

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL CALLED WORK SESSION**

May 12, 2010  
6:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Ed Rieker, Mayor  
David Milliron, Mayor Pro Tem  
Terry Giager, Commissioner  
Michael Payne, Commissioner  
Gene Lee, Commissioner – arrived at 6:05 p.m.

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

**Guests:** DeKalb County Planning & Development Department

Item No. 1 Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Rieker

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Payne, seconded by Commissioner Giager, passed with all ayes (4-0).

Item No. 3 Fenner Dunlop Land Use Visioning Concept – DeKalb County Planning Department

The DeKalb County Planning & Development Department presented the Visual Preference Survey (VPS) & Visioning Exercise Results. The Planning Department noted that the purpose of the meeting tonight is to view the results from the VPS and visioning exercise, to present to the City the draft Fenner-Dunlop vision plan, view/discuss the draft concept map and answer any questions.

Mayor Rieker asked that the vision plan be placed on the City website.

City Manager Brown stated after this meeting the DeKalb County Planning & Development Department will go back and incorporate the information gathered at tonight's meeting and complete the final vision plan and concept map.

Break: 6:50 p.m.

Resume: 7:10 p.m.

Item No. 4 Entrance Signs

City Manager Brown stated that he wanted to give the board an update on the status of the entrance signs. City Manager Brown noted that GDOT has put a hold on the entrance sign at our west entrance and they have approved the eastside entrance. City Manager Brown stated that the reason why they have put a hold on the west entrance sign, is because it is in the right-of-way which we knew in the beginning and the City has been meeting with GDOT and going back and forth on an answer since January 2010. City Manager Brown stated that they gave the approval to put the sign up then they said stop because the sign is not a breakaway sign, the City redesigned the sign to make it a breakaway and they gave the approval to put the sign up, then they said we have to be out of the clear zone so the City moved the sign over and we were out of the clear zone and they said we could put the sign up, and about two weeks ago they came back again and said no the City could not put the sign up. City Manager Brown stated that he is in the process of setting up a meeting for next week for the Mayor Rieker and him to meet with GDOT on the west sign.

Mayor Pro Tem Milliron asked if the eastbound sign by the American Legion is on City property.

City Manager Brown stated yes it is on City property.

Mayor Pro Tem Milliron stated that someone there recently made a comment that the sign was on their property and that they were not in the City of Avondale.

City Manager Brown stated that he would look into it.

Item No. 5 2010 Millage Rate

City Manager Brown noted that in the board's packet last week they received the millage rollback computation worksheet and a six year history of the levy. City Manager Brown stated that we are in the process of finalizing the millage. City Manager Brown noted that the numbers that are in there are preliminary and they are going to change again but he does not know how much. City Manager Brown stated that the reason for sending the information to the board was for the board to review, consider and deliberate the setting of the millage rate for 2010.

Mayor Rieker stated that after reviewing the information, his preference is to keep the millage rate at 11.0. Mayor Rieker asked City Manager if there were three more meetings and public hearing left for the millage.

City Manager Brown stated that the county is behind and they probably will push back the first installment because they have had so many appeals they

are still trying to get caught up on all of the appeals which are about 15,000+ appeals. City Manager Brown stated that the first reading will be next week and the second reading will be in the regular meeting, a public hearing June 6<sup>th</sup> and the third reading will be right after the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Milliron stated it is not in appeals yet, they got overwhelmed with the tax statements and they have just started sending out the responses to the tax statements and then they will start sending out the tax notices which will start the appeal process.

Mayor Rieker noted that he will be able to make next weeks meeting.

Commissioner Payne stated that he will be out of town.

Item No. 6 Public Comment

Robert Drake of the Academy Theater, 119 Center Street thanked the board and noted that going forward, especially given where some of the businesses are that are caught between what is going on with Century and the potential for Fenner Dunlop, he encouraged the board to reach out and communicate with the businesses so that they have a good sense of what is going on so that they can plan going forward.

Mayor Rieker stated that you have to understand that the City does not own any property so if someone buys the property and they want to build to the zoning code and they get permits, they can build whatever fits in that zoning code. Mayor Rieker noted that if you are in building that gets bought by somebody; the City does not have any say.

Robert Drake of the Academy Theater, 119 Center Street stated what the City can do is inform them of what is the process that is going on. Mr. Drake stated that he found out about this meeting through David Milliron and Laura Leckband.

City Manager Brown asked if he was signed up for the City e-news.

Robert Drake of the Academy Theater, 119 Center Street stated that he has given his email before but it does not seem to get to him.

Mayor Pro Tem Milliron stated that next week in the work session won't there be an update on Century.

Mayor Rieker stated there will be an update on Century and the zoning.

Item No. 7 Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. was made by Commissioner Payne, seconded by Commissioner Lee; passed with all ayes (5-0).

Approved this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010

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Ed Rieker, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Juliette Sims-Owens, City Clerk