City Council of Peachtree City
Minutes of Meeting
August 20, 1998
7:00 p.m.

The City Council of Peachtree City met in a regular session Thursday, August 20, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Mayor Lenox led those attending in the pledge of allegiance. Other council members present were: Carol Fritz, Annie McMenamin, and Bob Brooks. Jim Pace was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Lenox read a Proclamation of Congratulations and presented an American flag to employee Joe McIntosh who recently received his United States citizenship.

Mayor Lenox presented a Certificate of Achievement to Erin Justice for winning a silver medal at the Jr. Goodwill Games.

Mayor Lenox presented a 15-year service pin to Jane Miller and a 10-year service pin to Ollita Bennett.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Lenox made a motion to add agenda item 08-98-10 to Consider Appointments to the Planning Commission. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

McMenamin made a motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 1998, as presented. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD AGENDA ITEMS

Brooks made a motion to rearrange the order of the agenda and consider the old agenda item at the end of the meeting. Lenox seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

08-98-08 Consider Amendment to Atlanta Gas Light Franchise Agreement

Joe Morton, Assistant City Manager, explained that gas deregulation in the State of Georgia was scheduled to become effective on November 1, 1998. He said as of that date, Atlanta Gas Light Company (AGL) would become a transportation pipeline company and would no longer be selling gas to the consumer; instead, separate companies called "Marketers" would be selling gas to the consumer. Consumers would then have a choice of from whom they wish to buy their gas. Morton explained that the City's existing franchise agreement with AGL provided for franchise fee payments based on gross sales and unless it was amended, franchise fees would be significantly reduced in future years.

Morton said the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and AGL negotiated an amendment to the existing franchise agreements that would provide for the payment of franchise fees based on the volume of gas transported rather than on gross sales. The proposed franchise fee system provided for receipts similar to those received in the past and provided for adjustments based on future growth. Morton said the City Attorney reviewed the amendment and recommended approval.

Brooks made a motion to adopt the proposed franchise agreement with Atlanta Gas Light. McMenamin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

08-98-09 Airport Authority - Update on Airport and Confederate Air Show

Jim Savage, Airport Manager, addressed Council and gave a brief update on the operation of Falcon Field Airport. He said the Airport Authority had taken over the Fixed Base Operation (FBO) at the airport. He said they were operating the FBO on a budget of $850,000 with 9 employees. He said they lowered their prices for fuel to increase sales and activity at the airport and have been receiving favorable comments. Savage said the Airport Authority would evaluate the FBO operation in December to decide if they will continue operating it.

Savage also gave Council a report on an upcoming air show at the airport. He said the Confederate Air Force would be conducting the air show to be held on September 12 and 13. He anticipated 7,000 to 10,000 people a day to attend the show. Savage explained the parking arrangements and their plans to direct traffic with temporary signs. He said tickets were available for pre-purchase and he encouraged everyone to attend.

Savage also updated Council on the status of obtaining an F-16 from the Air Force for permanent display at the airport. He said it would not be available for the air show, but that it should be at the airport by the end of September.

08-98-10 Consider Appointments to the Planning Commission

Basinger explained that a selection committee composed of Council members Brooks and Fritz, and himself interviewed six applicants for the vacancies on the Planning Commission. He said it was the recommendation of the committee that Mr. Wes Saunders be reappointed to serve a term from 10/1/98 through 9/30/01 and that Mr. James Finney be appointed to serve a

term from 10/1/98 through 9/30/01. They also recommend that Mr. Robert Ames be appointed to serve as an alternate to fill any vacancy which may occur.
McMenamin made a motion to make the appointments to the Planning Commission as recommended by the selection committee. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD AGENDA ITEMS

08-98-04 Consider Amendment to the Land Development Ordinance - Revision to Buffer Standards for Major Thoroughfares

Lenox explained that the issue to be considered concerned a law suit. McMenamin made a motion to discuss the issue in executive session. Fritz seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned into executive session at 7:35 p.m. Mayor Lenox reconvened the meeting in open session at 7:50 p.m.

Lenox explained that the matter being considered concerned an ongoing law suit concerning the buffer ordinance. He said there were three ongoing lawsuits concerning the buffer ordinance and that during executive session, Council discussed the settlement of one of the law suits which was with Pathway Communities (previously known as Peachtree City Development Corp). He said Council felt the settlement agreement was fair to all parities. Brooks felt that while some of the buffer ordinance would be compromised, most of it would remain intact. Brooks made a motion to approve the Consent Order and Judgement presented by legal council with the written notations included in the final copy to be signed. McMenamin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Rick Lindsey, City Attorney, said he would have the document retyped and signed as council instructed.

Lindsey explained the proposed changes to the buffer ordinance as a result of the law suit settlement. He said the preamble explaining the reason for the buffer ordinance was slightly modified. The ordinance was also changed concerning buffer requirements for arterial highways. It currently required the developer to install additional landscaping that amounted to at least 15 percent of the caliper inches of trees required for the entire site if the buffer was reduced from 60 feet to 50 feet. The new ordinance would reduce the requirement to 10 percent.

The current ordinance also required the developer to install additional landscaping that amounted to at least 30 percent of the caliper inches of trees required for the entire site if the buffer was reduced from 60 feet to 40 feet. The new ordinance would reduce the requirement to 20 percent.

Brooks made a motion to adopt the ordinance amendment as presented. McMenamin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL/STAFF TOPICS

There were no council/staff topics to discuss.

Having no further business to conduct, Lenox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Fritz seconded the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

____
Nancy Faulkner, City Clerk

Attest: __________________________
Mayor

Approved 9/3/98
but never
signed