

BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 24, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

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

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

Item No. 1 Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor Rieker.

Item No. 2 Invocation (Commissioner Milliron)

Item No. 3 Pledge to the Flag

Item No. 4 Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Milliron, seconded by Commissioner Steadman, passed with all ayes (5-0).

Item No. 5 Approval of Minutes

July 22, 2009 Regular Work Session
July 27, 2009 Regular Meeting

A motion to adopt the minutes as presented was made by Commissioner Payne, seconded by Mayor Pro tem Varian; passed with all ayes (5-0).

Item No. 6 Commissioner Updates – Subjects of General Interest and Concern

Mayor Pro tem Varian stated that she is delighted that Tricia Bowers is back in Avondale. Mayor Pro tem Varian thanked the Police Department who heard she was out of town and they checked on her house. Mayor Pro tem Varian thanked Bryan Armstead, Director of Public Works and his staff.

Item No. 7 Monthly Report by the City Manager Concerning the Status of Matters in Progress and Upcoming Issues and Events

City Manager Brown introduced Chief Broden and Bryan Armstead, Director of Public Works.

- City Manager Brown read two letters one thanking the police department for doing a security check on a home and one thanking the Public Works Department regarding a tree that fell down on Stratford Road. Bryan Armstead and his crew came out at 2:00 a.m. to cut up the tree so people could get up and down the road.

- City Manager Brown noted that as everyone is aware the City received a \$5,000 health grant and the City is promoting good health to our associates. City Manager Brown stated that coming up in September and October the City is offering free flu shots and lipid profiles to our associates.
- City Manager Brown stated that this past Saturday the City held its child and parent safety training down at the park, 60 people were in attendance.
- City Manager Brown noted that interviews were held with engineering firms because the City has to map and survey the entire stormwater infrastructure of the City. City Manager Brown noted that he will be presenting to the board at the next work session the firm that was selected.
- City Manager Brown noted that the City will be holding a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Dewey Brown Plaza in remembrance of the ones who lost their lives on that tragic day. City Manager Brown stated that the entire ceremony will only last about 30 minutes.
- City Manager Brown thanked Mann Mechanical who donated \$1000 to the Tree Fund. City Manager Brown noted that November 7th is the next tree planting day. City Manager Brown stated that the City will be planting 50-70 trees.
- City Manager Brown noted on August 27th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Our Way Café the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children invites all parents, no children, and other concerned adults to attend its “No Child Be at Risk Prevention Workshop.” The workshop will give parents the tools they need to try to keep their kids safe.

Mayor Rieker asked what the start time is of the 9/11 Ceremony.

City Manager Brown stated they are working on that but it will probably be 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Rieker asked City Manager Brown if there was any update on Century on the Publix.

City Manager Brown stated that he spoke to Century last week and they are getting very close in securing the financing to do all three of their projects.

Mayor Rieker noted that City Manager has been working on securing the MARTA property that is north of the lay down yard which is the place where they are storing things. Mayor Rieker noted that the City is talking to the county and MARTA about a new fire station on that property.

Item No. 8

Citizens' Comments

Carolyn Chandler, 2996 Majestic Circle stated that David Milliron, Rosemary Malone and one of their school board members and Stephanie Stuckey-Benfield met with the school about the school basketball goals that she mentioned to the board in a previous work session. Ms. Chandler noted that everything seems to be rolling along and they have actually ordered two. Ms. Chandler also thanked the police department for doing the security checks.

Mayor Rieker thanked Ms. Chandler for getting the basketball goals.

Alcie Thornton, 71 Clarendon Avenue stated that the information that is coming regularly from the City, the newsletter and the Chiefs blog is just delightful and they appreciate it very much.

Board thanked City Clerk Juliette Sims-Owens.

Item No. 9

Old Business

- a) 2nd Reading of the Ordinance to Increase the City Manager's Threshold Limit

City Manager Brown read of the 2nd reading of three readings of the Ordinance to Increase the City Manager's Threshold Limit.

Mayor Rieker noted that what the City is doing is trying to update some of the budgetary things the City is doing to make it more efficient.

- b) 2nd Reading of the Ordinance Amend the Ordinance to Establish Due Compensation Applicable to any Telegraph or Telephone Company

City Manager Brown read the 2nd reading of three readings of the Ordinance to Amend the Ordinance to Establish Due Compensation Applicable to any Telegraph or Telephone Company.

Mayor Rieker noted this is something the state is making us do to make us get in line with some laws they passed and it starts in 2013.

Item No. 10

New Business

- a) Safety Resolution

City Manager Brown stated that he is asking the board to adopt a resolution that will establish a Safety Policy and Manual for the City of Avondale Estates which will help create a safer working environment for all City staff.

Public Comment: None

A motion to adopt the Safety Resolution was made by Mayor Pro tem Varian, seconded by Commissioner Payne; passed with all ayes (5-0)

- b) 1st Reading of the Graffiti Ordinance

City Manager Brown read the 1st reading of three readings of the Graffiti Ordinance.

- c) Resolution for new salary pay scale

City Manager Brown stated this is the resolution for a new pay scale for the City of Avondale Estates. City Manager Brown noted that the Atlanta Regional Commission just finished a pay scale study for the City that assessed the wages currently paid by the City and that compared the same

in a lot of other local governments around and City Manager Brown is asking the board to adopt a resolution that approves the recommendation pay scale approved by the Atlanta Regional Commission.

Mayor Rieker noted that the net impact this year to the City budget is around \$5000. Mayor Rieker stated what it does is align our pay scale with some of the other cities that are around so we don't get behind.

Public Comment:

Ted Penrod, 62 Lakeshore Drive, stated net increase, net decrease where are we going with this and is it a good time for this.

Mayor Rieker stated net increase up, so \$5000 more. Mayor Rieker noted that if the City does not do it we are going to get behind and behind and it affects a handful of particular positions that are underpaid right now and yes it is a good time for this.

A motion to adopt the new pay scale was made by Commissioner Milliron seconded by Commissioner Payne; passed with all ayes (4-0) – Commissioner Steadman abstained.

d) Conditional Use Permit 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 next to Urban Grounds. City Manager Brown noted they were here in 2001 and he recommends approving the application.

Mayor Rieker noted that the City has a chart in its zoning that has conditional use that the board has to vote on and one of them falls under specialized schools.

Public Comment: None

A motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit Application for InMovement, Inc. was made by Commissioner Milliron seconded by Commissioner Payne; passed with all ayes (5-0)

Mayor Pro tem Varian asked Tricia Bowers if many of her students get dropped off.

Tricia Bowers of InMovement stated yes, and Urban Grounds will become their waiting room which gives them business.

e) Approval for Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) to finish the Zoning Ordinance

City Manager Brown noted that last month the board asked him to find a zoning consultant to finish the zoning ordinance the 90/10% and he would like the board's approval to again allow the Atlanta Regional Commission to assist the City with a comprehensive review and final completion of

Avondale Estates Zoning Ordinance. The process will take about six months and will cost about \$5000.

Mayor Rieker asked what the other bid was the City received.

City Manager Brown stated \$16,000.

Mayor Rieker stated what this does is help us finish up the zoning that we just passed February 11, 2009.

Public Comment: None

A motion to approve the Atlanta Regional Commission to finish the Zoning Ordinance was made by Commissioner Steadman seconded by Commissioner Payne; passed with all ayes (5-0)

Item No. 11

Announcements (Commissioner Milliron)

- a) The annual Labor Day Race will be held on Monday, September 7, 2009. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Entry forms are available on the City website and at City Hall.
- b) City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2009 in observance of Labor Day.
- c) City-Wide Annual Autumn Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2009 from 9:00am-4:00pm at the Avondale First Baptist Church Parking Lot. To Reserve a space contact Karen Holmes at 404-294-5400. Spaces are \$20.00 and payment must be submitted by September 18th.

We regretfully announce the deaths of:
Stephen Kasper, Former Resident
Ski Hilenski, 8 Fairfield Plaza

Item No. 12

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. was made by Commissioner Milliron, seconded by Commissioner Steadman, passed with all ayes (5-0).