

City Council of Peachtree City
Minutes of Meeting
September 17, 1998
7:00 p.m.

The City Council of Peachtree City met in a regular session Thursday, September 17, 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, Bob Brooks and Jim Pace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Lenox presented the Employee of the Month award to Jesse Brooks.

Mayor Lenox read a proclamation for American Business Women's Week.

Mayor Lenox read a proclamation for Constitution Week.

Mayor Lenox announced a special called meeting to be held on September 23, to set the millage rate.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

There were no additional agenda items.

MINUTES

McMenamin made a motion to approve the minutes of September 3, 1998 as presented. Pace seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD AGENDA ITEMS

**08-98-02 Public Hearing - Consider Ordinance & Intergovernmental Agreement -
 Huddleston Road Special Sewer District**

Larry Turner, General Manager for the Peachtree City Water and Sewerage Authority requested that this item be withdrawn from the agenda, based on results of meetings held with the affected property owners.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

**9-98-05 Water and Sewerage Authority FY-99 Operating and Capital Improvement
 Budget**

John Gronner addressed Council and submitted the Water and Sewerage Authority Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Budget for review as required by an agreement signed on May 29, 1997. The Operating Budget was set at 2.3 million which was an increase from last year.

He explained that the increase was due to additional employee positions and changing over to a 24-hour operation.

The Capital Improvement Budget was set for \$6,165,000 and included projects to improve the sewer system. Turner said that an emergency generator should be installed in 6 weeks to prohibit the type of sewer spills that happened recently at Line Creek. McMenamin asked if they could rent a generator until one could be purchased. Turner explained that the type of generator required would need to be specifically designed for the treatment plant and that it would require a long-term lease. He said the cost of the generator would be approximately \$65,000. McMenamin asked if there would be an emergency system installed to warn if there was a power outage. Turner said there would be an emergency system installed and that employees would be working 24 hours a day. Turner also said an alternate power system from GA Power would be installed at the Rockaway Road plant by the end of October. Pace asked if anything else was needed to improve the safety of the system. A brief discussion took place concerning improvement plans.

Lenox reminded Turner that Council would like the Water and Sewerage Authority to make an effort to complete the projects that had been identified prior to purchasing the system. Turner assured Council that 90 to 95% of the projects in the Capital Improvement Plan would be complete before the end of the fiscal year.

Pace thanked Turner for his work for the Water and Sewerage Authority. He felt it was important to let the citizens know how qualified Turner was to manage the sewer system. Pace said Turner had been with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, he was an environmental engineer, and he had managed sewer plants in Asheville, NC; Sarasota FL, and Nashville, TN.

McMenamin made a motion to approve the Water and Sewerage Authority's Capital Improvement Budget for FY 99. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

09-98-06 Airport Employee - Commuter Bus Program Survey

Basinger explained that during FUTURE Planning Committee meetings there had been informal discussions on the possible need for a commuter bus service between Fayette County and Hartsfield International Airport due to the large number of Peachtree City residents who work at the airport. Basinger said there were also other airport employees who lived in other parts of Fayette County.

Basinger said City Hall had received occasional calls inquiring if such a service was available. He felt a commuter bus service would make a positive impact on clean air efforts, not only in Fayette County, but throughout the Greater Atlanta area.

Basinger suggested the first thing that should be done would be to determine the feasibility of such an idea by conducting a survey of residents to gauge the interest in the service. He said the survey could initially be sent to Peachtree City residents via the Update newsletter.

If there was interest in Peachtree City, the survey could then be sent to residents throughout Fayette County in order to maximize the potential customer base and hold down costs.

McMenamin asked if there was a private company that offered this service. Basinger said that there was one bus that some individuals used to "car pool" to downtown Atlanta. He explained that the bus was privately owned, and they took turns driving. Basinger also said there were other companies that provided transportation to the airport with 48 hours notice, but not on a regular schedule.

Eric Zink of Peachtree City Limo and Taxi Service said he had considered expanding his business to provide that type of service. McMenamin said discussions had not taken place concerning who would provide the service. She said the City could provide the service or contract with a private company. Basinger said he thought Council would like someone in the private sector to provide the service, but that it was not currently provided.

Brooks felt it was a very important issue. He said many people who live in Fayette County commute to work in Atlanta. He said traffic problems could affect property values because people may decide to move closer to Atlanta if the time to commute from Fayette County continued to increase.

Pace supported the program and said he would like the private sector to provide the service.

Lenox said it could be a county-wide program but there were several issues to be considered. He believed several hundred or more people commute to the airport daily on a fixed schedule. He felt the survey would help determine the need, but that the cost structure would need to be defined to fund the program. He said parking would also be a major issue.

09-98-07 Discuss Millage Rate

Lenox said the millage rate would be set at a special called meeting on September 23, 1998; however, since McMenamin would not be able to attend the meeting she wanted Council to discuss the issue that night. Lenox said staff proposed to set the millage at 4.06 mills, which would provide revenue resulting in \$225,000 above the approved budget. Lenox said the overage would be put into the council contingency fund.

McMenamin said the recreation plan was being updated and that it was important to remember that citizens demand a major portion of their tax dollar to be spent on recreation and public safety. She believed the current budget reflected that demand.

Lenox said 57% of property tax revenues would come from residential taxes with the remaining 43% to come from commercial/industrial taxes. He said those figures indicated the value of having commercial and industrial businesses in Peachtree City.

Council/Staff Topics

Basinger said the interior layout of Leach Fire Station was on display and he invited Council and the public to look at it after the meeting. He said Chief Reed was in attendance to answer questions.

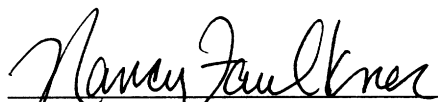
Basinger requested two Council members to volunteer to serve on a selection committee for upcoming appointments to the Water and Sewerage Authority. Fritz and Brooks both volunteered.

Lenox made a motion to adjourn the meeting to take a brief recess and reconvene into Executive Session to discuss two legal matters. McMenamin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Lenox made a motion to tentatively approve the Multi Family Properties, LLC. Law Suit Settlement Agreement, with the condition that final buffer negotiations be worked out between Jim Williams and Mr. Edee and that the final wording of the agreement would be finalized at the October 1, 1998 City Council meeting. Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried with McMenamin voting Nay.

Pace made a motion to adjourn the meeting. McMenamin seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.


Nancy Faulkner, City Clerk

Attest: 
Mayor