

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

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order and served as the presiding officer.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Fire Department Class 1 ISO Rating**

Fire Chief Jerome Yarbrough announced the Fire Department will receive Class I ISO rating effective October 1. One other Fire Department in Georgia and 60 others in the nation have achieved this designation. The new ranking was good for five years.

City Manager Kip Padgett presented letters signed by the governing body to Fire Chief Jerome Yarbrough and Public Utilities Director Kelly Randall for their diligent efforts to achieve this goal.

Council Member Wangemann asked what the designation means to the community. Mr. Padgett stated insurance companies don't have a standard for the ISO I rating because it's not common. The Chief will discuss the new designation with the insurance provider to gather more information.

Council Member Hamrick felt there will be significant savings on insurance cost. He also felt the Chief would become a resource to other communities across the state.

**\$1,000,000 HOME Grant**

Housing Program Manager Chris Davis reported the city received a \$1 million grant from the Department of Community Affairs and distributed a copy of the award letter. He stated Gainesville was one of two communities that received this funding.

**Georgia Highway and Toll Authority Grant**

The Mayor stated he and other city representatives recently went to Atlanta to receive a grant from the Georgia Highway and Toll Authority.

**Budget Award**

City Manager Kip Padgett announced Administrative Services received the Budget Award again.

**PRESENTATION:**

**University of North Georgia (UNG) Strategic Planning Process**

Dr. Andrew Leavitt commented on the committee appointed to handle the strategic planning process. They have completed the process and were implementing the academic master plan. He summarized the plan and commented on the following topics:

- The university offers 20 bachelorette degree programs.

- The four strategic goals will
  1. Promote academic excellence and innovations
  2. Enhance leadership and development of the whole person
  3. Expand engagement and educational opportunity
  4. Build campus identity and institutional unity
- Both foundations were merged to form the UNG Foundation

Council Member Couvillon asked if UNG foresees student housing in Gainesville.

Council Member Wangemann commented on economic development and expressed a desire to retain students in the community.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ISSUES:**

#### **Business Resolution: Declaration of Surplus Property**

Senior Accountant Karen Roper stated the process had been completed to declare surplus property based on the fact that the items had exceeded their useful life or were no longer needed.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

#### **Ordinance: FY2015 Ad Valorem Tax Rate**

Budget and Purchasing Manager Matt Hamby presented an ordinance to set the millage rate at \$3.06 for each \$1,000 of property subject to ad valorem tax. The rate would be levied as follows:

- a) General Government - \$1.77 on each \$1,000 of taxable property
- b) Parks and Recreation - \$0.79 on each \$1,000 of taxable property
- c) Debt Service - \$0.50 on each \$1,000 of taxable property

Upon inquiry from Council Member Hamrick, Chief Financial Services Officer Melody Marlowe stated bond payments were made in May and some funds were in reserve for the jail facility.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

#### **Ordinance: FY2015 Ad Valorem Tax Rate BOE**

Budget and Purchasing Manager Matt Hamby presented an ordinance to set the millage rate at \$7.59 for each \$1,000 of property subject to ad valorem tax. The rate would be levied as follows:

- a) Maintenance and Operations - \$7.59 on each \$1,000 of taxable property
- b) Debt Service - \$0.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable property

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

#### **Appropriation Resolution: Fiscal Year 2015 Budget**

Budget and Purchasing Manager Matt Hamby stated the proposed resolution should be adopted after the public hearings. A balanced budget of \$30,328,583 was presented.

Council Member Hamrick asked about the franchise issue with the gas companies in Cresswinds.

City Manager Kip Padgett clarified the process for adopting the budget.

Placed on the June 17, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

**Appropriation Resolution: Regarding Third Quarter Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2014**

Budget and Purchasing Manager Matt Hamby reviewed the budget adjustments noting a column was missing from the handouts containing prior adjustments totals which allowed the line items to total to the revised budget amounts.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

**COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER ISSUES:**

**Project Resolution: Request to Apply for FY15 VITA Grant**

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Moss stated the proposed resolution allowed the department to apply for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Grant. She shared the importance of the program, partnership opportunities, general information about the people using the program and the impact to the community. The grant does not require any additional funding from the city.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

**Red Rabbit Buses**

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Moss stated she was rethinking the plan to surplus Red Rabbit buses indicating there was a need to retain some of them for backup purposes.

**Transit Recommendation**

Community Service Center Director Phillippa Moss stated Macdonald Transit Associations provided a thorough recommendation which was in the review process. A written report would be provided in July.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:**

**Business Resolution: Adoption of the Annual Update to the CIE & Short Term Work Program**

Special Projects Manager Jessica Tullar stated the department did not receive any comments about the Capital Improvement Element (CIE) and Short Term Work Program. As such, these documents were ready for adoption by the governing body. A public hearing was scheduled for the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

**Public Hearing items for the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting**

Planning Manager Matt Tate stated there were five items for the upcoming Council Meeting. He suggested combining applications filed by the same applicant with the intent of making individual motions to address each item. He provided a brief overview of the following:

*Ben Castleberry*

*Annex 0.19± at 1322 Hazel Street.*

The Planning and Appeals Board recommended approval.

*Swann Drive Villias*

*Annex 1.63± acres at 1297 Swann Drive*

*Rezone 1.78± acres at 620 Pearl Nix Parkway*

*Abandon 0.08± acres of the cul-de-sac on Swann Drive*

City Attorney Palmour asked if any provisions would be made to protect the city from lawsuits pertaining to flooding. It was noted there were no conditions of zoning addressing this concern. This tract was an island that would be resolved if approved. The Planning and Appeals Board recommended approval.

*Gerald Darby and Bobby Norris*

*Special Use Permit for 0.611± acres at 756 Green Street NE*

Staff and the Planning and Appeals Board recommended approval with one condition.

Placed on the June 3, 2014 Council Meeting Agenda

**CITY MANAGER'S ISSUES:**

**Request for Proposals (RFP) to Develop Lots in Downtown Gainesville**

Assistant City Manager Sheppard provided a brief overview of the proposals to develop the Old Main Street lot and the Greater South lot.

**MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:**

**Board/Committee Appointments**

Mayor Dunagan indicated several appointments were being discussed. There were no names to submit for consideration at this time.

**Council Reports**

1. Council Member Figueras reported a citizen concern regarding the growlers ordinance.
2. Council Member Figueras thanked the organizers of the Memorial Day Parade.
3. Council Member Hamrick reported a citizen request to repair a pothole on Gabriel Way.
4. Council Member Couvillon suggested placing a stop sign at East Lake and Club Drive as a less expensive alternative to the requested speed table. City Manager Kip Padgett stated Public Works would evaluate this area.
5. Council Member Wangemann reported Keep Hall Beautiful had already exceeded its goal of 95,000 pounds of litter. The next litter cleanup activity was scheduled for May 31.
6. Keep Hall Beautiful collected approximately \$22,000 from the Spring Chicken Festival. Half of the proceeds go to the Main Street Program.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

City Manager Kip Padgett requested an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters.

City Attorney Palmour requested an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation matters.

Council Member Figueras requested an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

**Motion to close the Work Session to enter an Executive Session to discuss litigation, personnel and real estate matters at 10:21 AM.**

Motion made by Council Member Figueras

Motion seconded by Council Member Hamrick

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

**Officials absent: Bruner**

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OFFICIALS ABSENT: Bruner

STAFF PRESENT: Padgett, Sheppard, Palmour, Jordan

**Motion to close the Executive Session to continue the Work Session at 11:34 AM.**

Motion made by Council Member Wangemann

Motion seconded by Council Member Figueras

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

**Officials absent: Bruner**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Insurance Request for Proposals (RFP)**

City Manager Kip Padgett provided an update on the RFP then expressed a need to have an actuarial firm review the claims and discounts.

**Citizen Concerns**

City Manager Kip Padgett reported staff was working with citizens to resolve a couple of issues. If these matters were not resolved to the citizens' satisfaction, they may opt to attend the upcoming Council Meeting.

**Alcoholic Beverage License Ordinance**

City Manager Kip Padgett reported a request to amend the alcohol ordinance.

**Sign Violations**

Mayor Dunagan reported two signs along Thompson Bridge Road that appear to be non-compliant with current sign regulations.

**Social Hosting**

City Manager Kip Padgett commented on the Social Hosting ordinance presented at the last Joint Municipal Association Meeting indicating the Police Chief does not feel the City currently has these issues. Notice will be provided to the Drug Free Coalition of Hall County.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:53 AM

/dj