

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR WORK SESSION**

April 22, 2009
5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Ed Rieker, Mayor
Sandra Varian, Mayor Pro tem
Michael Payne, Commissioner
Lyda Steadman, Commissioner

Members Absent: David Milliron, Commissioner

Staff Present: Clai Brown, City Manager
Juliette Sims, City Clerk

Item No. 1 Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Mayor Rieker.

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda as presented was made by Mayor Pro tem Varian, seconded by Commissioner Steadman, passed with all ayes (4-0).

Item No. 3 Atlanta Regional Commission presentation regarding community choices assistance for enhancement of sign ordinance

Stephen Causby of the Atlanta Regional Commission attended the meeting to speak about the Community Choices assistance process for the enhancement of the sign ordinance. Mr. Causby noted that the next step for the City is to put together a list of individuals for the Stakeholder Committee.

Item No. 4 2010 Census Presentation

Carolyn Aidman of the U.S. Census Bureau attended the meeting to speak about the upcoming 2010 Census. Ms. Aidman noted that the next step for the City is to sign on as a partner for the 2010 Census.

Item No. 5 AEA Charter School

Mayor Rieker noted that on Monday the board received a letter from the First Baptist Church which outlined what their process is regarding the Charter School Initiative. Mayor Rieker apologized to Tom Brooks for any stress the City might have put on their congregation for putting the zoning signs up. Mayor Rieker noted that the church is in negotiation with the school for whatever transaction that is going to transpire or not. Mayor Rieker noted the board has received a letter from The Museum School Executive Committee regarding the City Attorney, a response letter from the City Attorney regarding that letter, and a letter of intent from the school. Mayor Rieker stated that

Mayor Rieker will contact the City Attorney, Bob Wilson to get permission to forward Mr. Wilson's response letter to the AEA Charter School Committee.

Item No. 6

Board Updates:

- (a) Planning and Zoning – Kevin Woolf
 - Mr. Woolf noted that the Planning and Zoning Board is working with Fenner Dunlap on the Mill District, they are awaiting feedback.
- (b) Downtown Development Authority – Steve Grubenhoff
 - Mr. Grubenhoff will draft a letter to MARTA regarding interest in the land and submit it to City Manager Brown.
 - DDA recommended Layne Whitehead-Lee for the open board position.
 - DDA will submit draft job description for the Director of Economic Development to the Board of Mayor and Commissioners.
- (c) Lake Avondale Advisory Board – Camilla Warren
 - Board recommended Daniel Deocampo for the open board position. Mayor Rieker asked City Manager Brown to confer with Sandra Neuse regarding whether the board is interested in adding more than five members since there were several excellent candidates for the open board position.

Item No. 7

Unopened Stratford Road Quitclaim Deed

City Manager Brown noted that back in August of last year it was determined that the City did not own the unopened road of the Stratford Road stub so the property reverted back to property ownership to the abutting property owners. City Manager Brown stated that the property

owner of 8 Lakeshore Plaza (Keith Brown and Karen Hennessey) has submitted a quitclaim deed with legal descriptions. City Manager Brown noted that it has already been through the City Attorney and he has approved to form for the Mayor of Board of Commissioners to approve.

Mayor Rieker requested this item be added to the agenda for April 27th

Item No. 8 LEED Ordinance

Camille Harvey presented the LEED ordinance. Ms. Harvey will forward to the board an electronic version of the draft ordinance. Mayor Rieker noted that he would like for the Planning and Zoning Board and Downtown Development Authority to review the document.

Item No. 9 Consideration of a Proclamation for Municipal Clerks Week, May 3-9, 2009

Mayor Rieker requested this item be added to the agenda for April 27th

Item No. 10 Lake Management Agreement

City Manager Brown noted that this is an agreement with Aquascape Environmental to control the algae and other maintenance to the lake. City Manager Brown noted there were four bids and they sent all of them to the Lake Board and they agreed on Aquascape.

Mayor Pro tem Varian noted that Ted Penrod was concerned about the algae in the lake and suggested the fish be restocked to control the algae. City Manager Brown will contact Mr. Penrod.

Mayor Rieker requested this item be added to the agenda for April 27th

Item No. 11 4th of July Contract Proposal

City Manager Brown this is the proposal for the music and fireworks for the 4th of July. City Manager Brown noted that the one he is proposing is a \$10,225 agreement.

Mayor Rieker asked that a copy of the proposal be placed in the board packets on Friday.

Item No. 12 Overall Communication Strategy

Mayor Rieker noted this was discussed at the last work session when it came up about the timeliness of putting the agendas on the website, communicating with

the residents, email newsletter that the City, those types of issues that the City is trying to work through and put some performance standards in place and be a little more communicative.

Mayor Pro tem Varian stated it is just a matter of timeliness in getting things out quicker and more information on the website and instead of coming from a source it is coming from an official source.

Mayor Rieker noted that he knows we took down the bulletin board previously and there is a potential if we manage it better in terms of putting some rules and terms of service on there he thinks we have the ability to give the citizens a mechanism where they can interact with the City.

Commissioner Steadman stated that she thinks you can get an independent moderator who can take things off that are not appropriate.

Mayor Rieker asked City Manager Brown to get price quotes on some type of discussion board for the website.

BREAK: 7:00 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:07 p.m.

Item No. 13 Preliminary Review of 2009 Tax Digest & Millage Worksheet

Mayor Rieker asked when the 2008 budget amendment ordinance. Mayor Rieker asked the board to review.

City Manager noted that we have already done two readings and the third reading will be done on Monday.

Mayor Rieker asked that the budget amendment be placed on the Monday agenda.

City Manager Brown noted that on the Friday the board received the millage rollback computation worksheet and the 5-year tax digest. City Manager Brown noted that the numbers are preliminary and they will most likely change. City Manager Brown noted that preliminary review is to provide the board with a beginning point to consider in your deliberations to decide what the 2009 millage rate is going to be and the tax revenue.

Mayor Rieker requested that a public hearing be held on May 13th with adoption on May 18th.

Item No. 14 Board Appointments – Lake Avondale Advisory Board and Downtown Development Authority

Lake Advisory Board recommended Daniel Deocampo and the Downtown Development Authority recommended Layne Whitehead-Lee.

Mayor Rieker requested this item be added to the agenda for April 27th

Item No. 15 Discussion of Ethics Procedure

Item Deferred

Item No. 16 Public Comment

Linda Nardone, 101 Berkeley stated that she saw in the Dekalb Neighbor where they noted about Lake Avondale being open to the public for fishing. City Manager Brown will call the Dekalb Neighbor and have them do a correction. Ms. Nardone also commended Camille Harvey on all her work on the LEED Ordinance. Ms. Nardone also noted that sometimes people are out quite late fishing and some do not have permit and she suggested some type of signage be put up stating to come up to City Hall for a fishing permit.

Betty Jones, 10 Lakeview Place spoke about the article on the Dekalb Neighbor regarding fishing at Lake Avondale.

Kenny Newman, 7 Lakeview Place spoke about the LEED Ordinance.

Item No. 17 Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. was made by Mayor Pro tem Varian, seconded by Commissioner Steadman, passed with all ayes (4-0).

Approved this 27th day of July, 2009

Ed Rieker, Mayor

ATTEST:

Juliette Sims-Owens, City Clerk