

**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF SUWANE, GEORGIA**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2012**

*Meeting Location: City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue*

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

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

**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.*

**6:30 P.M.**  
**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**1. Public Hearing**

**a. FY 2013 Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program**

Marty Allen, City Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation and stated this is the second of two public hearings on the proposed budget. The proposed FY 13 budget is \$12,002,440, which is a 4.5% decrease in expenditures compared to FY 12. Mr. Allen expressed appreciation to staff.

There were no Council questions.

**Audience Comment:**

- Maurice Cook – 1342 Riverview Run Lane, Suwanee, GA. Mr. Cook commented on an article from the Gwinnett Post that stated the funds from SDS could be used as a revenue source. Mr. Cook stated he has not been

able to find Council Minutes discussing SDS lump sum or a vote on the use of the funds. He asked, "why can't the funds be given back to the people?" He continued with comments related to public art; 20/20 Vision Plan; lack of sidewalks in his neighborhood; the community garden and differences in the funding number of projects in the budget document. In closing, Mr. Cook stated there could have been many avenues the Council could have taken to inform the citizens about the \$2.145 million received from the County from SDS (i.e., Public Hearing, Town Hall Meeting, etc.).

**b. Occupation Taxes for FY 2013**

Marty Allen, City Manager, stated Georgia law states that for any year that revenue generated from occupational taxes is proposed to be greater than the preceding year's revenue, a public hearing must be held. A slight increase is anticipated for FY 13. There were no changes in our fees or rates. This was based on new growth.

**Audience Comment:**

- Jimmy Spiro, 895 Landover Crossing, Suwanee, GA. Mr. Spiro asked for a definition of Occupation Tax. Mr. Allen stated these are business licenses. We have received an increase from \$878,000 to \$932,000. The increase was based on new businesses opening up. Mr. Spiro asked if these businesses pay into the bond. Mr. Allen stated that all property owners pay into the bond.

There being no further audience comment, Mayor Burnette closed the Public Hearing with the regular Council Meeting to convene after a short recess.

**2. Call to Order**

Mayor Burnette called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

**3. Announcements**

- a. The theme for this Thursday's Toast @ Town Center is "Flower Power." Area residents are invited to dress to get their groove on and enjoy a free performance by The Upside, a local band hosted by Hairllucinations. Toast @ Town Center, Suwanee's monthly street festival event held from 6-10 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month through October, features merchant specials, entertainment, and themed fun. During Toast @ Town Center, visitors can stroll throughout Town Center with their beverages.
- b. Spend a night under the stars at Sims Lake Park! Join us this Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, for the Great American Campout. The event will include family games emceed by Boosterthon representatives, as well as traditional s'mores and trail mix. For more information or to register, please visit [suwanee.com](http://suwanee.com). Pre-registration is required.

- c. Council post #4 is currently vacant and a special election will be held on July 31<sup>st</sup> to fill the unexpired term for this seat. Qualifying for this election will close tomorrow, Wednesday June 27<sup>th</sup> at noon. Poll workers are needed for the election. For more information or to apply, please contact Elvira Rogers.
- d. Finally, we're proud that Kiplinger.com has named Suwanee one of the best communities in the country in which to raise children. In its list of "10 great cities to raise your kids," Kiplinger rated Suwanee number 3, behind only Omaha, Nebraska, and Richland, Washington. The personal finance site looked for metropolitan areas with high household incomes relative to living costs, a large percentage of families with children under 18, and low crime rates. Then, Kiplinger considered educational and fun factors within each of the top 10 metro areas in order to hone in on a specific city. Kiplinger says of Suwanee: "The town's highly regarded schools make it a particularly good place for raising children.... The city itself boasts a massive public playground called PlayTown and a downtown fountain called Big Splash, where kids are encouraged to play."
- e. Gwinnett County and City of Suwanee will hold a Public Information Session on the Transportation Investment Act at City Hall on July 16, 2012 at 6 p.m.

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

Pledge lead by Andrew Imig, Troop 513.

**5. Approval of the Agenda**

*Motion to approve the Agenda by Councilmember Goodman, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber - yes*

**6. Approval of Minutes**

a. **May 22, 2012 Council Meeting**

*Motion to approve by Councilmember Goodman, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber – yes*

b.

**7. Public Recognition**

a. **David Hidding**

*David created the mobile website for the SculpTour as a volunteer project.*

b. **Mary Kay Murphy, Gwinnett County School Board**

*Ms. Murphy presented the Gwinnett County Public Schools Strategic Priorities report.*

**8. Audience Participation – None.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### **9. Consider Adoption of FY 2013 Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program**

The proposed FY 13 budget is \$12,002,440, which is a 4.5% decrease in expenditures compared to FY 12.

*Motion to adopt the FY 2013 Budget and 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program by Councilmember Goodman, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber - yes*

### **10. Consider Adoption of 20/20 Vision Strategic Plan**

This document represents the culmination of the year-long community-wide process to develop a vision for Suwanee of 2020. Mr. Allen, City Manager, read the Resolution for consideration.

*Motion to adopt the 20/20 Vision Strategic Plan as presented in final draft form with the addition of the concept of an internship program and the Suwanee 101 program in the Civic Engagement Sections by Mayor Pro Tem Foster, second by Councilmember Ireland and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber – yes*

Comment by Councilmember McOmber – appreciate comments made by City Manager. This effort creates a nice roadmap for unexpected revenues.

Councilmember Ireland – prior to Council started out on the Steering Committee, now seeing the end result. This is a proud moment.

### **11. Consider Appointing Don Crider with Private Client Advisory, Inc. as the Broker for the Principal Money Market Plan**

Staff recommends appointing a new broker to provide assistance with the Principal Money Market Plan, which is part of the retirement plan for full time employees employed before 2005. This broker is compensated by Principal. A staff committee interviewed three brokers and recommends appointing Don Crider with Private Client Advisory, Inc.

*Motion to appoint Don Crider with Private Client Advisory, Inc. as Broker for Principal Money Market Plan by Councilmember Goodman, second by Mayor Pro Tem Foster and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber - yes*

### **12. Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract for Street Resurfacing**

The City has released bids for patching and resurfacing of approximately 3.22 miles of streets, in addition to the parking lot at the Public Works facility.

*Motion by Councilmember Foster to Authorize Mayor to Execute Contract to Allied Paving Contractors, Inc. for approximately \$709,841.81 for patching and resurfacing of approximately 3.22 miles of streets and one parking lot, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber – yes*

**13. Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with CodeRED to Provide Emergency Alert Technology**

Staff has researched and seen demonstrations of various technology options for emergency alerts. Staff recommends the CodeRED system which is a web-based system to send personalized voice, e-mail, and text messages. The system can be used a wide range of notifications, such as severe weather warnings, law enforcement alerts, street closures, and general information.

*Motion by Councilmember Goodman to authorize the mayor to execute Contract with CodeRED to provide emergency alert technology second by Councilmember Ireland, and so carried 4-0-1. Vote: Burnette – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber – yes; Foster abstained due to being employed by a telecommunications firm who is a partner of CodeRED*

**14. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approve FY 13 Employee Insurance Providers**

*Due to rising insurance costs, staff has worked diligently with the City's broker to evaluate different options that would minimize adverse impacts the City and/or employees. Staff has negotiated a package that accomplishes these goals. The City will enter into one-year contracts with the various insurance providers, effective July 1.*

**b. Approve Renewal of Annual Contracts/Agreements**

*The City has several service contracts/agreements that are expiring and must be renewed. Staff has reviewed each of them and recommends renewing the following contracts for one additional year. The contracts are as follows:*

- *Engineering: Development Planning & Engineering, Inc.; LBG Associates, Inc.; Columbia Engineering & Services, Inc.*
- *Information Technology: Total Technology Group*
- *Landscape Maintenance: Valley Crest Landscape Maintenance*
- *Probation Services: Southeast Corrections*
- *Program Management: Moreland Altobelli*
- *Property & Liability Insurance: Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency (GIRMA)*
- *Technology Services: Motorola; Information Technologies Inc. (ITI); Syscon*

**c. Approve Public Works Vehicle Purchase**

*The Public Works Department has received competitive bids for the purchase of a truck to use with the City's existing bucket truck apparatus. Staff recommends*

*purchasing the truck from the low bidder, Hayes Chrysler of Lawrenceville, for a purchase price of \$42,217. The purchase of this vehicle was approved in the FY12 budget, but the purchase must be approved by the City Council, per the City's purchasing policies.*

**d. Approve Resolution/Ordinance to Create Prosecuting Attorney's Office**

*The 2012 Georgia General Assembly enacted legislation requiring municipalities with a prosecuting attorney's office to submit a resolution/ordinance that officially creates this office. Staff has prepared an ordinance/resolution to comply with this legislation and recommends using the currently appointed solicitors to fulfill this role.*

***Motion by Councilmember McOmber to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Councilmember Goodman and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber - yes.***

**15. Executive Session: Legal, Personnel, and/or Real Estate Issues - None**

**16. Adjournment – 7:24 P.M.**

***Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Foster to Adjourn, second by Councilmember Ireland and so carried unanimous. Vote: Burnette – yes; Foster – yes; Goodman – yes; Ireland – yes; McOmber – yes***

***Approved 07/24/2012***