

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Danny Dunagan, George Wangemann, Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Barbara Brooks
OFFICIALS ABSENT: Ruth Bruner
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Denise Jordan

Mayor Dunagan called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM, immediately after the called meeting, and served as the presiding officer.

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Public Hearing Item for the October 3, 2017 Council Meeting

Canceled Planning and Appeals Board Meeting Due to Inclement Weather

Request from Lanier Technical College to annex an 8.154± acres tract having no road frontage and located east of State Route 365 (Cornelia Highway), north of Lanier Tech Drive and Howard Road (a/k/a 0 Howard Road) and to establish zoning as Light Industrial (L-I). Ward Number: Two. Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-020-000-068. Request: Technical College.

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon stated this item was rescheduled for the next Planning and Appeals Board Meeting due to Hurricane Irma.

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

Tiger Grant Letter of Support for Sardis Connector Road Project

City Manager Bryan Lackey presented a request from Hall County for a letter of support for the referenced project noting the sample letter would be modified as needed by city staff.

There was consensus for the Mayor to sign a letter of support.

Government Window Electronic Transaction Processing

Chief Financial Officer Jeremy Perry commented on plans to transition to an electronic payment process system with a secure e-pay option that collects payment for services, events fees and donations. He shared some information about Government Windows including their customer base and discussed how the changes would improve business in general.

Business Services Manager Tracie Morris shared how this service will help with various payments.

Mayor Dunagan suggested a TV18 program to make the community aware of these changes.

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Mayor Dunagan

1. Nominated Doug Magnus for reappointment to the Building Board of Appeals. The appointment was placed on the October 3, 2017 Council Meeting Consent Agenda.
2. Reported the Pain Pills and Heroin are Killing Our Families Forum was a huge success.

CITY CLERK ISSUES:

Election Update

City Clerk Denise Jordan presented a report on election activities. She stated the required election notice will be published in the newspaper on Friday, September 29 and sample ballots were expected soon. The following dates were important to keep in mind:

- October 10 is the last day to register to be eligible to vote in the November election.
- October 16 is the first day of early voting which will be held at the Hall County Government Center from 8 AM to 5 PM on Monday through Friday.
- October 16 is the first day absentee ballots can be issued.
- November 3 is the last day for early voting and the last day to issue absentee ballots.
- November 7 is Election Day from 7 AM to 7 PM. The voting locations are Brenau Downtown Center, Fair Street Neighborhood Center and First Baptist Church on Green Street.
- December 5 is set aside for a run-off election, if required.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Manager Lackey requested an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters.

Motion to close the Work Session at 9:27 AM to enter an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters.

Motion made by Council Member Thompson

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Wangemann, Couvillon, Thompson, Brooks

Absent: Bruner

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Danny Dunagan, George Wangemann, Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Barbara Brooks

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Ruth Bruner

STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Denise Jordan, Rusty Ligon

Motion to close the Executive Session at 9:59 AM to continue the meeting.

Motion made by Council Member Brooks

Motion seconded by Council Member Wangemann

Votes favoring the motion: Wangemann, Couvillon, Thompson, Brooks

Absent: Bruner

OTHER BUSINESS:

Oak Hall Update

Community Development Director Rusty Ligon stated the key to this project is the Planned Unit Development zoning that can't be changed without approval by the governing body.

Oakwood Request for Fire Services

City Manager Bryan Lackey stated the City of Oakwood was interested in joining the City of Gainesville's Fire District. Oakwood recently approached Gainesville proposing to build a station in their downtown area on their property with an agreement for Gainesville to staff it. He showed a map of the proposal and presented a cost analysis with five firemen per shift. Oakwood is asking Gainesville to purchase the fire truck. It will be two years before an agreement could go into effect. The station would operate under Gainesville Fire Department procedures.

There was discussion about response times. There was a desire to review all aspects of the proposal considering the fact that proceeding could compromise Gainesville's relationship with Hall County.

City Attorney Hayes felt it may be necessary to address the coverage area within the agreement if there's a desire to proceed.

Fire Chief Jerome Yarbrough stated conversations with ISO had been limited to minimize any impact on the current rating. If the City decided to enter into a contract with Oakwood, ISO could conduct a new rating.

Council Member Brooks expressed concern about the south side residents (the Highway 129 area) who were already in a precarious situation.

Mayor Dunagan commented on growth in the Mundy Mill Road area indicating additional fire stations would be needed.

Chief Yarbrough stated the city needs two more stations, i.e., one to cover Dawsonville Highway and one to cover Highway 129. Later in the meeting, he expressed his opinion that Oakwood was sufficiently covered when considering the information available at this point in time.

There was consensus to schedule a meeting with Oakwood and Hall County to initiate discussions. There was also consensus to notify Oakwood of the city's position.

GFD Station 2

Upon inquiry from Council Member Couvillon, City Attorney Hayes stated he would check on the status noting there's a lot of money at stake in acquiring the property.

Preempt Lights for Fire Trucks

Deputy Fire Chief Scott Stowers provided an updated upon request from Council Member Thompson. He expected all of the preempt lights to be operational within the next month.

Mayor Dunagan stated this would be a good topic to consider for TV18.

Cemetery Dedication Project

Council Member Brooks provided an update on the referenced project noting it is scheduled for October 22 at 2:00 PM.

50 Year Celebration of the Rock

Mayor Dunagan announced this event is scheduled for October 22 at 4:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:46 AM

/dj

C. Danny Dunagan, Jr., Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk