

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Sam Couvillon, Zack Thompson, Barbara Brooks, Juli Hayes, Abigail Guzman, Danny Dunagan
STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Lackey, Angela Sheppard, Abb Hayes, Alisa Grayson

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

DEPARTMENT ISSUES:

Tourism Update for the 1st Quarter 2025

Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Robyn Lynch presented the update and shared information regarding the growth, economic impact, community engagement/outreach, film productions, and scheduled events for the quarter. She also reported CVB Manager Regina Dyer was appointed Vice President of the Northeast Georgia Travel Association and the Lake Lanier Olympic Park Foundation was awarded the Paul Nelson Award.

Mayor Couvillon commented on citizens outside Hall County attending local events which contributes to the city's infrastructure needs. He thanked Tourism staff for all they do.

Resolution: Second Quarter Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2025

Resolution: Third Quarter Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2025

Deputy CFO – Budget and Purchasing Kevin Hutcheson summarized the budget adjustment details noting the adjustments were balanced and the funds remain balanced.

Both items placed on the May 6, 2025 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Resolution: Fair Street Area-Newtown-New Holland Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

Neighborhood Development Manager Jessica Tullar introduced Aaron Fortner with Canvas Planning Group who was in attendance to present the information regarding the plan. She stated the proposed resolution adopts the revitalization plan noting the purpose of the plan was to put forth recommendations and implementation strategies to address neighborhood needs. It is intended to be in effect for ten years after adoption but does not guarantee or obligate current or future City funds or other resources.

Mr. Fortner provided an overview of the plan supplemented with a power point referencing stakeholder engagement and recommendations for neighborhood improvements.

Council Member Hayes commented on the importance of the working group.

Council Member Brooks expressed excitement with the plan.

Plan partners in attendance were recognized.

Placed on the May 6, 2025 Council Meeting Consent Agenda

Public Hearing Item: Request from Gainesville Housing Authority to rezone a 2.6± acres tract located on the southwest side of the intersection of Jesse Jewell Parkway and Downey Boulevard and the southeast side of the intersection of Jesse Jewell Parkway and Summit Street (a/k/a 1120 Jesse Jewell Parkway, SE) from Residential-II (R-II) to Planned Unit Development (P-U-D). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-035-002-004. Request: Multi-family housing.

Public Hearing Item: Request from Gainesville Housing Authority to rezone a 4.13± acres tract located on the northwest side of the intersection of Myrtle Street and Osborne Street and the northeast side of the intersection of Myrtle Street and Wall Street, south of Jesse Jewell Parkway (a/k/a 1197 and 1235 Myrtle Street, SE; 452, 474 and 492 Osborne Street, SE; 465, 471 and 481 Wall Street, SE) from Residential-II (R-II) to Planned Unit Development (P-U-D). Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 01-035-001-005, 007, 008, 013, 013A, 017, 019 and 020. Request: Multi-family housing.

Public Hearing Item: Request from GVAR Gainesville Landfill, LLC to annex a 105.076± acres tract located on the south side of the intersection of Athens Highway, Old County Dump Road and Athens Street, including all of Old County Dump Road (a/k/a 0 Athens Highway; 0, 2033 and 2045 Old County Dump Road;) and to establish a zoning of Heavy Industrial (H-I), with a special use. Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-032-000-038, 070, 071 and 081. Request: Landfill (Construction & Demolition) and composting facility.

Public Hearing Item: Request from the City of Gainesville to rezone a 134.0± acres tract located on the east side of Monroe Drive, north of Allen Creek Road (a/k/a 1701 Fulenwider Road, SW) from Residential-I-A (R-I-A) and Planned Unit Development (P-U-D) to Heavy Industrial (H-I) with a special use. Ward Number: Three. Tax Parcel Number(s): 15-032-000-038, 070, 071 and 081. Request: Landfill (Construction & Demolition) and composting facility.

City Attorney Abb Hayes summarized the four applications and requested questions be referred to the Community and Economic Development Department.

Public hearing items advertised for the May 6, 2025 Council Meeting

CITY MANAGER ISSUES:

FY2026 Budget Process

City Manager Bryan Lackey shared information about the upcoming budget process noting there will be some differences than in past years and the final tax digest may be delayed due to some legislative changes.

MAYOR/COUNCIL ISSUES:

Council Member Brooks

Reported attendance at the Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting and expressed a desire to attend future meetings as Council representative.

Council Member Thompson

Acknowledged Alisa Grayson as the new City Clerk.

CITY CLERK ISSUES:

GMA District 2 Officers

City Clerk Alisa Grayson reported the slate of officers was received and would be distributed for review/approval. Mayor Couvillon requested the information be forwarded to him.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

City Attorney Hayes requested an Executive Session to discuss real estate, litigation and personnel matters.

Motion to close the meeting to enter an Executive Session to discuss real estate, litigation and personnel matters at 9:35 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Hayes

Motion seconded by Council Member Guzman

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Brooks, Hayes, Guzman, Dunagan

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Motion to close the Executive Session at 10:57 AM.

Motion made by Council Member Thompson

Motion seconded by Council Member Brooks

Votes favoring the motion: Thompson, Brooks, Hayes, Guzman, Dunagan

OTHER BUSINESS:

Downtown Parking Signage

Council Member Guzman inquired about parking signage around the Downtown Square for addressing the current parking provisions for informational purposes.

ADJOURNMENT: 11:02 AM

/ag

W. Samuel Couvillon, Mayor

Alisa Grayson, City Clerk