

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Mayor Cox led the invocation and pledge.

ROLL CALL: Those present were Mayor Joe Lane Cox, Council members Jonathan Cox, Mike Sosebee and Mike Wilson; and Linda Grant. Also in attendance were Dana Miles, City Attorney, and Kim Cornelison City Administrator/Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council unanimously approved the adoption of the minutes from the regular meeting held December 4, 2006. Cox/Sosebee.

OLD BUSINESS:

City Seal: Mayor Cox asked the council to table this item of business. Approval to table was granted. Sosebee/ Grant.

NEW BUSINESS:

Agenda Amendment to include Qualifying Fees: Dana Miles informed the council of the need to amend the agenda to set qualifying fees. Council approved adding item to the end of new business. Sosebee/Wilson.

Appointments: Mayor Cox asked the council to approve the following appointments: David Turk, Judge of Municipal Court; Bob Atkins, Geologist; and John Evans Environmental Testing. Approval of appointments was granted. Cox/Sosebee.

Demand Services Renewals: Mayor Cox asked the council to approve the renewal of demand services with Townley Construction, Inc. Approval was granted. Cox/Grant

Purging of records from 2000 and 2001: Kim Cornelison asked the council for approval to purging of financial records ripe for destruction under the current records retention ordinance and one box of copied records compiled for the Phillips case. Approval was granted. Sosebee/Cox.

Work Session consideration: Mayor Cox explained to the Council the need to consider having work sessions separate from the regular meetings of City Council. Council unanimously decided to schedule a work session for Monday, January 29, 2007 and then two weeks prior to the regularly scheduled council meetings effective with the March regularly scheduled meeting. Sosebee/Cox.

Addendum to Agreement – GIS/GPS Mapping Services with GMRDC: Georgia Mountains Regional Development Council has sent a contract extending the term of the original agreement to June 30, 2007. Council authorized the Mayor to execute the agreement. Cox/Grant.

Qualifying Fee: Kim Cornelison asked the council to set the qualifying fee in accordance with Georgia State Code for the upcoming elections. The qualification fee is three percent of the salary of the elected officials whose terms are due for election. i.e. Mayor's seat qualifying fee

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

would be \$216.00 and a council member's seat qualifying fee would be \$108.00. Council approved and set the qualifying fee. Sosebee/Cox.

Mayor Cox asked the council to approve substituting a floating birthday holiday for employees in place of President's Day. Mayor Cox further explained that he and the staff are in the process of reworking the personnel handbook which would incorporate this change. The new employee handbook will come before the council in a few months. Council granted general consent to the Mayor's request.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Annexations and rezones:

Annexation Petition ANX06-054: Wayne Grogan has made a request to annex 14.007 acres of TMP092B-006. The subject property is located at 651 Hwy. 9 North and 685 Hwy. 9 North. The property is currently zoned RA and will be AP upon annexation. (Second reading). Dana Miles read the annexation petition then opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed. Mayor Cox called for a vote. Mike Sosebee made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of ANX06-054; Linda Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Annexation Petition ANX06-055: Jason Adam Power has made a request to annex 2.80 acres of TMP069-055.001. The property is located 1118 Elliott Family Parkway. The property is currently zoned RA and will be AP upon annexation. (Second reading). Dana Miles read the annexation petition then opened the public hearing. Approximately 31 people were in attendance. Two people spoke in opposition. There being no further public comment, the hearing was closed. Mayor Cox called for a vote. Linda Grant made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of ANX06-055; Mike Sosebee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Annexation Petition ANX06-056: Jyotibala P. Patel has made a request to annex 2.127 acres of TMP083-007. The property is located at 706 Hwy. 53 West. The property is currently zoned RA and will be AP upon annexation. (Second reading). Dana Miles read the annexation petition then opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed. Mayor Cox called for a vote. Jonathan Cox made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of ANX06-056; Mike Sosebee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Annexation Petition ANX06-057: Clay Summerour and Renae Summerour have made a request to annex 1.0 acre of TMP082-015. The property is located at 373 Howser Mill Road. The property is currently zoned R-1 and will be R-1 upon annexation. (Second reading). Dana Miles read the annexation petition then opened the public hearing. There being no public comment, the hearing was closed. Mayor Cox called for a vote. Linda Grant made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of ANX06-057; Mike Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Update on Meeting with Linda Mock: Mayor Cox called Ms. Mock forward to recap their meeting regarding having a town hall meeting. Ms. Mock's wanted to provide an opportunity to implement an educational forum to help educate the community of all the issues within the community. The forum would include representatives from Etowah Water & Sewer Authority,

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

City of Dawsonville, Dawson County Board of Commissioners, and the Dawson County Home Owners Association. Mayor Cox appointed Jonathan Cox and Linda Grant to work with Ms. Mock to set up the community meeting.

Annie Dean Samples, President of the Georgia Racing Hall of Fame Commission: Mayor Cox announced that Mrs. Samples has been ill and in the hospital. Mr. Charles Samples gave a brief update stating she is improving and that she has a long way to go. The Mayor asked everyone to keep her in our prayers.

Veteran's Monument: Mayor Cox appointed Mike Sosebee and Mike Wilson to work with Water Lee. Mr. Lee would like to see a monument constructed in honor and memory of our veterans.

Development Announcement: Mayor Cox informed the public that all subdivisions approved by the current council have been developed with underground utilities, curb, gutter, and sidewalks as well as some amenities packages like little parks or swimming pools.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Alan Brown pointed out streams and creeks run through recently annexed property and wanted to know if environmental studies impacts would be completed when this property develops. Mayor Cox explained that everything done step-by-step. Annexation was first. When the property is rezoned or the property owner brings in a plan to develop the property, then all environmental, transportation, water and sewer type issues will be addressed. That is the point that the Planning Commission can make recommendations and then the City Council can approve or disapprove the plan, or put stipulations on the development.

Lauren Mitchell asked for an update on the sewer plant smell. Gary Barr stated that Georgia Rural Water is the contractor responsible for de-sludging the detention pond. Testing of the pond found that some areas needed to be redone as not enough sludge was removed. This has prolonged the project. One aerator and one baffle had to be pulled so the de-sludging barge could be operated again. Once the de-sludging is complete the City has 13 new aerators going in to the pond which will eliminate odors. This is the first time the pond has been desludged since it was built in 1963.

Allison Schmitt rebutted statements made by Councilman Cox where he said annexed property development standards are raised. Ms. Schmitt stated her feelings that the area will be highly impacted by industrial development going in out there.

Hilda Bennett stated her concerns about the health issues on the spray fields and the potential of animals in the fields spreading germs; she was concerned that raw sewage was being sprayed in the fields. Staff explained that EPD has permitted the City to utilize the pond treatment method. The wastewater goes to the detention pond where it is treated. From there it is pumped up to a holding pond. Each pond is tested daily before any effluent water is sprayed in the spray fields. Spray fields monitored by the many monitoring wells around the fields, and the ponds are tested daily.

Tim Wimpey asked when the smell would go away at the treatment pond. Gary Barr explained the de-sludging process. Mr. Barr stated that he has bacteria to put in the pond once the aerators go back in the pond. He could not state exactly when the smell would go away. Mr. Barr assured the citizens that the City is doing everything it can to address the situation.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

January 8, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Coxed thanked everyone for coming to the City Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 8:00 p.m. Councilman Cox made a motion to go in to executive session for the purpose discussing property acquisition. Linda Grant seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

In executive session Mayor Cox presented two separate proposals that he has received on behalf of the City regarding two properties located in the vicinity of the historic district. The Council consented to let the Mayor have appraisals done and to proceed with negotiations.

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, the council adjourned executive session at 8:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, the council adjourned the regular meeting at 8:20 pm.

Minutes approved this _____ day of February, 2007.

Joe Lane Cox, Mayor

Councilmember Jonathan Cox

Councilmember Linda Grant

Councilmember Mike Sosebee

Councilmember Mike Wilson

Attested: _____
Kim Cornelison, City Clerk