5 at the Civic Center.

**Council Member Wangemann**

1. Provided a Community Cleanup Report which shared information about recent and upcoming events.
2. Reported having knocked on 9,900 doors to invite citizens to Council Meetings.

**Council Member Hamrick**

Commented on the publication of Historical Sites on the National Register and asked if the Alta Vista Cemetery marker had been received. Staff confirmed it was hanging on the front gate of the cemetery.

## **CITY CLERK ISSUES:**

### **2013 Election Update**

City Clerk Denise Jordan distributed an updated Election Calendar noting several dates had been added or changed. She specifically called attention to the early voting dates.

Mrs. Jordan indicated paperwork had been verified yielding the following qualified candidates:

- Mayor Position: Charles Alvarez, Danny Dunagan, Rose Johnson and Debra Harkrider
- Council Member Ward 1 Position: Sam Couvillon
- Council Member Ward 4 Position: George Wangemann
- Board of Education Ward 1 Position: Brett Mercer
- Board of Education Ward 4 Position: Deloris Diaz

Mrs. Jordan also stated information for the following individuals was still in pending status awaiting verification from the Election Office:

- Council Member Ward 1 Position: Pablo Picazo
- Council Member Ward 4 Position: Albert Reeves

### **Work Sessions Relocated to the Bill Williams Conference Room**

City Clerk Denise Jordan asked if Council was interested in relocating the Work Sessions to the Bill Williams Conference Room for the remainder of the year considering the number of candidates for the November ballot. She felt there was a good possibility that some may attend future meetings and using the Bill Williams Conference Room would better accommodate a larger group.

There was consensus from the Council to relocate the remaining 2013 Work Sessions to the Bill Williams Conference Room.

### **Appointments**

City Clerk Denise Jordan reminded Council of the boards/committees for which Mayor Dunagan was serving as the City's representative at the time of his resignation. It was noted that the Mayor Pro Tem would assume all responsibilities of the Mayor. This directly applied to the Chicopee Woods Area Park Commission, Economic Development Council, Gainesville-Hall County Development Authority, Gainesville Redevelopment Authority, Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the HALLmark Initiative.

There was also discussion about the Housing Authority after which it was determined that both Mayor Dunagan and Council Member Figueras had been appointed to serve as Ex-Officio members. Ms. Figueras would become the Council's representative for the Housing Authority.

No action was required by Council.

## **COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM**

Communication and Tourism Director Catiel Felts reported the International Neighborhood for Kids (INK) would offer an Emergency Preparedness Event on September 29.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:53 AM

/dj