

**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
March 25, 2019
6:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

Members Present: Jonathan Elmore, Mayor
Brian Fisher, Mayor Pro Tem
Adela Yelton, Commissioner
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner

Members Absent: Lionel Laratte, Commissioner

Staff Present: Patrick Bryant, City Manager
Paul Hanebuth, Finance Director
Stephen Quinn, City Attorney
Gina Hill, City Clerk

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order

Item No. 2 Invocation (Mayor Pro Tem Fisher)

Item No. 3 Pledge to the Flag

Item No. 4 Adoption of Agenda
Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to adopt. Commissioner Shortell seconds.
All ayes.

Item No. 5 Commissioner Updates – Subject of General Interest and Concern

Commissioner Yelton thanks everyone who was able to come to the visit with the commissioners at Wild Heaven Brewery. She was pleased that City Manager Bryant was also present. Commissioner Shortell commented on the successful German festival the previous weekend. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher thanked Mark Green for a fantastic Community Day at First Baptist Church Avondale the previous day. Mayor Elmore praised the festival as well. He said he spoke with the organizer who said they would like to return next year. Mr. Bryant felt the commissioner visits are a great idea and he'd like to continue having them. He also went to Fruhlingfest and said one business owner told him they had their best day ever on Saturday. He also thanked the church for hosting Community Day.

Item No. 6

Citizens' Comments:

"It's another beautiful day in Avondale Estates" – Thomas P. Samford

George Kennedy, resident and business owner, spoke about the proposed closure of Center Street. He has concerns about noise, alcohol, and traffic. He also says he was disappointed in the way this proposal was handled and communicated with business and property owners. Mayor Elmore says he would like to meet with Mr. Kennedy to discuss his concerns.

Ed Rieker, another resident and property owner, also shared concerns. He felt the closure would have a negative effect on traffic flow and access to businesses. He told the BOMC that many other businesses were not contacted about this change and he wondered if the entire DDA was supportive of the proposal. He believed that more temporary closures, such as for festivals, was more acceptable. In response to a question from Commissioner Shortell, Mr. Rieker said going an extra block to turn off the main road would make his business harder to find and reach. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher recounts how this issue came about. He also said he didn't feel like the Board was prepared to vote on it. Ms. Shortell wanted to clarify that the open container and entertainment district issue has not been fully researched, discussed, or acted upon. Mr. Rieker also took issue with how this proposal was handled and communicated.

Joe Anizano asked for an update on the path flooding issue at Lake Avondale. Mr. Bryant says staff has been conferring with engineers Clark Patterson Lee and he will share an update at an April 10th special called meeting.

Item No. 7

Old Business:

Second Reading of the Sign Ordinance Amendment

Mayor Elmore said there will be a third reading and a public hearing on this on April 10th.

Item No. 8

New Business:

First Reading of Floodplain Management Ordinances

City Manager Bryant explains why this is needed.

Resolution to Authorize Investments

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to approve. Commissioner Shortell seconds. All ayes.

Resolution for Fidelity Bank Cash Management Agreement

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to approve. Commissioner Shortell seconds. All ayes.

Resolution to Temporarily Close Center Street from Potter Avenue south to North Avondale Road

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to defer. Commissioner Shortell seconds. All ayes.

Commissioner Shortell asks that when this topic is reintroduced that all stakeholders get plenty of advance notice. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher agreed and apologized that he was unaware that this item was on the agenda to be voted on. There is a consensus to discuss this again possibly in the April work session. There is more discussion about the dangerous aspects of that intersection. Michael Berry is present on behalf of the owner of the new business going into the Avondale Theater space. He says the owner, Michael Gay, is looking forward to working together on these solutions.

Resolution to Donate Property to DeKalb County for Signal Upgrade Project

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to approve. Commissioner Shortell seconds. All ayes.

City Manager Bryant says staff has asked some questions of the County and has not gotten a response. He adds the resolution just gives staff authority to enter into an agreement but that doesn't necessarily mean that will happen. Mr. Bryant will report back to the BOMC before entering into any agreement.

Resolution for North Woods Grant Affidavit

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to approve. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

Resolution to Approve the Purchase of Two Police Cars

Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to approve. Commissioner Shortell seconds. All ayes.

City Manager Bryant discusses the cost savings associated with these new vehicles compared to cars the City has owned in the past. He adds that police vehicles will be part of a long-term capital plan. Commissioner Shortell thanks Mr. Bryant for exploring more environmentally friendly options.

Item No. 9

Announcements (Mayor Pro Tem Fisher)

The Avondale Farmers Market Opening day will be Sunday, April 7th. Hours this year will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

And another Avondale ArtWalk will be held on Saturday the 13th from 4 to 8 p.m.

Finally, with spring comes the City's traditional Easter weekend events. The Easter Egg Hunt and Dog Parade will take place Saturday, April 20th while the Classic Car Parade will weave its way through neighborhood streets on Easter Sunday. Keep your eye on the City website and E-news for more details.

Item No. 10

Adjournment

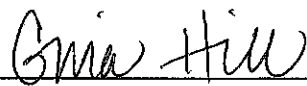
Mayor Pro Tem Fisher moves to adjourn. Commissioner Yelton seconds. All ayes.

APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF APRIL 2019



Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gina Hill, City Clerk