

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sam Couvillon, Barbara Brooks, Zack Thompson, Juli Hayes, Danny Dunagan
VACANT POSITION: Ward 4
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Denise Jordan

Mayor Couvillon called the meeting to order and served as the presiding officer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Motion to close the meeting to enter an Executive Session to discuss real estate matters at 8:31 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan
Motion seconded by Council Member Hayes
Votes favoring the motion: Brooks, Thompson, Hayes, Dunagan
Vacant Position: Ward 4

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VACANT POSITION: Ward 4
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Denise Jordan

Motion to close the Executive Session to continue the meeting at 9:31 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Dunagan
Motion seconded by Council Member Brooks
Votes favoring the motion: Brooks, Thompson, Hayes, Dunagan
Vacant Position: Ward 4

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Tourism Update for the 4th Quarter 2023

Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Robyn Lynch presented the update. The following comments were noted:

- Additional adjustments to the Green Street Parade will occur based upon feedback.
- The Main Street Program doubled its membership.
- The 4th quarter economic impact was \$3.5 million.
- The 2023 economic impact was \$20 million (first time achieving this) with sports related events significantly attributing to this accomplishment.
- Historic City Hall reopened after renovation and will be popular for corporate retreats.
- The Boathouse construction is complete. Audio video installation is underway.
- The Georgia CVB Conference awarded Gainesville with the CVB Creative Award for the Postcard Program Campaign.

Council comments indicated pleasure with “next level tourism” and with the creative branding (the wave) throughout the City.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Simpatico Communities to rezone a 3.17± acres tract located on the northeast side of the intersection of Jesse Jewell Parkway and Scotland Avenue, having road frontage on the northside of Johnson Street (a/k/a 839 and 853 Jesse Jewell Parkway, SW) from General Business (G-B) to Planned Unit Development (P-U-D). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-029- 001-005 and 007. Request: Mixed-use building.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Weekley Homes, LLC to amend an existing Planned Unit Development (P-U-D) zoning on a 120.98± acres tract located on the northwest side of McEver Road, west of the intersection of McEver Road and Gould Drive (a/k/a 0 and 1300 Gould Drive, SW). Ward Number: Four. Tax Parcel Number(s): 08-016-002-001A; 08-017-000-001. Request: Single-family subdivision for active adults.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Booker Property Holdings, LLC and Paul Wilmont to rezone a 0.47± acre tract located on the north side of Summit Street between E. E. Butler Parkway and Chestnut Street (a/k/a 235 Summit Street, SE), from Neighborhood Business (N-B) to Residential-II (R-II). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-020-004-004A. Request: Four townhomes.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Moez Hasni for a special use on a 4.11± acres tract located on the east side of Crescent Drive, north of the intersection of Jesse Jewell Parkway and Crescent Drive (a/k/a 400 Crescent Drive, NE), having a zoning of General Business (G-B). Ward Number: Two. Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-033C-000-077. Request: Staybridge Suites extended stay hotel.

City Attorney Abb Hayes summarized the four applications noting the possibility of one item being tabled.

Public hearing items advertised for the February 6, 2024 Council Meeting

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Ex-Officio Report(s)

Council Member Hayes presented the Parks and Recreation ex-officio report.

Announcement

Mayor Couvillon acknowledged receipt of the Georgia Municipal Association Lifetime Service Award for the late George Wangemann. Staff will contact the family to determine how to proceed.

CITY ATTORNEY ISSUES:

2024 Special Election

City Attorney Abb Hayes stated a resolution to conduct a special election on May 21 to fill the Ward 4 seat is forthcoming to approve at the upcoming Council Meeting. He thanked staff and county officials for their assistance as the language is being finalized.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:54 AM

/dj

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Denise O. Jordan, City Clerk