

City Council of Peachtree City
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 7, 2024
6:30 PM

Call to Order

The Mayor and Council of Peachtree City met in regular session on Thursday, March 7, 2024. Mayor Kim Learnard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members attending: Laura Johnson, Suzanne Brown, Clinton Holland, and Frank Destadio.

Meeting Video Link: Watch: [City Council Meeting - March 7th, 2024](#)

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Presentation

Announcements, Awards, Special Recognition

A. Peachtree City's 65th Anniversary's Special Tribute

A video commemorating Peachtree City's 65th anniversary was presented. The Mayor introduced Lee Eltzroth, President of the Friends of the Peachtree City Library. Eltzroth noted that documents related to the founding of the City were available online through the Digital Library of Georgia.

She said the Friends commissioned Martin Pate to paint a portrait of Floy Farr, one of the City's founders, and it now hung in the Library. Last year, the Friends, aided by citizen Charlie Nelson, commissioned a portrait of Joel Cowan, another City father and its first Mayor. Cowan's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were present at the meeting, and his daughter expressed all their gratitude and said her parents were sorry they could not be present.

The Mayor then read a short piece written by then-Mayor Bob Lenox for Peachtree City's 50th anniversary in 2009. It reflected on the City's growth and the challenges it faced.

Public Comment

John Dufresne noted that the City collected a \$45 fee every three years for golf cart registration. The maximum allowed by law for registrations was \$15 a year. He said Council discussed short-term rentals at their 16 November 2023 City Council meeting and the City Attorney made some comments he thought were relevant to golf cart fees. One was that fees should be related to actual costs, and the City could not profit from the collection of registration fees; the fees should approximate costs. Dufresne said the City was making money off the cart registrations because there were no costs associated with registration. He asked Council to make the fee \$15 for a period of three years.

Lloyd Smith introduced himself as President of the Peachtree City Pickleball Club,

which, with more than 800 members, was the largest Pickleball Club in the state. He urged Council to provide more pickleball courts and to remember the needs of pickleball players in the Recreation Master Plan that was being created.

Ralph Hale expressed dismay that Council was allowing short-term rentals in neighborhoods and asked how this was beneficial to residents. He thought voters should have had a chance to speak their minds through a referendum.

Agenda Changes

Minutes

Destadio moved to approve the February 6, 2024, City Council Workshop Minutes, February 15, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, and February 15, 2024, Executive Session Minutes. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A. February 6, 2024 City Council Workshop Minutes

APPROVED 5-0

B. February 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

APPROVED 5-0

C. February 15, 2024 Executive Session Minutes

APPROVED 5-0

Consent Agenda

Johnson moved to approve Consent Agenda items A-D. Destadio seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A. FY24 Budget Amendment- Father/Daughter Dance Sponsorships

APPROVED 5-0

B. Chick-fil-A Southside Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreement

APPROVED 5-0

C. Chick-fil-A Kedron Stormwater Facility Maintenance Agreement

APPROVED 5-0

D. 2024 Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement – GEMA/Homeland Security

APPROVED 5-0

Old Agenda Items

None

New Agenda Items

A. 03-24-01 Approve purchase contract for property located at 102 Guthrie Way, Peachtree City, GA 30269.

Assistant City Manager Justin Strickland said for at least the past three years, they had been looking at providing more space for the Police Department for uses including offices and evidence storage. There were plans to construct a building

behind the current Police Department, he continued, then another opportunity presented itself when the owner of 102 Guthrie Way approached them. If they purchased this property, Strickland said, they would have what would be the City's largest facility at 21,000 square feet. The building they had been considering constructing would have been 4,000 square feet, but they could get this at about the same price, Strickland remarked. It contained a state-of-the-art training center that law enforcement agencies were already using, as well as providing storage and office space.

Strickland said Chief Janet Moon was present if anyone had questions for her. The City Attorney was also present to answer questions about the agreement. Staff was very excited about this, he remarked, and recommended Council approve it.

Destadio stated this was an outstanding opportunity, and the Mayor echoed that.

Brown moved to approve New Agenda item 03-24-01, purchase contract for property located at 102 Guthrie Way. Holland seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. ~~03-24-02 Resolution In Opposition of the TDK Extension~~
Removed by request

Public Hearings

None

Council/Staff Topics

A. Request to Defer Public Hearing for Sign Variance at 100 Huddleston Road to July

Strickland noted that this had come to Council in December and was tabled. The applicants had now requested it be postponed until July.

Learnard asked if an exact date was needed? Meeker said this was a Council/Staff topic, so it was more to gauge if there were objections or concerns. It was scheduled to be on the next agenda, but if they were agreeable, it would not be.

Holland noted there was only one meeting in July, and that agenda was usually packed. Maybe they could postpone it to August? Meeker said they could let the applicant know that August was the target date. Destadio said it should be up to the applicant, and Meeker said Holland had a good point.

B. Fire Department ISO rating

Fire Chief Clint Murphy announced that Peachtree City had retained its Class One rating from the Insurance Services Office (ISO), making it an "elite" fire department. Out of 50,000 fire departments nationwide, fewer than 500 earned this ranking; only 24 of those were in Georgia. For property owners, this rating meant insurance

premiums would be lower.

C. 65th Anniversary Challenge Coin

To help celebrate the 65th anniversary, Strickland stated, the City was offering ways for citizens to win or earn challenge coins. He urged residents to subscribe to The Slice newsletter, download the navigation app, attend some of the engagement opportunities with officials, and follow them on social media to learn about how to win a coin.

Executive Session

NONE

Adjourn

There being no further business, Destadio moved to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Brown seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Martha Barksdale, Recording Secretary

Kim Learnard, Mayor