

CITY OF DUNWOODY
May 18, 2009
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

The Mayor and Council of the City of Dunwoody held a City Council Work Session on Monday, May 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. The Council Meeting was held in the Dunwoody United Methodist Church, 1548 Mount Vernon Road, Dunwoody, Georgia 30338. Present for this meeting were the following:

Mayor	Ken Wright
District 1, Post 1	Denis Shortal, Council Member
District 3, Post 3	Tom Taylor, Council Member
At Large, Post 4	Robert Wittenstein, Council Member
At Large, Post 5	Danny Ross, Council Member
Staff Present:	Brian Anderson, City Attorney Warren Hutmacher, City Manager Sharon Lowery, City Clerk Bill Grogan, Chief of Police Karine Roy, Assistant City Clerk Jennifer Peterson, Director of Community Development Tanya Jackson, Project Manager Officer Richard Meehan, Public Works Director Lenny Felgin, Assistant City Attorney Lisa Ferguson, Accounting Manager

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Wright thanked the Dunwoody Chamber of Commerce for the news special that was done for the City of Dunwoody. He also thanked Council Member Shortal and Council Member Ross for attending.

INVOCATION led by Council Member Ross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Council Member Shortal.

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA: The agenda was approved with no objections.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Wright requested public comment.

Rick Callihan - said he opposes allowing non-Dunwoody residents to serve on committees and said that he feels that elected officials and their spouses should not be permitted to serve on committees.

Bill Robinson – stated that if the City receives stimulus funds those funds should not be used to add staff.

Thomas Schneider – expressed his concern with the number of illegal right-of-way signs around the City.

Bill McCahan – requested that the Dunwoody Arts & Crafts festival be held later in the year, stating that he feels it would compromise the sponsorships for Lemonade Days.

Barbara Robinson – suggested the City consider a community calendar to assist in coordination and scheduling of events held in the City.

Bob Dallas - said the Arts & Crafts festival is a good idea. He added that he feels the Dunwoody Convention & Visitors Bureau would be best as a 501C6 organization.

Max Lehmann - requested a more effective means of public zoning notices to maximize awareness of zoning changes and suggested online notices, and notices by mail for those who are within 1000 feet of the property being considered.

Angela Thomas-Zalesky – said she is interested in adopting the Dunwoody-Shallowford Road island if the Adopt-a-Spot program is put in place.

Mayor Wright closed public comment.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENT:

Council Member Ross thanked Council Member Shortal for volunteering to help clean up the property adjacent to the Post Office that the Farmer's Market will move to. He also expressed his condolences for his good friend, Ira Archer, who passed away.

Council Member Shortal thanked Council Member Ross for his work with the cleanup of the property. He expressed his thanks to the police department for all their efforts since rolling out.

Council Member Taylor reported that he, Mayor Wright, City Manager Warren Hutmacher, and Officer Fladrich hosted a delegation from the Government of the Republic of Georgia working through the Friendship Force.

DISCUSSION

Dunwoody Arts Festival Presentation: Frances Shuby gave a presentation on having a Dunwoody Arts & Crafts Festival to promote fine art, food, and family entertainment on Mother's Day weekend. She said the festival would highlight the City and its businesses and it would help build a strong community spirit. Ms. Shuby explained the levels of sponsorships would range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. Mayor Wright asked if there were other dates that could be considered for the festival. Frances Ms. Shuby replied that the artists are already booked for October. Council Member Shortal asked about the economic impact for the businesses. Cindy Flint replied that this it has been the highest grossing weekend of the year for the business and restaurants of some cities. Council Member Ross said the festival would be great for the community but expressed concern that having it on Mother's Day would adversely affect Lemonade Days and recommended having it in the Fall. Council Member Shortal asked that everyone have an open mind when considering the date for the festival Council Member Taylor asked that more facts and figures be gathered and more discussion before a date is set.

Public Hearing – Dunwoody Convention & Visitors Bureau: Mayor Wright requested public comments and opened the public hearing. Those who spoke in favor of a 501C6 were:

Jim Sprouse - Executive Director of the Georgia Hotel and Lodging Association, said he supported the 501C6 model and that the majority of hotels follow this model.

Spurgen Richardson - a retiree of the Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau, suggested that politics be kept out of the Convention & Visitors Bureau. He said the job of the Board is to market and sell the events and it is important to have a plan and a budget for how the money will be spent.

Craig Hilliard - General Manager of the Crowne Plaza Ravinia, agreed that it should be a 501C6 model.

Bob Dallas - recommended following the 501C6 model and suggested that the Board consist of 9 members (3 appointed by the City, 3 appointed by the hoteliers, 1 from retail/restaurant, 1 from PCID, 1 from a Dunwoody business organization).

Lindsay Balleu – said the contracts need to be reviewed every year.

Mayor Wright closed public comments and the public hearing.

Council Member Taylor said there are three decisions to be made; 1) whether to stay with DeKalb County; 2) whether to follow the 501C6 model; and 3) whether to follow the authority model. Council Member Shortal agreed that the Board should be made up of a cross section of members. Council Member Wittenstein stated that Sandy Springs has a 501C6 and the board members are chosen by Mayor and Council. Council Member Ross suggested this item be placed on the June work session as a First Read.

FIRST READ: Ordinance to amend Chapter 23: Streets and Sidewalks by creating Adopt-a-Spot Program: Read by Sharon Lowery, City Clerk. Richard Meehan, Director of Public Works presented a draft policy for the Adopt-a-Spot program and said that most cities combine landscape & cleaning pollution in their programs. Richard Meehan said that any organizations and corporations can participate in the program, as well as schools. Council Member Ross asked if any permits had to be obtained. Richard Meehan replied that a permit is only needed for review and control and contracts are set from 1-4 years and are renewable with first priority. Council Member Wittenstein asked if the Mayor and Council were also voting on the guidelines for the program. City Manager Warren Hutmacher clarified that Mayor and Council will vote on the ordinance and associated fees and Staff would handle the guidelines. Gordon Jackson, the President of the Dunwoody Homeowners Association, said they have been running the program thus far due to interested people and ask that they be able to meet with city staff regarding the program.

Boyken Status Report: City Manager Warren Hutmacher reported that the first floor build out is scheduled to be complete on May 27, 2009 and recommended that Council authorize termination of the contract at the next meeting. Mr. Hutmacher reported that the total cumulative cost of the contract is \$575,000.

April Financial Report: City Manager Warren Hutmacher announced that Chris Pike has been hired as the new Director of Finance & Administration and will start on June 1, 2009. He said the

financial summary is positive and that the City has begun going from building to building in search of businesses that have not yet applied for their business license. Council Member Ross asked if the City had a process in place to get the business license money from DeKalb County. Mr. Hutmacher replied that the City is currently working on a process to collect fees from DeKalb County.

Federal Stimulus Program Update: Tanya Jackson, PMO and Budget Director, announced that the City is looking into securing stimulus funding for 2009. The City is currently engaged in the following stimulus initiatives; 1) Competitive Surface Transportation Program (requesting \$750,000); and 2) COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) (requesting \$1,442,782). The City will also try and secure funding for energy efficiency through the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA). Tanya Jackson stated that she has been in communication with Congressman Price's office.

Discussion of Ordinance to amend Chapter 2: Administration (ORDINANCE 2009-XX-XX): City Attorney Brian Anderson presented two revisions to the ordinance requiring that any member appointed on a board must be a resident of Dunwoody and that the Mayor shall establish qualifications for members of each committee and only the Mayor and Council is able to nominate members for committees. Mayor Wright suggested that the City move forward with option two.

Resolution to transmit the Community Assessment and Community Participation Plan for the City of Dunwoody Comprehensive Plan process: Jennifer Peterson, Community Development Director, reported that there are two pieces of discussion for one item and the public hearing will be held on May 26, 2009. Michelle Alexander of POND reported that next Tuesday will be the run of the key maps and tables. She also stated that the DCA requires census data to be used and the data was compared to ARC's population estimate. She stated that the executive summary is in front of the packet followed by the maps of special attention (zoning maps and character maps).

Presentation of a Lights Off/Power Down policy: Jennifer Peterson, Community Development Director, gave the presentation on a Lights Off/Power Down policy and said this is part of the Atlanta Regional Commission's requirement to obtain certification as a Green Community.

Request to initiate a zoning text amendment for an Outdoor Lighting Efficiency ordinance: Jennifer Peterson, Community Development Director, said the text amendment will require efficient operation of outdoor lighting by limited misdirected, excessive, or unnecessary outdoor lighting. Council Member Wittenstein said he was in support of this and directed staff to send the text amendment to Community Council before coming before Mayor and Council for consideration.

Request to initiate a zoning text amendment to create a zoning category for land used for public services and facilities: Jennifer Peterson, Community Development Director, explained that this would be an amendment to the zoning ordinance to add additional assurance that public property will continue to be used as public facility. Mayor Wright suggested to city staff to put this in motion. Council Member Wittenstein suggested that parks be distinguished as park land.

Discussion of Temporary Outdoor Seasonal Sales and permitting options: Jennifer Peterson, Community Development Director, recommended that no changes be made until the Comprehensive Plan is complete and finalized.

Discussion of resolution adopting and approving a license fee for door-to-door salesmen and solicitors in the City of Dunwoody: City Attorney Brian Anderson explained that for profit organizations would have to obtain a permit and nonprofit organizations would not.

Discussion of Ashford-Dunwoody Road Signage: Mayor Wright requested that road signage have the City Seal at the top and requested that all ideas be given to Richard Meehan, Director of Public Works, who will then present the design idea to Mayor and Council for consideration.

Discussion of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's): Bob Lundsten presented the need for the City of Dunwoody police officers to carry Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). He said he would like to approach all civic organizations within the City to enlist their assistance in raising funds. He estimated that the City would need 42 AEDS, at an estimated cost of approximately \$1,500 each.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Wright requested public comment. There was no public comment. Mayor Wright closed public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was no executive session.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Approved by:

Ken Wright, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk