

**MINUTES
CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2012**

Meeting Location: City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue

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

Absent: Kevin McOmer, Councilmember

**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.

NO PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED

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

- 2. Call to Order**
Mayor Burnette called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
- 3. Organizational Matters for 2012**
 - a) Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore**
In accordance with Section 2.27 of the City Charter, by a majority of vote, the City Council shall elect a Councilmember to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for that ensuing year. The Mayor Pro Tempore shall assume duties and powers of the Mayor during the Mayor's disability or absence.

Motion by Councilmember Goodman to nominate Dan Foster as Mayor Pro Tem, second by Councilmember Jace Brooks. There were no additional nominations. The vote carried 5-0.

b) Adoption of Rules and Procedure

In accordance with Section 2.19 of the City Charter, the City Council shall each year adopt its rules of procedure and order of business. Staff recommends adopting Robert's Rules of Order, 10th Edition.

Motion by Councilmember Brooks to adopt Robert's Rules of Order 10th Edition, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 5-0.

c) Oath of Office for Election Superintendent

City Attorney Gregory Jay administered the Oath of Office to Administrative Services Director Elvira Rogers.

4. Announcements

- a) The Government Finance Officers Association has recognized the City with a **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** for the FY 2012 budget document. A panel of independent reviewers has completed evaluated the document and voted on this award. As GFOA states, "this award is the highest form of recognition in government budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization." In addition to receiving the award, budget document received the following special recognition: Outstanding as a Communications Device; and Special Performance Measures Recognition. This was the first year that the City's budget received special recognition, in addition to the Distinguished Budget award. Congratulations to Amie Sakmar and our Finance staff for this accomplishment!
- b) A guided audio tour/**podcast of the Suwanee SculpTour** is now available for download on iTunes. The podcast includes information about the 15 sculptures in the exhibit, as well as highlights of some of the City's permanent art pieces. Tour guides include two of our own – Councilmember and Public Arts Commission Chairman Dick Goodman and the City's receptionist, Annette Phelps. The tour also includes insights from the participating artists. The podcast can be downloaded from suwanee.com or by going to iTunes and searching for "Suwanee SculpTour."
- c) The City was recently awarded a \$3.3 million Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) grant from the Atlanta Regional Commission to reconstruct a portion of **Buford Highway**. The new design will be context sensitive and help connect pedestrians to a variety of activity centers, as well as safely accommodating multiple modes of transportation. Preliminary design work is set to begin in February, with construction anticipated to begin in 2013.
- d) Suwanee is once again participating in Keep Georgia Beautiful's **Bring One for the Chipper** program. Residents can drop off live Christmas trees at Sims Lake Park, through January 31st. Suwanee residents recycled over 1,000 trees last year, which the City used as mulch in various City parks.
- e) Construction is underway for the new 7,100 square-foot **police substation and training facility**, located at 2966 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road in the Suwanee Gateway area. The ceremonial groundbreaking was held on January 12th, leading the way for Hogan

Construction Group to begin their work. The facility will not only provide enhanced police presence in the Gateway area, but will provide class space for regional police training and indoor firearms practice. Construction is expected to take approximately eight months.

5. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Troop 827 of St. Monica's.

6. Approval of Minutes

a) December 8, 2011 Called Council Meeting

Motion by Councilmember Goodman to approve, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried 5-0.

b) December 20, 2011 Council Meeting

Motion by Councilmember Goodman to approve, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 5-0.

7. Special Recognition

a) 2011 Employee Award Winners

The Council recognized staff members who won an award in the annual employee awards program, held in November 2011. Marty Allen presented. Mayor Burnette expressed gratitude to all staff for their dedication and leadership.

8. Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Goodman to adopt the agenda as presented, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried 5-0.

9. Audience Participation

- Maurice Cook, 1342 Riverview Run Lane, Suwanee, GA. Mr. Cook objected that the word "complained" was used in the September 27, 2011 minutes when referencing his comments – "Mr. Cook complained old maps and outdated information being used". He stated that his remarks led to correction of errors in the pedestrian bicycle plan and City website. He also commented on the positions of former Mayors in the private sector and thought this was a conflict of interest with their job as an elected official. He commented that he may file a complaint with the Ethics Commission.
- Miles Williams, 740 Highway 23, Suwanee, GA. Mr. Williams commented regarding the 20/20 Vision. He believes the City is under the influence of outside people making decisions who don't live in Suwanee. The Vision of 20/20 will be a mandate – a path the City will follow. Resources should be the people who live here and pay taxes. Mr. Williams stated, to eliminate hear-say, he'd like to know who is on the 20/20 committees and how do you get on one of these committees.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Approve 2nd Quarter FY 2012 Budget Adjustments

The Police department was awarded a \$21,351 grant to purchase Rapid ID equipment (mobile fingerprinting). This budget adjustment reflects the additional grant revenue received and corresponding expenditure.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Foster to approve, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 5-0.

11. Approve GMEBS Plan Updates – Restatement Project

Georgia Municipal Association has recently reviewed the Retirement Plan Document and made some revisions to comply with the IRS regulations and the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001. Our pension attorney has reviewed these changes and does not see any issues. Staff recommends accepting them in accordance with the attorney's recommendation.

Motion by Councilmember Goodman to approve, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 5-0.

12. Authorize the Mayor to Sign an Agent of Record Letter Naming Bryant Wharton as Broker Consultant for Employee Benefits

The Administrative Services Department issued an RFP for benefit consultant broker services and received six bids. A review team made up of HR and Finance staff has conducted interviews with four of those companies and are recommending a change from our current broker, Garner & Glover Company to Bryant Wharton of Alpharetta.

Motion by Councilmember Brooks to approve, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 5-0.

13. Executive Session: Legal

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Foster to ENTER Executive Session for Legal, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried 5-0.

Motion by Councilmember Ireland to EXIT Executive Session, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried 5-0.

No Action Taken.

14. Adjournment – 8:25 P.M.

Motion to Adjourn by Mayor Pro Tem Foster, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 5-0.

Approved 02/28/2012