

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

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

Mayor Couvillon called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and served as the presiding officer.

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Resolution: Rucker Dog Training Therapy Dog

Police Chief Jay Parrish introduced Dusk (the therapy dog) and her trainer. Dusk is trained to help trauma victims and will work through the Community Policing Division. Her value is \$10,000. Dusk was donated to the Police Department by Rucker Dog Training. The proposed resolution authorized acceptance of this donation.

Placed on the May 3, 2022 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Tourism Update for 1st Quarter 2022

Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Robyn Lynch presented the quarterly update summarizing the economic impact of tourism. She discussed the relaunch of the Explore Gainesville website and the Love Where You Live Campaign designed to encourage locals to explore Gainesville. She also discussed several sporting and community events before commenting on being awarded the 2023-2024 South/Southeast Regional Golf Championship. She concluded by discussing events scheduled through June.

Resolution: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2022 Annual Action Plan

Neighborhood Development Manager Jessica Tullar stated HUD has not determined the total allocation so the paperwork was prepared based on the anticipated allocation. Adjustments will be made when the final information is available. She commented on the requirements to meet national objectives. A five-year strategy is required to accept these funds. Mrs. Tullar displayed examples of how these funds were used in the past. The Plan's top priority involves expanding housing affordability with focus on increasing the number of available units, homeowner repair and down payment assistance. Other priorities include infrastructure and public facility improvements; neighborhood revitalization; and fair housing activities. The draft action plan was noted as follow:

Public Facilities & Infrastructure Improvements	\$300,000
Acquisition & Demolition	\$ 70,723
Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation & Repairs / Rehab Administration	\$ 17,628
Homebuyer Assistance / Down-payment Assistance	\$ 8,708
General Program Administration	\$ 99,264
ESTIMATE OF ANTICIPATED TOTAL FUNDING	\$496,323

The proposed resolution adopts the annual action plan. Staff held two public hearings which addressed a lot of questions about the program.

Placed on the May 3, 2022 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Upon inquiry from Council Member Brooks, there was an update on The Cottages.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Carl Volle to annex a 0.40± acre tract located on the south side of Meadowlark Lane, east of the intersection of Cleveland Highway and Meadowlark Lane (a/k/a 1646 Meadowlark Lane) and to establish zoning as Residential-II (R-II). Ward Number: Two. Tax Parcel Number(s): 00-084-006-001(Part). Request: Single-family lot.

Public Hearing Item: Request from West Ridge Storage, LLC to rezone a 3.69± acres tract located on the east side of West Ridge Road, northeast of its intersection with E. E. Butler Parkway (a/k/a 891 West Ridge Road, SE) from Regional Business (R-B) to Light Industrial (L-I). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-055-000-046. Request: Climate controlled self-storage.

Public Hearing Item: Request from 523 Park Street, LLC to rezone a 0.31± acre tract located on the north side of Park Street and east of the intersection of Park Street and Boulevard (a/k/a 523 Park Street, NE) from Residential-I (R-I) to Residential-II (R-II). Ward Number: Two. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-038-003-015. Request: Accessory carriage house apartment.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Angela Zubar to amend an existing Planned Unit Development (P-U-D) zoning totaling 3.29± acres located at the southwest side of the intersection of Pemman Run and Bruce Drive, west of McEver Road (a/k/a 2475 Pemman Run, NW). Ward Number: Five. Tax Parcel Number(s): 08-005-000-038. Request: Special event facility/Wine tasting room.

City Attorney Abb Hayes summarized the public hearing items noting staff will follow-up to address questions.

Four public hearings scheduled for the May 3, 2022 Council Meeting Agenda

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

City Manager Bryan Lackey commented on the following:

1. Streetscaping in the downtown area.
2. The North Parking Deck is expected to open in June. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony.
3. Proceeds from the Midland Music Fest will be used to build the stage.

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Thompson

Presented the Housing Authority ex-officio report.

Council Member Wangemann

1. Complimented staff, specifically mentioning the Community and Economic Development Department.
2. Presented the Keep Hall Beautiful ex-officio report.
3. Announced plans to attend Georgia Mountains Regional Commission meetings later today.

Mayor Couvillon

Shared information from the recent Transportation Forum.

Council Member Brooks

Complimented the Department of Transportation for the road work on Highway 129 toward Pendergrass.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Motion to close the Work Session at 9:36 AM to enter an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan
Motion seconded by Council Member Brooks

Votes favoring the motion: Brooks, Thompson, Clay, Dunagan, Wangemann

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

Motion to close the Executive Session at 10:41 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan
Motion seconded by Council Member Clay

Votes favoring the motion: Brooks, Thompson, Clay, Dunagan, Wangemann

OTHER BUSINESS:

Economic Development Suggestion

City Manager Bryan Lackey vetted the idea of barge socials on Lake Lanier as a takeaway from a recent trip to Chattanooga, TN. He also asked the governing body for thoughts about a fall retreat.

Requested Updates

Council Member Clay requested updates about (1) removing Old Joe from the downtown square and (2) the City Park property.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:52 AM

/dj

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk