

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

August 19, 2009
5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Ed Rieker, Mayor
Michael Payne, Commissioner
David Milliron, Commissioner

Members Absent: Sandra Varian, Mayor Pro tem
Lyda Steadman, Commissioner

Staff Present: Clai Brown, City Manager
Juliette Sims, City Clerk
Ken Turner, Finance Director

Guests: Ashley Phillips, Atlanta Regional Commission
Kellie Brownlow, Atlanta Regional Commission
June Nichols, Atlanta, Regional Commission

Item No. 1 Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Rieker.

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda

City Manager Brown reminded the board of the Special Called Work Session to walk the lake with the Lake Board on September 17th at 5:30 p.m.

A motion to adopt the agenda as presented made by Commissioner Milliron, seconded by Commissioner Payne, passed with all ayes (3-0).

Item No. 3 Board Update:

- (a) Planning and Zoning Board (Keith Melton) – Mr. Melton gave a report from the Planning and Zoning Board on the proposed LEED Ordinance. Mr. Melton also gave an update on Fenner Dunlop.
- (b) Downtown Development Authority (Bart Webb) – Mr. Webb distributed and commented to the board the Downtown Development Authorities comments on the proposed LEED Ordinance.

Item No. 4 ARC Salary Survey Results

Ashley Phillips of the Atlanta Regional Commission introduced June Nichols and Kellie Brownlow. Ms. Phillips noted that they were here tonight to explain the process they went through for the salary survey and

their recommendation. Ms. Phillips noted after their review of everything they developed the new pay scale. Ms. Phillips distributed and discussed the market survey that was done and the new pay scale. Ms. Phillips noted that the Public Works Department was affected the most, a few in the police department and administration. Ms. Phillips stated that to bring everyone up to the new minimum will be \$16,500 annually. Ms. Phillips stated that it is the recommendation of the Atlanta Regional Commission that the board adopt this new pay scale. Ms. Phillips recommended that every year the City do a market and regional salary survey and they would be happy to that for the City at no cost.

City Manager Brown noted that he is still sorting through the employees who were recommended to be moved up to the new minimum because there could be some job performance issues, tenure involved, etc. but he recommended the board move ahead. City Manager noted that he would like to implement it this year which would cost a little over \$5440.

Commissioner Payne stated that we need to do what is right.

Commissioner Milliron noted that he was glad the City did the salary survey. Commissioner Milliron noted that he is anxious to see the budget modifications from the City Manager at the next budget meeting.

Commissioner Payne stated that we need to do what is right.

Mayor Rieker noted that the board needs to adopt this into the budget.

City Manager Brown stated we could probably do it before that, he will check on that but normally these get done in the budget.

Mayor Rieker stated to City Manager Brown if he had any other 2009 budget things that needed to be done before the end of the year for him to provide that so it can all be done before the end of the year.

It was the consensus of the board to move forward with the new pay scale.

Item No. 5

Conditional Use Application of InMovement Inc.

City Manager Brown noted that InMovement Inc. has applied for a conditional use permit to open up a dance studio at 38 North Avondale Road which is right next to Urban Grounds. City Manger Brown noted that the company used to be in the City back in 2001 at the Towne Cinema. City Manager Brown noted that in the Zoning Ordinance, Article 9 (Specialized Schools), Section 815(4-D) includes a dancing school and in order for them

to obtain a business license and open up, the Board of Mayor and Commissioners needs to approve their conditional use application.

It was the consensus of the board to move forward with this conditional use application. Mayor Rieker asked that this item be put on the August 24th agenda.

Item No. 6

2010 Budget Review

Mayor Rieker noted that he sent an email via the City Manager Brown that tonight he would like for staff to give a highlight introduction of the budget and then the board members can discuss in a high level spot tonight and then staff will obviously go back and run more numbers. Mayor Rieker noted that the board has plenty of more meetings to review budget.

City Manager Brown did an overview of the budget.

Commissioner Payne stated he would like to see how the numbers come out.

Commissioner Milliron noted he loves the signs but the community could raise \$20,000 as opposed to seeing that as a line item. Commissioner Milliron noted that he would like to know a cost analysis, mileage or justification to understand why the City needs a police car every year.

Mayor Rieker thanked City Manager Brown and Finance Director Ken Turner for all their work on the budget.

Commissioner Million stated that the budget workshops that he has attended keep saying that the City should have overtime as a line item instead of a department by department item. Commissioner Milliron asked if that was Mr. Turner's understanding of accounting.

Finance Director Turner stated that at this particular government the legal level of budgetary control is at the departmental level and that is why it is budgeted in that department and it is expensed in that department.

Commissioner Milliron asked to hear the board's thoughts on pay raises for next year.

Mayor Rieker stated that his preference is for staff to go back and change these numbers and to balance it and then that will be a better reflection as to where he wants to go.

Commissioner Payne stated that since this is just the first glance he would rather wait as well.

Commissioner Milliron asked who the salaried employees are in the City.

City Manager Brown said himself, Ken, Bryan and Gary.

Commissioner Milliron asked does it not make since to have our City Clerk as a salaried employee.

City Manager Brown stated yes it does and he is working on that.

Commissioner Milliron noted that it was not reflected in the budget yet.

City Manager Brown stated not yet.

Mayor Rieker asked staff to revise the budget and then bring back to the board and then they can start looking at it and start determining what some of the priorities are.

Item No. 7

Zoning Consultant for the 10%

City Manager Brown stated he had spoken with several firms regarding finalizing the zoning ordinance 90/10 and based off of what he has seen he is recommending the Atlanta Regional Commission. City Manager Brown noted that the timeline is a six month process and the cost would be \$5000.

Mayor Rieker recommended this item be moved to the August 24th agenda.

Item No. 8

Annexation Financial Data

Item Deferred

Item No. 9

Graffiti Ordinance

City Manager Brown noted that that Section 5-473(b) has been revised where if the owner is convicted of violating not removing the graffiti on the property they only pay the cost of the removal of the graffiti.

Commissioner Payne stated that leaves it in the discretion of the court.

City Manager Brown stated that is correct.

Mayor Rieker recommended this item be moved to the August 24th agenda.

Item No. 10 Safety Resolution

City Manager Brown noted that the City does not currently have a safety program and he is seeking approval to pass a resolution to incorporate a new Safety Manual into the Personnel Management System

Commissioner Payne asked if it would impact the City's insurance rates.

City Manager Brown stated yes.

Commissioner Milliron noted that a recurring issue that he also gets from citizens is staff on cell phones while they are operating equipment or driving trucks.

Mayor Rieker recommended this item be moved to the August 24th agenda.

Item No. 11 4th of July 2010 (Sunday)

City Manager Brown noted that 4th of July in 2010 is on a Sunday. City Manager Brown stated that staff recommendation is to have the 4th of July activities on Saturday, July 3rd. City Hall is closed on July 5th. City Manager Brown stated that this is something to think about and the board does not have to decide at this time.

Mayor Rieker asked that this be deferred for a couple of months.

Item No. 12 9/11 Ceremony

City Manager Brown noted that last year he jumped on this at the last minute and this year he is trying to do it real nice. City Manager Brown stated that he has a bag piper, and he is working on someone doing an opening prayer, singers, the Fire Chief from DeKalb County is going to come, and Fire Department 3 is going to lower the flag. City Manager Brown stated he just wanted to let the board know how the planning was coming.

Mayor Rieker stated it would be nice to invite other cities such as Clarkston. City Manager Brown stated he will take care of that.

Mayor Rieker stated just for the record, there is apparently a lawsuit with Century and Simco Interiors. Mayor Rieker noted that the City does not have anything do with that and it has to do with the Maplestreet project.

Mayor Rieker questioned the minutes from the July 22nd Work Session. Mayor Rieker noted that he thought that the environmental committee spoke at the end. The City Clerk noted that it was during the public comment and it is noted there.

Item No. 13

Public Comment

Kenny Newman, 7 Lakeview Place, stated that she believes the City can generate the money for the new signs and she doesn't think the City should spend \$20,000 on the signs. Ms. Newman noted she doesn't know why no one has come up with a historical marker that we could actually celebrate the policemen, the fireman, and emergency medical service she feels they should be honored as well when we do 9/11.

Mayor Rieker asked Ms. Newman to send him an email so he can know more about it what she would like before 9/11 of next year.

Julie Feely, 2 Dartmouth Avenue stated that she had attended the ARC Community Planning Academy and she is going to make a copy of the book which is very helpful and leave it at City Hall.

Item No. 14

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. was made by Commissioner Payne, seconded by Commissioner Milliron, passed with all ayes (3-0).