

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

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:

Economic Development Council

Chairman Glennis Barnes thanked the city for its support and commented on great things happening in the community.

Vice President of Economic Development Tim Evans stated 2022 yielded \$700 million in capital investment and 1400 new jobs leading to a brief discussion about the impact on the community. The budget request includes a 12% increase associated with the cost of doing business.

Council Member Thompson confirmed the same increase was asked of other partners.

FY2024 Parks & Recreation Budget

Parks and Recreation Board Chairman Alex Murray confirmed the presentation was reviewed and approved by the Board noting the Board is impressed by the work of the department.

Parks and Recreation Director Kate Mattison briefly discussed accomplishments associated with The Coop, the Dog Park, the mural on the Midland Greenway, Mini Pitch, the Disc Golf Course, and the opening of the Underground Fit Zone. The new master plan has 80% of its projects in progress or completed.

Mrs. Mattison presented a balanced budget noting the FY2024 total projected revenue was \$9.8 million. Unused funds will be reallocated to the fund balance. She briefly reviewed the capital projects planned for FY2024.

Council Member Clay extended appreciation to the staff for offering amazing assets to the community and to the Board for holding difficult conversations. She was impressed with the strong commitment to access.

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Resolution: Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Fire Chief Brandon Ellis stated the proposed resolution authorizes the department to apply for and accept funds from AFG. This grant is specifically for equipment purchases and would be used to replace the portable radio system in lieu of planning for a capital project. The grant is for \$550,000 with a 10% match. The equipment will be operational for ten years.

Placed on the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Airport Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Department of Water Resources Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of General Government Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Golf Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Grant Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Solid Waste Fund Capital Projects

Resolution: FY2022 Closure of Special Local Option Sales Tax Capital Projects

Budget and Purchasing Manager Brenda Carpio requested approval of seven resolutions to close

capital projects and reestablish the remaining balances or return restricted funds to the appropriate fund. She discussed each resolution separately sharing the number of projects completed and stating how the remaining balances would be reallocated.

Placed on the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Resolution: Amendment to Financial Policies - Fixed Assets and Capitalization Policy

Deputy Chief Finance Officer of Audit and Financial Operations Mary Beth Cooper stated the proposed resolution implements a policy change to increase the threshold for capitalization (from \$10,000 to \$20,000) upon recommendation by the auditors. Other notable changes include language from the Department of Transportation.

Placed on the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Public Hearing Item: Request from Gillsville Investment, LLC to amend an existing Planned Unit Development (P-U-D) zoning on a 219.65± acres tract located northeast of the intersection of Athens Highway and Gillsville Highway, and southeast of the intersection of Athens Highway and Gaines Mill Road (a/k/a 2242 Gaines Mill Road, SE; 2579 and 2581 Gillsville Highway, SE). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-022C-000-010 and 15-023-000-014. Request: Single-family homes and townhomes.

City Attorney Abb Hayes summarized the application and stated questions should be referred to the Community and Economic Development Department.

Public hearing scheduled for the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

Resolution: Tax Allocation District (TAD) Funding for 109 NE Green Street - Walton Jackson Building

Assistant City Manager Angela Sheppard stated the TAD Committee met on March 30. She described a project at the old Turnstile Deli that provides additional conference space affiliated with the Courtyard by Marriott hotel, restaurants and entertainment. She summarized the request which included an outdoor dining space, exterior cleaning, gutters, store front doors, exterior lighting and underground power lines. In summary, the recommendation was noted as follows:

- Authorize up to \$1,064,500 with funds disbursed annually over a 15-year period based on the TAD increment generated.
- Authorize the City to utilize up to \$500,000 from the TAD Special Fund Balance to complete sidewalk improvements along Green Street and Brenau Avenue on the side immediately adjacent to the Walton-Jackson Building.

Placed on the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Dunagan

Extended appreciation to the City Clerk for being one of 13 clerks in Georgia to receive the Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

Council Member Thompson

Presented the Chattahoochee Golf Course Advisory Committee ex-officio report.

Appointment: Chicopee Woods Area Park Commission

Appointment: Gainesville-Hall County Development Authority

Appointments: Gainesville-Hall County Land Bank Authority

Placed the Gainesville-Hall County Development Authority appointment on the April 18, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

CITY CLERK ISSUES:

Announcements

City Clerk Denise Jordan shared information about the April 17, 2023 GMA Spring Listening Session in Dahlonaga and the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Gala on May 11 at the Chattahoochee Country Club.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Manager Bryan Lackey requested an executive session to discuss real estate and legal matters.

Motion to close the meeting to enter an Executive Session to discuss real estate and legal matters at 10 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan

Motion seconded by Council Member Thompson

Votes favoring the motion: Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Juli Clay, Danny Dunagan

Absent: Barbara Brooks, George Wangemann

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Motion to close the Executive Session at 10:52 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Thompson

Motion seconded by Council Member Dunagan

Votes favoring the motion: Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Juli Clay, Danny Dunagan

Absent: Barbara Brooks, George Wangemann

ADJOURNMENT: 10:52 AM

/dj

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk