

**MINUTES  
CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 22, 2011**

Meeting Location: City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue

Attendees: Jace Brooks, Mayor Pro Tem  
Daniel F. Foster, Councilmember  
Richard I. Goodman, Councilmember  
Kevin McOmber, Councilmember  
Marty Allen, City Manager  
Elvira Rogers, City Clerk  
Gregory Jay, City Attorney

Absent: Dave Williams, Mayor  
Jimmy Burnette, Councilmember

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**5:30 P.M.  
DINNER SESSION  
BIG SPLASH ROOM, #2302**

**1. City Council Informal Session**

*Informal discussion among City Councilmembers and staff. Food provided for Elected Officials and staff. No action to be taken during session.*

**There was no public hearing this evening.**

**7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**2. Call to Order**

Mayor Pro Tem Brooks called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

**3. Announcements**

- a. Suwanee is seeking artists to participate in the second annual Arts in the Park celebration on Saturday, May 21. Hundreds of people will come to Town Center Park to celebrate, appreciate, and witness art in all its various, wonderful forms, from fine art to performance art. Exhibitors will be selected through a jury process, and the number of artists in each category will be limited. More information and an exhibitor application are available at [www.suwaneeartsinthepark.com](http://www.suwaneeartsinthepark.com). The application deadline is April 1.

- b. The 2011 Snap Suwanee winners are now on display in the first floor lobby. The 13 photos displayed were selected as winners from among 114 entries received from 35 shutterbugs. The winning photos will be on display through the remainder of the year. If there was a common theme in this year's entries, it would be the snow that arrived in Suwanee, both in February and on Christmas day of last year. More than two dozen of the entries featured snow.
- c. We'd like to thank the community for participating in the last week's 2nd annual **Get It in the Gateway** promotion. Approximately 250 entries were received and eight individuals walked away winners! Michelle Partee was the grand prize winner, taking home a pair of Lady Gaga tickets as well as four Gwinnett Braves tickets. Participants used clues, provided via Facebook and the City's website, to decipher featured businesses, where they could then register for daily prizes as well as the grand prize. Thanks to the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Gwinnett Braves for grand prize tickets and to the Gateway businesses that provided daily prizes.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance – Troop 56, Creekland Middle School**

**5. Approval of Minutes**

**a. February 22, 2011 Council Meeting minutes**

*Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 4-0.*

**6. Special Presentation: 2010 National Citizen Survey**

*City Manager Marty Allen presented the results from the 2010 survey.*

**7. Special Recognition**

Mayor Pro Tem Brooks announced the following awards received by staff at the Southeast Festivals & Events Association Conference - Kaleidoscope Awards:

**Bronze Award:** Best event within an event - Chalk Walk @ Arts in the park

**Silver Award:** Best Festival under \$75,000 - Suwanee Day; Best Green Component – Suwanee Day

- a. **Doug Schwendy** – Denise Brinson stated that Mr. Schwendy was recognized as the Best Volunteer (Suwanee Day) at the Conference.
- b. **Suwanee area Spelling Bee Winners**
  - i. **Maddie Edwards** - *Riverside E.S. winner*
  - ii. **Nicholas McCormick** - *Level Creek E.S. winner*
  - iii. **Christy Daniel** - *Roberts E.S. winner; represented County in Final 12 at district spelling bee.*
  - iv. **Sumedh Garimella** – *Parsons E.S. winner; Gwinnett County First Runner Up; will represent School and County at State Spelling Bee.*
  - v. **Asad Ladhani** - *North Gwinnett M.S. winner; Gwinnett County winner*

- vi. **Shruthi Santhanam** (unable to attend) – *Last year’s County winner; this year Suwanee E.S. winner and District winner; will represent School and County at State Spelling Bee*

**8. Adoption of Agenda**

*Motion by Councilmember Foster to Adopt the Agenda removing item 17. Executive Session, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 4-0.*

**9. Audience Participation – None.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**10. Consider Adoption of Pedestrian Bicycle Plan (formerly known as Alternative Transportation Plan/ATP)**

*The City has been working with Pond and Company to produce an update to the Alternative Transportation Plan (ATP), now called the Pedestrian Bicycle Plan.*

*Motion by Councilmember Foster to postpone to the April 26 Council Meeting, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 4-0.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

**11. Consider Issuance of Special Event Alcohol Permits to Ippolito’s**

*Several of the special events include alcohol sales which requires the City to issue a special event alcohol permit. Staff recommends using Ippolito’s to serve at these events, which include the April 16 Oldies Birthday Bash, the May 7 Star 94 Woofstock, the June 25 Game on the Green, the August 13 Rock & Jock Fest/Concert, and the September 30 Festa della Pasta.*

*Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried 3-0-1 (Foster abstained).*

**12. Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Tunnell Spangler Walsh in an Amount Not to Exceed \$118,220 for Design of the Police Substation**

*The City received 18 proposals for design of this project. After reviewing each of them, staff interviewed the top five ranked firms. Staff recommends awarding this contract to Tunnell Spangler Walsh of Atlanta.*

*Motion to approve by Councilmember Foster, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 4-0.*

**13. Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Interface Studio in an Amount Not to Exceed \$150,000 for the Strategic Plan Consulting**

*The City received 10 proposals for consulting work related to the Strategic Plan. The City Council interviewed the top four ranked firms and selected Interface Studio of Philadelphia, PA as the top firm. Interface has teamed with Pond Ecos of Norcross and Market + Main of Atlanta for this project. The proposed contract is estimated at*

*\$143,434 plus reimbursable expenses (estimated at \$9,700). This project will extend into FY 12, with \$75,000 budgeted in FY 11 and the remaining \$75,000 to be included in the FY 12 budget.*

***Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 3-0-1 (McOmber abstained).***

Marty Allen, City Manager, stated the strategic plan is the next large initiative the City will undertake. This process will approximately 2-18 months. This process will include discussing overall goals and values of the community. This process will include community input. This will be a 10-year strategic course.

**14. Consider Adoption of 2011-2015 Short Term Work Program**

*Staff has prepared a draft version of the 2011-2015 STWP, based on direction from the February 3-5 Council work retreat.*

***Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 4-0.***

**15. Consider Approval of Buford Highway Improvement Project and Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Pedestrian Improvement Project for Inclusion on the Gwinnett County Project List for the Transportation Investment Act**

*Gwinnett County is developing a list of transportation projects for possible inclusion in the project list for the Transportation Investment Act. These include County-sponsored projects, as well as those sponsored by the municipalities. Suwanee is requesting inclusion of two projects: the Buford Highway Improvement Project and the pedestrian improvements on Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Both projects are included in the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and other adopted plans.*

***Motion to approve by Councilmember McOmber, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 4-0.***

**16. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approve FY 11 Budget Adjustment for Receipt of \$10,000 Grant from Governor's Office of Highway Safety**

*The GOHS has notified the Police Department that they will be awarded a \$10,000 grant. This grant will be used to purchase needed video and computer equipment for the department. The grant has been added to the FY 11 operating budget, allowing for expenditure in this fiscal year.*

**b. Declare Items as Surplus and Authorize Staff to Proceed with Sale**

*Staff has identified a list of items to be auctioned in a surplus sale. Staff proposes to once again use the Govdeals.com website for this sale.*

**c. Authorize Adoption of Right-of-Way Registration Agreement with TW Telecom of Georgia**

*The City's franchise agreement with TW (formerly Time Warner) expires this month. Gregory Jay and Georgia Municipal Association have reviewed and recommend adopting.*

**d. Adopt Ordinance to Amend Section 6-34, Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Proration of Alcohol License Fees and Other Purposes**

*This amendment to the City Code of Ordinances will provide for pro-rated billing, on a quarterly basis, for new alcohol licenses. This amendment applies to new applicants only and does not apply to existing licensees.*

***Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried 4-0.***

**17. Executive Session: Legal, Personnel, and/or Real Estate Issues** - removed from the agenda.

**18. Adjournment – Time: 7:46**

***Motion to Adjourn by Councilmember Foster, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried 4-0.***

**Approved 04/26/2011**