

**2006 CITY COUNCIL RETREAT
MINUTES
March 24-25, 2006
Wyndham Peachtree Conference Center**

Friday, March 24, 2006

Mayor Logsdon called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Other Council Members present were Steve Boone, Stuart Kourajian, Cyndi Plunkett, and Judi Rutherford.

1. Mid-Year Finance Review (FY 2006 Revenues Expenses vs. Projections) (Salvatore)

- Finance Director Paul Salvatore said numbers were running close to projections and were expected to stay that way unless something unforeseen happened.
- Police Chief James Murray said the shortfall in alcohol server permits was a timing issue, and the numbers should come up in the fall with renewals.
- City Clerk Jane Miller said the zoning/subdivision fee line item dealt with variance and rezoning fees. City Planner David Rast said there had been fewer applications.
- Leisure Services Director Randy Gaddo said that attendance was generally down for recreation classes, and tennis classes had shifted to the Tennis Center. Lower attendance could be due to the economy. Salvatore pointed out that the Recreation Department was under budget in expenses. Gaddo said out-of-county fees had also increased.
- SPLOST was coming in slightly above projections, and the hotel/motel tax was 13.9% (\$54,203) over projection and continuing to come in strong.
- Expenditures were tracking well against the budget.
- The Senior Homestead Exemption would not impact budget until next year. Miller did not expect more 150 senior residents to qualify. City Manager Bernard McMullen said projections had included around 1,000 as qualifying for the exemption.

2. Options Relative to Riley Field Sports Complex Noise (Gaddo)

- Gaddo said the new football association board now had City residents as officers. Out-of-county participation in football and cheerleading was at 47%.
- The new board had bent over backwards to cut down noise and had made significant improvements.
- Noise was still overwhelming for some neighbors, and homes to the northeast of the field were most affected. Crowd noise was the problem now, not the public address system.
- There was no room for expansion at Riley Field.
- Gaddo said only option now to relocate the field was the 22 acres at the Baseball/Soccer Complex (BSC). There would be issues with the soccer association if that land were used for other sports.
- Council did not support doing away with football program, but would support partnering with another government entity to find land for more fields.
- Gaddo said the football association had worked out agreements with Fayette County and Brooks to play late Saturday games in other locations.
- Fayette County's master recreation plan included new facilities in the north area of the county.
- New facilities in the West Village were not an option due to flood plain, as well as noise concerns for residents.
- Mona Waterhouse and Laura Kennedy spoke regarding noise.
- Curt Brown and Kevin Dwyer of the Packer organization said they performed sound checks and told parents not to use noisemakers.

- Coweta County residents brought kids to City program because it was closer than programs in their county, and the program was better.
- Parking was an issue.
- Plunkett suggested putting one field at the BSC; soccer was a more passive use.
- Rutherford said recreation was everyone's responsibility, and compromises had to be made. Football had to go where there were no residential neighbors – Meade Field or BSC.
- Brown said the association was talking to Landmark Christian School about using their facilities. The 8 p.m. game would move. The last game at Riley would start at 6 p.m.
- Practice space was also an issue. Practice time was governed, but could not be monitored as easily off-site.
- Council directed Gaddo to look into options, understanding he might not be able to do much prior to the start of the season. Gaddo said they might be able to move the later games to Meade Field.

3. Noise Issues Relative to the Kedron Multi-Purpose Rink (Gaddo)

- Gaddo said this issue was pretty well solved.
- There could be a problem with air circulation in the summer, but the hockey association would work on getting more fans.
- A Fielding Ridge resident said the noise was louder there than down at the rink and at the field used for lacrosse, which was on Kedron Elementary School property.
- Gaddo said the player boxes would be moved when the rink was resurfaced, which would help with the crowd noise.
- Gaddo noted that when the recreation areas were put into the villages the programs were meant to be small, but all the programs had grown.

4. Update on Integrated Pest Management (Gaddo)

- Gaddo said Emory University would study a group of soccer players to determine if the IPM had an effect on their health. A model had to be created for the study.
- The City was working with the University of Georgia on the IPM. The fall and spring applications had been cut in half. The fields would be monitored. The IPM was more manpower intensive. It could also be more costly to take care of problems that might pop up.
- The facilities manager was to take the test in April to be certified as an applicator, which would give the City a better handle on what was being done to the fields.
- The fields were closed for 24 hours after an application.
- The biosolids test field had "greened up" earlier than the other fields, but there was still no information as far as any health risks associated with biosolids.

5. Discussion of Teen Center (Plunkett)

- Plunkett said she did not envision a teen center as a standalone building to be used for dances and late night activities, but as a place for programming for younger teens. There was no interest in anything like the previous private clubs that had operated in the City.
- Gaddo said the intent needed to be clarified to enable staff to explore options. The focus would be on programs more than a place. The pilot program would be at Glenloch Recreation Center.
- The program would be a positive option for adolescents (ages 11-15) and their parents. It would be a place to go after school (3-7 p.m.). High school students would mentor middle school students in a supervised recreation setting. The target date for the pilot program was Fall 2006.

- Glenloch was selected due to the variety of physical activities available and potential for indoor programming. Staff was looking at the schedule to see if current programs could be relocated.
- There needed to be some remodeling to make facility more inviting.
- Glenloch was within walking distance of Booth Middle School. Booth was in need of afterschool programs, but there was a security issue of walking between the school and the facility.
- Youth Services Leisure Program Coordinator Art Sivertsen said a budget had not been discussed yet. Staff still needed to talk to Rising Starr Middle School and the Board of Education. The program would have to be self-supporting, but would be less expensive than most traditional afterschool programs. The program would be about "being active," and would include computers, homework help, and arts and crafts.
- The program would be controlled without teens realizing it.
- Rutherford liked using Glenloch, but said a fee would have to be charged. Scholarships could be a possibility. Adults would have to be instructors; coordination would take a lot of time.
- Gaddo said they had spoken to neighbors in the area; they wanted the programming. The program would improve their community.
- Robin Tennant, an adult volunteer with the Youth Council, said the St. Patrick's Day programming had been very successful and had been for middle school students. High school volunteers had helped get the participants involved in activities, and could be there to help referee activities such as three-on-three basketball or flag football.
- Gaddo said the program would be for a group that was not served by sports or scholastic programs, and would be a preventative program.

6. Discussion of Multi-Use Field (Plunkett)

- Plunkett said she had heard different things, but she wanted to ensure the 22 acres at the BSC had been designated as recreation.

7. Discussion of PTC 50th Anniversary Planning (Plunkett)

- Plunkett said she wanted to bring this to the forefront. The Recreation Commission had been talking about it, since the anniversary was in 2009.
- Gaddo said the Recreation Commission had been looking at the anniversary for three years. By 2009, all the recreation facilities should be either in the same shape, or better shape, than when they were built.
- Rutherford noted that the City was beginning to look like it was 50. She said Public Works needed to look at some things.
- Plunkett suggested designating a staff person to look at the anniversary, as well as any events. Gaddo said he was doing that anyway. He said he would chair an anniversary committee with a representative from each department.
- Gaddo noted that the trees were getting thinner each year and the City should look at reforestation. Plunkett suggested partnering with garden clubs and Public Works. The emphasis would be that the City was turning 50 and needed a facelift. McMullen said the committee could come up with some ideas and recommendations, as well as outside people to involve.
- Logsdon said it was time to put some focus on litter. Some civic clubs had mentioned a litter cleanup. McMullen said the procedures for the Adopt-a-Mile Program were under review. He expected to do some publicity about it the middle of April. Rutherford said they would also be doing an anti-litter campaign in the schools as part of the Stormwater Utility Program.

- Kourajian asked what citizens could do and if they could call in information to the police when they saw someone littering. Murray said that it would take a lot of follow-through. The citizens would have to go to court. He added that there was also a problem with trash blowing out of garbage trucks.

8. Update on Flint River/County Library Issue (based on status at that time) (Gaddo)

- Gaddo said the bottom line was that, at the request of the Georgia Public Library System, the Flint River Regional Library System would vote to reinstate the County to full service with the intent that, if the County wanted to investigate forming its own service, then the system would help. Gaddo said the City told the County that unless there was a timetable the City was not interested.
- Logsdon said the County had raised legitimate points that needed to be answered. Logsdon agreed that the City was better off as part of a system. Gaddo said Flint River was cooperating with the County and the Georgia Public Library System to get the answers.

9. Status of Comprehensive Plan Update (Rast)

- City Planner David Rast told Council that they were getting ready to start writing the plan.
- The theme was "preserving our quality of life through positive change."
- The mission statement:

To promote our status as a pre-eminent planned community by enhancing and strengthening our comprehensive plan to enrich and improve the quality of life for our residents; the educational, recreational and cultural resources for citizens of all ages; and, the technical and physical resources for our businesses and industries, while embracing and preserving greenspace, aesthetics and the overall character of the community.

- Rast gave an overview of the Community Assessment.
 - ✓ Section 1 identified potential issues and opportunities.
 - ✓ Section 2 was an analysis of the existing development patterns. Rast said that this task was 80-85% complete. It would be the most accurate land use map of the City since it was founded.
 - ✓ Section 3 was an analysis of consistency with Quality Community Objectives. Rast said this was more progressive than the minimum standards set by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). There were a few areas that the City might amend.
 - ✓ Section 4 was summary of the data assessment of the 2000 census and the community inventory. Rast said the Community Assessment should be completed in a few weeks, then it would be brought to Council for review and authorization to send to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and the DCA. The City was in good shape, but the question was where would it go from here. An industrial park concern was how to promote it within its limitations, such as accessibility to the interstate.
 - ✓ Recommended Character Areas were areas that warranted special attention due to their location. Redevelopment would be a major issue. The City should promote the areas rather than be reactive to keep ahead of the curve. Commercial areas included Braelinn Village, Peachtree Crossing, Aberdeen Village, and Willowbend. Rast said there were approximately 400-480 residential lots left for building. Older subdivisions would go through the redevelopment process. Residential areas included Wynnmeade, Lake Peachtree, and Stevens Entry. The areas should be looked at since many lots were in the flood plain and/or on septic. Ordinances should not be so tight that redevelopment

was prohibited. The smaller homes in Stevens Entry were primarily rental homes, which served a need in the community.

- ✓ Areas with potential for mixed use development and redevelopment included Lexington Circle, Westpark Walk, Peachtree Colony, and Huddleston Road. Rezoning would be a problem in Lexington Circle due to vested rights. The design guidelines were adopted as part of the zoning. There would be a meeting scheduled to talk to the developers about the City's concerns for the area. Westpark Walk needed an alternate exit to GA 54 with a traffic light. There was no sewer on Huddleston Road. Options for the area included an overlay district or designation as a Community Improvement District.
- ✓ Corridor enhancement areas would tie into the design guidelines that were being developed. Those areas included GA 54 East, GA 54 West, GA 74 North, GA 74 South, and Crosstown Drive.
- The official kick-off of the Community Participation Program would begin at the public hearing before Council on the community assessment. Task force volunteers with a background and passion for it were working on the citizen survey. Open houses were planned to present the plan the public.
- McMullen said talks had begun regarding the service delivery agreement with Fayette County. Logsdon, McMullen, Fayette County Administrator Chris Venice, and County Commission Chairman Greg Dunn had met. Venice was getting with the other municipalities.
- Several meetings had been held with Fayetteville and the County to discuss the comprehensive plan. There would also be a meeting with Tyrone. Rast noted that meeting with the other entities was a new requirement.

10. Discussion of City Owned Property with Commercial Potential (Rast)

- Rast said the properties were located along arterials and could be sold or combined with other developments. The tracts included:
 - ✓ GA 74 South/Recycling Center tracts – Wilshire tract (4 acres) and Recycling Center tract (4.4 acres). Rockaway Road was to be blocked off and realigned with the traffic light at GA 74/Holly Grove Road. Meade Field could be added to the Recycling Center tract. Property was located next to the Stephens tract, which had only approximately 40 acres that could be developed.
 - ✓ Reed Memorial Park tract – former Leach Station tract (1.6 acres) located on GA 74 South. Rast noted that the family of Gerald Reed, the late fire chief, had been promised that the area would be used as a memorial park. The business located adjacent to the tract wanted part of the tract for parking and had offered to fund the park. Rast said he was also working with Fire Marshal John Dailey on a plan to possibly use the tract for a family-friendly training facility/museum. The Paschall Road tunnel would be on the site.
 - ✓ Planterra/Tennis Center entrance (GA 54 West) – West side of Planterra Way (3.87 acres) and east side of Planterra Way (2.99 acres). Rast noted that the Planterra Ridge Homeowners Association (HOA) would no longer maintain the subdivision entrance. The HOA vice-president told Council that they had maintained the entrance for 11 years at an annual cost of approximately \$6,000. The HOA could not afford to maintain the landscaping and build a new sign. The residents wanted to maintain a presence on GA 54. Boone said a number of residents also told him they did not want the City to sell those parcels. The acreage on the east side was the only area for future Tennis Center expansion.
 - ✓ Line Creek Nature Center tract (GA 54 West) – South side of GA 54 (2 acres). A developer owned a portion of the Line Creek Pond; a small portion of tract had frontage

on GA 54. Council and staff discussed a possible swap of the sliver fronting on GA 54 for the developer-owner portion of the Line Creek Pond in order to protect the pond and nature center.

- ✓ Wynneade Parkway tracts (GA 54 West) – West tract (2 acres) and east tract (2.87 acres, location of GA 54 gateway bridge).
 - ✓ Carriage Lane tract (GA 54 East) – former location of Carriage Lane realigned as part of GA 54 East widening project, right-of-way still owned by the City.
- All sites should be researched to ensure sale and development of property was not restricted by the deeds. Plunkett said parcels could be sold and funds used for another football field or recreation area. Kourajian urged caution about setting precedent. Phyllis Aguayo said that any land that provided buffers and passive parks could not be gotten back once it was sold. She suggested Council keep all the parcels and look at acquiring more tracts. Logsdon was not anxious to put property up for sale. Boone was opposed.

11. Update on 2006 Street Resurfacing Program (Corbett)

- Public Services Director Tom Corbett said there would be three different funding sources for street resurfacing – Local Assistance Road Program (LARP), Fayette County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST), and municipal funds (general fund).
- Roads paved with LARP funds included two different portions of Peachtree Parkway, Auburn Court, Wexford Way, and Log House Road.
- Roads paved using municipal funds included Tiger Way, Shannon Run, Sawtan Rim, Braelinn Creek Path, Prestwick Court, Braelinn Creek Court, Script Falls & Murray Park, Kennerly Way, Gill Sans, Windsor Way & Caxton Court, Bookman Point, Garamond Place, Hampton Green, Crofts Corner, Malfern Point, Rincon Court, and Tiverton Trail.
- The 2005 SPLOST resurfacing list (Spring 2006) included D-Bob Industrial, Arbor Gate, Dover Trail, Greensway, Sandtrap Ridge, Windgate Court, Groveland Drive, Hedgewood Court, Sawmill Trace, Sawmill Trace, Sawleaf Lane, Prestwick Lane, Claridge Curve, Marks Style, Korinna Court, Copperplate Lane, and Wensley Corner.
- The tentative 2006 SPLOST resurfacing list (Fall 2006) included Arrowhead Court, Hip Pocket Road, Wickerhill, Lattice Gate, Chestnut Field, Wheatleigh Lane, Lommel Lane, Landen Point, Hamden Kells, and Holly Grove Road (older portion). The names were taken from the five-year paving plan based on the 2003 ratings.
- The City and County had a cooperative agreement for the FY 2005 LARP and general fund streets. The City took bids from private contractors to resurface the FY 2005 SPLOST-funded streets. Council accepted the low bid on March 16, 2006.
- Logsdon said that the County had recalculated the formula for the SPLOST to go by mileage.
- County responsibilities for LARP and General Fund resurfacing – provide labor, equipment, and materials; invoice the City for actual materials used; and invoice the City for any required truck rental
- City responsibilities for LARP and General Fund resurfacing – patch, crack seal, and mill streets and roads; provide traffic control and cleanup; and provide traffic striping to finished surface
- The tentative 2006 schedule was LARP, late May/early June; General Fund, late May/early June; 2005 SPLOST, April/May; and 2006 SPLOST, fall.
- Corbett explained the street condition rating and said the resurfacing was focused on streets in the 70-79 zone. The City had 53 streets rated 70-79. The rating started at 100 points and 10

different aspects were rated based on national standards. Repairs increased a street's rating, extending the time to repaving.

- Kourajian asked about adding bike lanes to streets. He asked if the lane on Robinson Road would be added during repaving. Assistant City Manager Colin Halterman said that Robinson Road was on the list, and the lane would be added when the road was resurfaced. The road was 32 feet wide so there was room. Halterman added that he and McMullen had talked about the bike lanes, but had not finalized the list.

12. Update on 2006 Cart Path Resurfacing Program (Corbett)

- Work was being done on the segments with the lowest rating 50-68 on the scale of 100.
- It took as long to gear up and gear down for 100 feet as it did for one mile. The longest segment on the list was 4,800 linear feet.
- There were 385 segments of cart path; staff was in the process of mapping the segments.
- The largest category of segments (172 segments) were rated 80-89.
- More maintenance and rebuilding was required on the cart paths than on the streets.
- The biggest problem on the path system was root intrusion. Corbett said they tried not to damage the trees. Staff was using its judgment as far as widening the paths to 10 feet and what was good for the environment.
- Crushed stone was used for the base on the rebuilt sections. The crushed stone was impervious and alerted staff to any weak areas. Corbett said he had received little feedback on the stone. Plunkett said residents were calling Council. She said the City needed to do a better job of letting the public know about the crushed stone and the resurfacing.
- This year, rebuilding work was being done in the winter, with the final paving waiting for the warmer spring weather.
- By March 1, 12,000 linear feet had been resurfaced and 6,000 linear feet were waiting to be resurfaced.
- A resident asked if the criteria could be published. He wanted to know where his area fell on the list. He asked if there was a way to sweep or clear the pine needles, or to keep the brush from encroaching on the path. He wanted to get the best bang for the buck. McMullen said that was a manpower issue.
- The list of segments to be resurfaced included Crabapple to Ardenlee (new), Longer Drive to Blue Smoke, Aberdeen Parkway to Northlake Drive, Flat Creek/Aberdeen/Northlake, Lakeside Drive to McIntosh Trail, Sawmill Trace to Robinson Road, Peachtree Parkway to Path 3-02, Braelinn Recreation Center, Summit Walk to Robinson Road, Balmoral Village to Braelinn Road, Brookwood Drive to Chardonay Court, Lighthouse Road to Peachtree Parkway, Peachtree Parkway to Braelinn Road, Morallion Hills, and Path 3-14 to Holly Grove Road.

13. Update on Multi-Use Path System Master Plan (Rast)

- The City had 84 miles of paved paths and approximately 160 miles of roads that allowed golf carts, for a total path network spanning 244 miles.
- There were approximately 10,400 registered golf carts.
- Two bridges spanned state highways; there were 17 tunnels underneath collector roads.
- There was interconnection between most residential, commercial, retail, and recreational developments.
- The goals of the master plan included interconnecting all existing and proposed developments within the City, extending the system into the industrial park, identifying critical areas for bridges and tunnels and incorporating them into road design projects, seeking grant funding

assistance for path expansions, inventorying the existing system and developing phased improvement plan, and developing a realistic path extension program.

- Rast said staff worked with DOT to incorporate paths into road plans. Plunkett said it seemed that the system would be a win for grant money since it provided an alternate means of transportation. McMullen said the City was turned down for grant requests for two bridges during the last cycle. Rast added that there was more competition now. He continued that it was also very time consuming to administer the grants; it would be just as easy to put the projects in the budget. There was generally a two-year time frame before a grant project was ready for installation.
- Rutherford asked for a new estimate on the Gateway bridge on GA 54 West. She noted that the grant money would not increase, but the costs for the bridge materials, such as steel, had gone up. Rast said it was difficult to get an estimate without a design. The City could apply for additional funding for the bridge through the LCI program. Rutherford said she understood, but wanted the bridge to come back to Council before the project got too far down the road.
- The design for the ramps to the Flat Creek bridge should be awarded in May. Design would take a few months.
- Completed FY 2005 projects included the St. Paul Lutheran Church path connection (Ardenlee Parkway to Crabapple Lane Elementary), Sumner Road path connection (Sumner Road to Lexington Circle), Gatehouse Drive path connection (MacDuff Parkway to Wynnmeade Parkway), and the Flat Creek multi-use bridge (Morallion Hills to The Park industrial subdivision).
- The FY 2005 General Fund paid for the St. Paul Lutheran Church connection, Sumner Road connection, Gatehouse Drive reconstruction, and the FAA (Flat Creek bridge to FAA-design underway).
- Proposed projects for FY 2006 included the Village Park multi-use path (Crosstown Drive to Harmony Village), Peachtree Parkway South multi-use path (Harmony Village to Balmoral Village), GA 54 East multi-use path (Robinson Road to Carriage Lane), and GA 54 East multi-use path (Carriage Lane to Peachtree East retail).
- The General Fund list for FY 2006 included both paths on Peachtree Parkway South, as well as both projects on GA 54 East.
- The proposed list for FY 2007 included the Robinson Road multi-use path (SR 54 to Peachtree City United Methodist Church), Robinson Road multi-use path (Spear Road to Whitfield Farms), Peachtree Parkway North (Walt Banks Road to Interlochen Drive), Peachtree Parkway North multi-use path (Interlochen Drive to Flat Creek Road), Flat Creek multi-use bridge approach ramps and path connections (connect Morallion Hills to The Park), and GA 74 South multi-use path (Cooper Circle to BSC).
- The General Fund list for FY 2007 included the two Robinson Road and two Peachtree Parkway North projects, in addition to the Flat Creek bridge ramps. Grants and SPLOST funded projects for FY 2007 included the Paschall Road multi-use tunnel (Willow Road to Reed Memorial Park) and GA 74 South (Q23) (Gardner Park to BSC).
- The future list of potential new path construction included the Line Creek Nature Area (GA 54 to Line Creek Nature Area), Planterra Way (GA 54 to Planterra amenity area), Westpark tunnel path connections, GA 74 South tunnel path connections, GA 74 North multi-use bridge path connections, Clover Reach (Clover Reach to Police Station), Crosstown business park (Police Station to Crosstown Drive), Crosstown Drive (GA 74 to Peachtree Parkway), Holly Grove Road (Robinson Road to Aster Ridge Trail), Robinson Road (Holly Grove Road to Oakdale), Flat Creek (Flat Creek bridge to Crosstown Drive), Redwine Road (Foreston Place to The Preserve), Crosstown Drive (Peachtree Parkway to Robinson Road), Huddleston Road (GA 54

to Paschall Road), Dividend Drive North (Paschall Road to Kelly Drive), and Dividend Drive South (Kelly Drive to GA 74).

- Grant/SPLOST funded future projects included GA North multi-use bridge (Kedron Office Park), GA 54 East multi-use bridge (Lexington Circle to Peachtree East), Lake Peachtree multi-use bridge replacement, and Westpark multi-use tunnel (Westpark to Market Place).
- Rast said the Village Park path connection had been promised to the subdivision residents due to the number of complaints about vandalism over the years. The path would be installed in the Peachtree Parkway right-of-way to provide a bypass around Village Park. The estimated cost was \$90,000. Rutherford said she preferred a new mile in an area where there was not a path. Chief Murray said there had been a lot of vandalism in Village Park by kids who cut through the streets and yards. A fence had been discussed. Rutherford noted that the new path would go right in front of the fire station as well as several subdivision entrances, which could be a safety issue. Plunkett said they needed to look at other alternatives, such as lights. Rast said the goal of this part of the plan was to build infill projects that developers did not build. The request had come from the Village Park HOA. If Council did not want to include this project, then staff needed to know. Logsdon said he had spoken to many Village Park residents, but agreed that the proposed path was not the solution. Kourajian also agreed. Rutherford said they had to look at the best use of the money for the entire village. Chief Murray said the subdivision roads were private, and the kids were trespassing. There were a lot of mixed problems. Plunkett suggested that a workshop be scheduled to figure out how to move forward.
- Rast said he met with DOT about the GA 54 East projects, and DOT would allow the path in the right-of-way if there was landscaping to minimize the cart lights.
- Kourajian asked who had the liability for cart paths that dropped off into private property. City Attorney Ted Meeker said that the person who caused the accident would be responsible.
- McMullen said the list would be revised and brought back to Council.

14. Update Presentation on SR 74 Widening – Phase I & II (Borkowski)

- City Engineer Dave Borkowski gave an update on the GA 74 widening, which would be completed in two phases. Phase 1 extended from the FAA building north to the intersection with GA 54. Minor improvements north of the intersection would also be made. Phase 2 extended from the FAA building south to the intersection with GA 85, which would be realigned with Padgett Road.
- McMullen said there was a disparity between the ARC's plans for four lanes and the DOT's design, which was for six lanes between GA 54 and Crosstown. Borkowski said DOT's design was based on the annual daily traffic figures. The plan also called for a raised center median, but staff was working with DOT to get the median grassed.
- DOT was finishing the right-of-way acquisition and finalizing plans. The project would go out for bid in May. The Paschall Road multi-use tunnel was incorporated into the widening plans, with an 80/20 cost share (SPLOST) for the tunnel. The City would acquire the right-of-way and build the path connections. DOT agreed to construct the left turn lane for Cooper Wiring during the first phase.
- Plunkett verified that the project would encroach into the residential area, but no homes would be torn down. Borkowski said three noise walls would be built to alleviate the sound in the residential areas around the post office (Villa Point, Kelly Drive to Willow, and at the Police Department entrance).
- Right-of-way acquisition for Phase 2 would be in 2006; construction would begin in 2008. The City was working with DOT to incorporate multi-use path tunnels in the area of Holly Grove Road and the proposed Hannon Sports Complex. The same 80/20 cost share (FY 2008

PIP) was proposed. The City was pursuing incorporating multi-use path construction from Cooper Wiring area south to BSC (Q23 funded) in the widening project. Staff asked DOT to deed the right-of-way in the area of the existing bridge over Flat Creek to the City.

- Plans were on display in Developmental Services.
- Press releases on the status would be issued within the next few months. Rutherford said to keep the businesses on GA 74 and the industrial park apprised of construction, as well as possible alternate routes. Their human resources departments would be a good point of contact. Even a few days notice could stop a lot of complaints and problems. Kourajian said the sports associations should also be notified, especially if tournaments were scheduled. Borkowski said the City could work with the Chamber of Commerce to get the information out.

15. Discuss Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement Negotiation (Tyler)

- Public Information Officer/Deputy City Clerk Betsy Tyler reported that federal legislation was pending on local franchises. The proposed legislation took away the City's control over rights-of-way and customer service.
- The City was currently in negotiations with Comcast. The agreement expired in October. Tyler asked for direction regarding the franchise fee. The City currently received 4%, but could ask for 5%. If the City asked for 5%, Comcast would break out the franchise fee on the bill. Kourajian said he would not support an increase to 5%.
- Plunkett said she would like a person to be located in the Comcast office who could actually help with customer service issues, rather than just take complaints. Tyler said she would ask as part of the franchise negotiations.
- Kourajian noted that Andy Macke of Comcast had promised to have a person available on a regular basis to meet with customers at City Hall.
- Frances Meaders told Council she was having horrendous problems with Comcast's digital service. Comcast suggested the problem was her home's wiring, so she rewired her house and still had the problems, including frequent outages. She said her area had overhead service and the picture broke into pixels. Tyler said that had been a widespread problem in the City.
- McMullen said there were about 13,400 residential units in the City, including apartments. Comcast had about 9,000 customers, which was about 70% of the City.
- Tyler said there were actually fewer problems with Comcast than previous providers, but problems never seemed to get solved. Service was better when complaints were made online.
- Rutherford asked if there were other options, such as putting the service out for bid. Boone said there were also issues in Planterra. Tyler said Comcast was really the only choice. If the agreement ended, the City could not just get someone else. The City had spoken to Newnan Utilities, but the utility was not in a position to extend service. Newnan Utilities had given the City the information if the City wanted to go into the cable business. She said the City would have to acquire \$20-24 million in revenue bond debt, and construction would take three to four years. Rates could be 10% lower, and there could be more channels available on basic cable, but the City would need to have 50% of the total households as customers (70% of Comcast customers). Tyler said the federal legislation might be an influence and could open up the avenue for other companies. She said the changes in technology also made it risky for the City to take over the cable system. Staff did not recommend the City get into the cable business. Meeker had that Newnan was interested, but they were not willing to put Newnan citizens at risk. McMullen said growth in Newnan was also a problem, and Newnan had no bond capacity to devote to the City.

- More competition could come from the phone companies that wanted to enter the market and provide phone/cable/internet service.
- Televising Council meetings was no longer a priority.
- Meeker said staff needed a clear direction on the focus of the negotiations. Rutherford said the focus should be quality service and customer service.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 25, 2006

Mayor Logsdon called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. Other Council Members present were Steve Boone, Stuart Kourajian, Cyndi Plunkett, and Judi Rutherford.

16. Update Presentation on Capital Improvement Projects (Borkowski)

- Borkowski said the 23 SPLOST projects totaled over \$11 million and gave an update on the FY 2005 projects status. The concept/design for the GA 54 Gateway cart path bridge was included. McMullen said the funding sources were the LCI grant and \$138,000 in SPLOST funds. The City could request that the LCI grant funds be used on another project, but the money would have to be used in the GA 54 West corridor. Assistant City Manager Colin Halterman said some LCI funds for sidewalks in the area had been moved to the tunnel/cart path connection. Plunkett noted, that if and when the project moved forward, the public should be aware of where the money came from. The original estimate for the bridge was five years old. McMullen said the cost for the bridge over GA 74 was \$1 million, and the design would help with the estimate. QK4, the City's traffic consultant, had kept the estimate at \$618,000. Borkowski noted that the 208-foot bridge over the CSX tracks cost \$308,000. Kourajian said \$30,000 for the design was a reasonable amount to spend before making a decision.
- Projects on the FY 2006 SPLOST list included the Marketplace/Westpark tunnel, street resurfacing, cart path upgrade, Walt Banks roundabout, TDK at Dividend Drive right turn lanes, Rockaway Road construction, MacDuff Parkway landscape design, GA 74/Wisdom Road signal and lane improvements, GA 54/Stevens Entry traffic signal, Paschall tunnel at GA 74. Borkowski said the Marketplace/Westpark tunnel could become a bridge. McMullen said the topography could dictate a bridge. DOT denied the signal permit for GA 74/Wisdom Road. Another traffic study would be done after the Delta Credit Union and the office park in Wisdom Pointe opened. The City Manager prioritized the list.
- The recommended SPLOST projects for FY 2007 included street resurfacing, cart path upgrade, MacDuff Parkway landscaping installation, Paschall tunnel at GA 74, North Peachtree Parkway intersection improvements, Crosstown Drive/Robinson Road intersection improvements, and the design of the Park Place Drive extension. Staff recommended the priorities.
- Staff would complete the ranking of stormwater projects before seeking revenue bond.
- Completed/resolved stormwater projects included 531 North Fairfield, 309 Pinegate, Dividend Drive culvert replacement, Hip Pocket culvert replacement, and 124 Pebblestump Point culvert replacements.
- There was a list of 16 structures with flooding problems in various stages of evaluation, monitoring, and design. Structural flooding was the highest priority.
- Projects in the PIP for Public Works/Developmental Services included GA 54 East landscape enhancements – Phase IV and GA 54 West sidewalks/multi-use paths. The 2007 PIP included the South 74 multi-use path connection, Flat Creek multi-use bridge ramps, Bridlepath multi-use bridge, Crosstown/Peachtree Parkway intersection improvements, and Tennis Center

repairs (building and site work). A meeting was scheduled with the original builder of the Tennis Center.

- The Recreation PIP FY 2006 projects included architectural design of the Senior Center, Riley Field parking improvements, Meade Field paving-Phase II, tot lot upgrades, and Picnic Park restrooms. The 2007 PIP included Meade adult softball area, playgrounds/path exercise equipment/picnic shelters, Senior Center engineering/construction, Gateway bridge playground, and BSC maintenance building expansion. McMullen noted that the Senior Center design was on hold. Salvatore said there would be a PIP update during the budget workshops.
- Capital projects in the Fire Department's PIP for FY 2006 included Neely Station 82 driveway/parking lot repair and pump testing/training facility. Additional projects included the Weber Station 83 workout, storage, and sleeping quarters, Weber Station 83 front driveway improvements, and Station 84 sewer connection.

17. Update Presentation on Transportation Plan (Borkowski)

- Borkowski said the update was to the 1995 transportation plan.
- The City's transportation consultant, QK4, was preparing the plan. The City had received goals and objectives, existing conditions and assessment, and future conditions and assessments. The City still needed plan recommendations/implementation section, final document with maps and attachments, and the City should receive the plan by May.
- Existing conditions summary – traffic volumes along the GA 74 and GA 54 corridors had increased significantly, the GA 54/GA 74 intersection was severely congested during the morning and evening peak hours, money was included in the 2009 TIP for intersection improvements design, and there had been growth in traffic on the City's east side. As surrounding areas continued to grow, traffic would increase in the City. The growth projections were based on an ARC model.
- Plunkett asked if there could be internal standards for levels of service (LOS) to better define how bad the level was. McMullen said the LOS was based on the seconds delay at traffic signals. The number of seconds could be added after the letter grade.
- Council disagreed with the LOS of C given to the MacDuff Parkway/GA 54 intersection. Borkowski said the priority was to GA 54. He guaranteed it was an F now with widening. Kourajian asked that the LOS at the intersection be clarified.
- Projects in the planning and development stages during the next nine-year period on the state route system included Phase IV of the GA 54 landscape enhancements, the GA 54 Gateway multi-use bridge, Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the GA 74 widening, a traffic signal at GA 54/Stevens Entry, a traffic signal at GA 74/Wisdom Road, and frontage roads on GA 74 at Gilroy's to Avery Dennison and at the Police Department. City street projects included a signal/improvements at Peachtree Parkway/Crosstown Drive, realignment of Huddleston Road/Dividend Drive at Paschall, a signal/improvements at Peachtree Parkway/Walt Banks, turn lanes at Peachtree Parkway/Braelinn Road, turn lanes at TDK Boulevard/Dividend Drive, signal/improvements at Crosstown/Robinson Road, turn lanes at Peachtree Parkway North/Loring Lane and Tinsley Mill Road, intersection improvements at Redwine Road/Robinson Road, landscape enhancements on MacDuff Parkway, TDK Boulevard extension between Dividend Drive and McIntosh Trail, and Phase 1 of the extension of MacDuff Parkway to Kedron Road.
- Additional projects that might be warranted based on future conditions LOS in 2015 included a signal at GA 74/South Kedron Drive, turn lanes at GA 54/Robinson Road, and a signal at TDK Boulevard/Dividend Drive.

- Programmed projects for 2015-2025 included grade separation at GA 54/GA 74, widening of Crosstown between GA 74 and Peachtree Parkway, Phase II of the MacDuff Parkway/northern bypass, and the southern bypass (Redwine extension).
- Additional projects that might be warranted in 2025 based on the future conditions LOS included the GA 74/GA 54 grade separation or the addition of through lanes for westbound GA 54 and southbound GA 74, completion of MacDuff Parkway if not already done, widening of Crosstown Road between GA 74 and Peachtree Parkway, and the southern bypass (Redwine extension).
- Changes would be made to City ordinances to eliminate errors and inconsistencies between the ordinances and the Transportation Plan.
- Staff had made comments to QK4 on the types of functional classes and design standards so they would coincide with ordinances.
- Neighborhood collector was added as a road category; 20 roads were reclassified to the new designation.

18. Fire Department Strategic Plan (Lohr)

- Fire Chief Stony Lohr gave an overview of the current situation and looked at the future.
- McMullen noted that an additional 1,000,000 square feet of commercial property would be coming online that the Fire Department would also serve. The department currently provided fire, emergency medical services (EMS), and rescue services.
- Lohr said the questions that had to be considered included what staffing was needed to respond with two people per apparatus, should the City enter an Automatic Aid agreement with the County, and what were the costs for the proposed enhancements to current facilities and staffing levels.
- Points to consider on whether to move Station 84, currently at Crabapple/GA 74, to the proposed Kedron North location included increased coverage of fire hydrants within the 1½ mile radius of the station (coverage level defined by ISO), annual debt service of \$128,000 for a new building would be incurred (assuming land was a wash), coverage area would overlap with Westside station if it were built, and the engine would have to go up hill increasing response time by two minutes, 12 seconds.
- The addition of a fifth station on GA 74 South would provide 1½ mile coverage for industrial area and portion of Wilshire Estates (138 hydrants), increase the service area outside of the City if an automatic aid agreement was entered into with the County, additional annual expense of \$612,000 would be incurred (staff, vehicle, building), a second station had to respond to enter a building, and two additional firefighters would be needed per shift for an ALS engine only.
- The addition of a fifth station in the West Village would cover an additional 117 hydrants, would improve the coverage of the City's largest commercial area, would incur an additional annual expense of \$595,800 (staff, building, vehicle, City already owned the land), a second station had to respond to enter the building, and two additional firefighters per shift needed for an ALS engine only.
- The staffing per shift currently included 13 career firefighters, part timers (equivalent to seven full time, two per shift), one senior staff member on call, and an average of 1.36 volunteers responding to fire calls in 2005. Lohr added that the average number of volunteers had dropped because of an additional number of calls, not because fewer volunteers were responding to calls. Currently, the shift staffing recommended to fight a residential fire was 13 on-duty career or part-timers, one senior staff, and one to two volunteers average.

- The staffing per shift needed to respond with two firefighters per apparatus included two engines, attack and water source; tower-ladder, roof ventilation, victim rescue; rescue, lights, cascade system (air bottle refill); ambulance, EMS support; and shift commander, command and control. An additional engine for the sprinkler system was needed for multi-family or commercial structures.
- Two firefighters per apparatus were needed for increased safety and provided a second set of eyes, faster response, to lay hose quicker, to interview witnesses and prepare to pump simultaneously, and to enter the building after second apparatus arrived. The current staffing per shift for the four stations was 13. The required staffing per shift was 19.
- Points to consider on whether or not to enter an Automatic Aid agreement with the County included City had 12,858 housing units; County housing units in City area numbered 4,510; City and County calls were approximately 73-76% EMS; North County station was closer to City residences than City station, 2005 City average EMS calls, 645 per unit; 2005 County average EMS calls, 1,158 per unit; balanced workload assumption would mean 938 calls per unit, 68% increase for City; ambulance availability and initial response to fire calls for City residents would decrease; County provided mutual aid to City seven times in 2005, City provided mutual aid to County 43 times; County service would improve; County needed to identify benefits for City.
- Staff recommendations included maintaining existing station infrastructure; evaluation of West Village station if annexation occurred; development of volunteer firefighter incentive programs to encourage additional response; addition of four firefighters per shift (12 total positions) within next three to five budget years (combination career and part-time funding); and to maintain the existing Mutual Aid agreements, but not to enter an Automatic Aid agreement with the County.
- The critical need was people.
- McMullen said need for people was critical in Fire and Police Departments. He could not add necessary people without increasing the millage rate. If County established a special EMS district, County taxes would be lower, but City taxes would not decrease.
- Council consensus was to add firefighters.

19. Police Department Strategic Plan (Murray)

- Chief Murray discussed the current situation – 57 sworn personnel (two in field training), four civilian personnel, three eight-hour shifts, four zones, 39 marked patrol cars, computer systems and software were outdated and inefficient, and department was 39% underfunded when compared to other Class B cities.
- A fifth zone was planned for implementation in 1992, but had been pushed back every year due to manpower. Justification for the additional zone included retail development in Zone 1 (two officers had to be assigned for the past three years); improved patrol coverage and preventive patrol in the two busiest zones (Zones 1 and 3); approximately 608,000 square feet of retail and mixed use space, and 381,000 square feet of industrial and office space currently permitted for development; improved response to issues on GA 54 and GA 74; residential development along MacDuff Parkway; future development of East Coweta, South Fulton, and TDK extension; seven additional officers needed for field activities, traffic enforcement, and preventive patrol; one detective needed to investigate cases generated by development in the area; and one staff assistant was needed to handle the increased workload and enter data into Crimefile 2000 records management system.
- The Department did not have resources to commit to a full-time Drug Intelligence Team. Currently, all detectives and patrol personnel shared responsibility for developing informants and intelligence. Limited interdiction was accomplished within the City limits. Arrests were

made during routine patrol or through intelligence received by Criminal Investigation's personnel. A sergeant would be needed to supervise the two-agent Drug Intelligence Team. One would be assigned to the federal Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to ensure the City received federal assistance for equipment and resources, as well as allowing the City to share in federal asset forfeiture.

- Each officer was assigned a laptop computer to complete reports, but had to return to the station to print reports so they could be turned in to supervisors. After approval, supervisors gave reports to the staff assistant who entered all the information into the Crimefile 2000 database. The current technology impacted the ability to create statistical reporting requirements for accreditation. With wireless technology and in-car data terminals, officers would submit reports wirelessly to supervisors, who would approve and send to the Crimefile 2000 database. The staff assistant would check the report and approve for entry to central records. The ability to communicate with other agencies was limited. State band radios promoted interagency operability in the event of a significant disaster or incident (terrorist attack or natural/manmade disaster).
- There were approximately 90 miles of multi-use recreational paths to be patrolled with four mountain bikes, one Mule (ATV), and one GEM low speed vehicle. The use of the GEM was limited due to battery life. Use of the Mule was limited due to engine noise. Use of the mountain bikes was limited due to the physical endurance of the officers. During 2005, 457 hours were spent patrolling the path system, including the time spent on golf cart compliance checks. In August 2005, one officer was designated to plan patrols, coordinate and supervise checkpoints, and path patrol.
- Currently, an officer was taken out of a patrol zone to patrol the paths, which reduced the number of officers available to answer calls, conduct proactive patrols, and enforce traffic laws. Path use had dramatically increased, but additional officers had not been added. Four additional officers were needed to patrol paths eight hours a day, seven days a week. Eight officers were needed to patrol system 16 hours a day (two shifts). There would also be a significant impact on patrol due to prisoner transport from arrests made by path patrol officers.
- The priority was to implement a fifth zone, create a drug unit, upgrade technology, and create a multi-use path patrol.
- Calls today took 20-30 minutes longer so officers were out of service longer.
- Estimated cost of technology upgrades was \$500,000 and had to be compatible with County's systems.
- Population in the community was drastically changing; significant criminals were now residing in the City. If cart path safety was ignored, the City could not spend enough money to fix it.
- Murray said it was clear-cut that the addition of a fifth zone would add a lot.

20. Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Special Service Tax District (McMullen)

- McMullen said he had been dealing with this issue for two and a half years. The purpose was to keep City residents from paying for EMS service twice.
- The ambulance transport revenue funded the City EMS. One position was budgeted. If the City stopped the EMS service, the positions would still be needed to staff the Fire Department.
- The County funded EMS through the General Fund. All County residents, included City residents, paid; 34 positions were budgeted.
- The City requested that the County establish an EMS Special Service Tax District on October 7, 2004. City and County staffs met between January 2005 and February 2006, but discussions were not fruitful. An update of the service delivery agreement was needed due to the

Comprehensive Plan update. McMullen and Logsdon had met with Commission Chairman Greg Dunn and County Administrator Chris Venice.

- It was a fact that the number of County positions had gone up, and the fire millage had gone down. The City was supplementing the fire district tax.
- The County's solution was to enter into an automatic aid agreement, which did not address the issue of paying for services not received.
- The Fire Department assessment was completed in February 2004 and had four options to consider. Commissioners were focused on the option to consolidate services and have the County provide EMS.
- Consolidation expenses would be costly. The City provided services efficiently, as did the County. The County needed to establish an EMS Special Service tax district to eliminate the inequitable tax burden on City residents and industry as recommended by the "Tax Equity Review: Fayette County FUTURES Committee" in 2000 and the City's "Evaluation of Emergency Services Delivery System" in 2004.
- The County Administrator was to meet with the City Managers to address issues, but the meetings had not been scheduled.
- Rutherford attended the January 2005 meeting when the Commissioners voted against the special tax district. Commissioner Herb Frady wanted to look at the issue. The County initially offered one ambulance, but had gone to two. She asked what the City's options were. McMullen said the City had the option to not sign the service delivery agreement. The County was under the same schedule as the City concerning the Comprehensive Plan update. Both entities would jeopardize their quality local government (QLG) status. Meeker said the City could petition the court concerning the service delivery agreement. A mediator would be appointed. It would be a long process. Rutherford said the City had backed off the process the last time the City sued the County. At that time, Rutherford said the LOST negotiations were coming up, and the City did not have enough reserves to hold out.
- The next step was for McMullen to meet with the County Administrator, but they would not resolve the issue. The County would put together a draft service agreement, but McMullen did not think it would include any changes.
- Logsdon said he had met with Dunn three times. Frady would support the City. Commissioner Linda Wells would keep an open mind, but newly-elected Commissioner Robert Horgan might not be aware of the issues. Logsdon was willing to go to the mat on this issue.
- Rutherford asked about legislative options. Meeker said there were none. The loss of QLG status impacted state and federal funding for both entities. The DCA might say the current agreement was valid until a new one was signed.
- Rutherford asked if Tyrone and Fayetteville had similar issues. McMullen said Fayetteville had an issue with jail funding. Tyrone had recreation issues. Rutherford said it would help for all the cities to work together. She asked if the City was willing to lose state grant money. Meeker said the City had to go through negotiations before filing a lawsuit. Rutherford said she needed to know how strong the City could stand through the process.
- Kourajian asked about meeting with the Commissioners. McMullen said he could send a letter requesting a meeting with the Commissioners. There were three issues – EMS, SPLOST paving, and recreation funding. Council agreed to let the Commissioners choose the time and location. Council also agreed to meet to discuss talking points.

21. Discuss Mayor & Council Salaries (McMullen)

- McMullen said former Mayors Fred Brown and Bob Lenox had written to Logsdon regarding the stipend paid to Mayor and Council. The current stipend was established in 1985. Lenox and Brown volunteered to review information collected by staff and make any appropriate recommendation.
- Miller said she did not know how many mayors of the comparable-sized cities researched were full-time. The average compensation for mayors was \$17,053. The highest was Douglas at \$31,000, and the lowest was Dalton at \$7,200. The average for Council Members was \$10,600. The highest was Valdosta at \$15,500; the City was tied with Dalton for the lowest stipend at \$6,000.
- Logsdon asked Council if they wanted to pursue the matter. Kourajian needed more information, such as time required, size of budget, type of government, etc. Plunkett suggested that a staff member serve with Brown and Lenox.
- Rutherford said she was not interested in giving a raise to future Council Members when more fire and police were needed. It was not fiscally responsible given other needs.
- Kourajian said only way to make a good decision was to do the research.

22. Discuss Volunteer Recognition Event (Logsdon)

- Logsdon would like to do more to recognize citizens who served on commissions and authorities.
- Plunkett suggested hosting a gala every two years to recognize commission and authority volunteers and those citizens who had good ideas. She had researched the numbers as a Recreation commissioner and there were 85 people who served in those roles. Kourajian liked idea of recognition, but was concerned about spending money that could go towards something else. Plunkett said they could get sponsors.
- Lohr said the volunteer association paid for half of the Fire Department's recognition dinner, and the department paid the other half. The cost was \$8,400 for 159 people.
- Miller said the City had hosted volunteer dinners in the past. The policy was that the City did not spend money on alcohol. The parameters had to be defined regarding what groups were to be included.
- Logsdon asked Plunkett to take the suggestion and work on it.
- Rutherford suggested recognizing a board in the *Update*. The public would get to know who served on the board and what the duties were.

23. Review Budget Process for New Council Members (Salvatore & McMullen)

- Salvatore went over the budget schedule and explained that the state was now cracking down on the millage rate deadline, which was August 1.
- Rutherford asked that a copy of the operating budget and the PIP be sent to Council.
- Salvatore said every director and chief had to justify everything under each line item.
- FY 2007 Budget Schedule – March 20, distribute instructions for operating budget and PIP (Bud I) to directors and chiefs; April 4, City Manager and Finance Director meet with directors and chiefs in pre-budget preparation meeting; April 21, Bud I deadline; May 16, City Manager reviews Bud I with directors and chiefs; May 23, Bud II deadline; June 5-6, Council workshop to review Bud II with directors and chiefs (alternate date: June 12-13); June 16, Bud III submitted to Finance Director/City Manager; June 26, Council workshop to review Bud III; July 3, send out advertisement for public hearing on operating budget and PIP; July 7, final operating budget and PIP submitted to City Manager; July 17, final budget workshop meeting; July 20, public hearing on operating budget and PIP, adopt millage rate; and August 3, adoption of operating budget and PIP.

24. Discuss Scheduling Council Workshops (Logsdon)

- Logsdon said Council considered many complex issues. A workshop could be beneficial prior to the Council meeting where a decision was to be made. He suggested the second Thursday of the month. Kourajian and Rutherford agreed. If no workshop was needed, then meeting would be cancelled.
- The second Thursday and Wednesdays were also possibilities. The Floy Farr Room was the proposed location. McMullen would check on availability of dates and rooms.

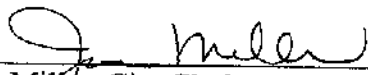
25. Discuss a Public Comment Session at Council Meetings (Logsdon)

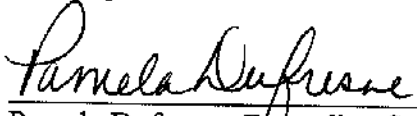
- Plunkett noted that many entities had a public comment session that was very controlled, but regularly on the agenda. Residents would sign in and had three minutes to address any subject. The session would not alleviate public hearings. She noted that, according to City ordinance, residents were not to speak except during public hearings. Council could allow residents to speak on agenda item.
- Rutherford said residents could ask questions, but should not anticipate answers. They also should not be allowed to bash staff. She questioned why Council could not change the City ordinances.
- Mecker said each person should be limited to two-three minutes.
- McMullen said Fulton County had a session prior to meetings. Residents filled out cards with name and telephone number so staff could get back to them with answers. A clock was used to time comments.
- Meeker was to research if the ordinance needed to be changed to permit a public comment session.
- Kourajian wanted to see written rules prior to beginning the public comment sessions.

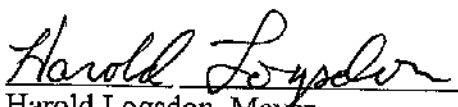
26. City Communications with Citizens (Logsdon)

- Logsdon suggested Council take another look at mailing out the *Update*. He did not believe residents were going to the website to read it, or saw it in the newspaper when it was printed. *Update* was a tool that could be better used. It did not have to be mailed each month; it could be sent quarterly.
- Rutherford thanked Jill Prouty for a recent editorial on the library and reading, and Betsy Tyler for her article explaining the need for a stormwater utility.
- Miller said *Update* originally had three precepts accuracy, quick read, and non-political. The purpose was to inform, not to sway public opinion.
- Kourajian said the newsletter could be as big as it needed to be as long as the information was pertinent.
- Council would look at the cost, then make a decision.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.


Jane Miller, City Clerk


Pamela Dufresne, Recording Secretary


Harold Logsdon, Mayor