



**BOARD OF MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

**5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

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

Members Absent: Lionel Laratte, Commissioner  
Lisa Shortell, Commissioner

Staff Present: Gina Hill, City Clerk  
Rebecca Long, Communications Manager

Item No. 1 Meeting Called to Order

Item No. 2 Adoption of Agenda  
Commissioner Fisher moves to adopt. Commissioner Yelton seconds.  
All ayes.

Item No. 3 **Resolution Setting Tax Inducement Criteria**  
With development becoming more common in the City, the Board of Mayor and Commissioners (BOMC) wishes to formally establish criteria for how tax inducement (also referred to as bond for title or tax abatement) is considered should a developer request it.

Commissioner Yelton explains more about the resolution. Mayor Elmore says he supports it. Resident Kathy Kingsbury asks the Board to include language guaranteeing they would make any study or analysis available to the public at least 10 days before voting on any tax abatements. Commissioner Fisher discusses the current process and how the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is involved. Yelton made a motion to take the suggestion into consideration for a later amendment but that they will vote on the resolution now as is. Fisher seconds. All ayes. Resident Joe Anizano expresses concerns about the time constraints and recommended lowering her request to something like three days. Elmore adds that the City Attorney should weigh in on this. Lyda Steadman asks if this resolution means the City could anticipate more tax abatements. She adds that experts are saying that giving tax abatements could be a mistake for small cities. She cited South City Partners. Elmore says he feels like the tax abatement there was the right

decision. He gives Chamblee as an example of a city that has used tax abatements to grow.

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

Item No. 4

**Resolution to Approve Vote on Sunday Brunch Bill**

The State of Georgia now allows cities to regulate alcohol consumption in restaurants on Sundays from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm. For this to be included in a referendum here during the November 6<sup>th</sup> election, DeKalb County requires a resolution be passed.

Mayor Elmore is in support of this bill and feels it would be helpful for Avondale businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Fisher and Commissioner Yelton agree. No public comment.

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

Item No. 5

**Resolution to Approve Communications Plan**

The communications plan, along with the public comment policy, was first discussed at the April 18<sup>th</sup> work session. The BOMC has received input and comments on several occasions since then. The City Attorney has also reviewed the draft. The public comment policy was approved at the July 24<sup>th</sup> regular meeting.

Commissioner Yelton thanks City staff for putting the plan together. She says she looks forward to a strategic portion of the plan and tactical items to come at a later date. No public comment.

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

Item No. 6

Public Comment: None

Item No. 7

Adjournment

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

APPROVED THIS 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan Elmore, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gina Hill, City Clerk