

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 AM.

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Resolution: Georgia Transit Trust Fund (TTF) Program

Resolution: Rescind Resolution GR-2023-03 Georgia Transit Trust Fund (TTF) Program

City Manager Bryan Lackey stated the Georgia Department of Transportation offered funds for the transit system that were accepted at the last Council Meeting. They called back to increase the funding amount. The first resolution accepts the new amount (\$712,993) and the second resolution rescinds the original resolution to create a clean audit trail.

Upon inquiry, Mr. Lackey stated the funds were for capital purchases.

Both resolutions placed on the May 16, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Resolution: Write-off of Delinquent Airport Receivables

Resolution: Write-off of Delinquent Personal Property Tax

Resolution: Write-off of Delinquent Utility Receivables

Resolution: Write-off of Uncollectible Note Receivable

Deputy Chief Finance Officer - Audit and Financial Operations Mary Beth Cooper explained each resolution noting this action occurs annually at the auditor's recommendation.

Four resolutions placed on the May 16, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Mayor Couvillon inquired if an outside company collects delinquent taxes.

Resolution: Gainesville Township Sanitary Sewer Extension Cost Reimbursement

Deputy Director of Water Resources Myron Bennett stated the purpose of the resolution is to allow reimbursement of \$2,702,982 for the construction of sanitary sewer facilities that serve the Coop and Gainesville Township projects. The resolution provides the timeline, the funding source and authorizes execution of the necessary documents.

Council Member Brooks confirmed city standards will be met during the construction process.

Placed on the May 16, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

Fiscal Year 2024 Recommended Budget

City Manager Bryan Lackey thanked the staff for their commitment to the process. He also thanked the Public Relations Director for the FY2023 Snapshot noting it was posted on the website and represents one-third of the information provided by department directors. He commented on population growth and stated the following topics of focus originated from the retreat:

- Retention & Recruitment
- Public Safety – Market Adjustment in Starting Salaries

- Transportation Issues & Projects
- Infrastructure/Capital Projects
- Tourism – Lake – Sports Alliance

Highlights from the presentation were noted as follows:

- The proposed FY2024 budget is \$35,075,093 which is 1.01% less than FY2023.
- A full rollback was discussed with permission to lock in on the amount when the tax digest is available.
- Employees will receive a 5% pay adjustment.
- The general fund has two additional positions (traffic signal technician and senior accountant), additional funds to address capital needs (\$6,912,875) and addresses 14 capital projects.
- Anyone with \$18,000 left in homestead exemption will receive a Property Tax Relief Grant. City residents will receive \$56.63 reduction in their tax bill.
- An overview of other funds indicated there would be 4 additional positions in fire services, 5 additional positions to meet WeGo demands and 3 additional positions for boathouse operations.
- The capital projects budget (all funds) is \$48.2 million.

The budget presentation and public hearing will occur at the June 6 Council Meeting.

Council Member Thompson inquired about Hall County's participation in WeGo management.

All elected officials extended appreciation for the efforts devoted to building the proposed budget.

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Wangemann

Commented on the beam signing event at Lake Lanier Olympic Park.

Council Member Brooks

Presented the Airport Advisory Committee ex-officio report.

Council Member Clay

Presented the Parks & Recreation as well as the Friends of the Parks ex-officio reports.

Council Member Thompson

Thanked everyone for their help with the golf tournament then thanked staff for participation in a neighborhood traffic calming meeting.

Mayor Couvillon

Appointments: Friends of the Parks Board

Nominated Peter DaCosta to fill a vacant position on the Friends of the Parks Board.

Placed on the May 16, 2023 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Requested input for filling positions on the Airport Advisory Committee, the Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, the Historic Preservation Commission, the Main Street Gainesville Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Planning Organization Community Advisory Committee.

CITY CLERK ISSUES:

Chamber Gala

City Clerk Denise Jordan shared details about the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Gala.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:58 AM

/dj

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk