

MINUTES
CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2013

Meeting Location: City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue

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

Absent: Gregory Jay, City Attorney

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

A. Call to Order

Mayor Burnette called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and read the procedures for public hearings for the record.

B. Public Hearing

1. Alcohol Beverage License for UpTown Grille, 340 Town Center Avenue, Suite A8

City Manager, Marty Allen, stated that Uptown Grill has applied for a license to serve beer, wine, and distilled spirits in the former location of Olde Towne Tavern. Mr. Karim Sadruddin is the applicant. The finance department recommends approval. There was no audience comment.

2. RZ-2013-001 - Applicant: Patrick Higgins. Owner: Public Storage. Requests a rezoning from PMUD (Planned Mixed Use Development) to PMUD with a change of conditions to allow for additional self storage. The

site is located at 3900 McGinnis Ferry Road and contains approximately 5.03 acres

Planning Director, Josh Campbell presented the staff analysis as follows: The site was rezoned in 2005 and has gone through the process a few times to modify conditions. The request tonight is to convert the upper retail space to self-storage. This space has been vacant since the construction of the building. The space is approximately 11,000 sq.ft. The surrounding area is mixed use with some residential. Staff recommends approval with conditions. Planning Commission recommended approval with conditions.

Support:

Pat Higgins 605 Waite Road, Roswell, GA 30076. The space has been vacant for 5-6 years. The retail market is soft and the owner desires to use the retail space for a revenue use producing operation. They would like to convert the space to self storage. Councilmember Foster asked what is the make of the units (size). Mr. Higgins stated there will be a variety of unit sizes.

Opposition – None.

There being no further discussion, the Public Hearing closed.

C. Announcements

1. Events

- Exhibitor applications are now being accepted for both the May 18 Arts in the pary festival and September 21 celebration of Suwanee Day; both selection processes are juried.

Arts in the Park, hosted by the North Gwinnett Arts Association, celebrates all types of art, from fine arts to performance arts. Applications from artists and food vendors are due April 30 and can be downloaded at suwanee.com.

Exhibitor, vendor and entertainment applications also are being accepted for the 30th celebration of Suwanee Day. Applications are available at suwaneeday.com and the deadline to apply is May 15 for entertainment and June 1 for exhibitors and vendors.

- *This is the final call to register for our award-winning Super Incredible Race on April 20. The race is a scavenger-like hunt in which teams of two or teams of family members receive a series of clues that require them to complete a variety of high-energy mental and physical challenges. The City is extending the fun this year by presenting the spring concert immediately following the race. Departure, a Journey tribute band, will perform at Town Center at 7 p.m. Pre-registration is required; the deadline to register is April 5. For more details, including the registration form, please visit suwanee.com.*

2. Suwanee Gateway

- *We're pleased to report that as part of our ongoing, long-term efforts to improve the Suwanee Gateway, we recently purchased a 3.4-acre tract on Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road across from the new police substation. The property currently houses the former May Queen Hotel, which has been closed for approximately a year due to safety reasons. The City's immediate plans are to demolish the dilapidated buildings, clean up the site, and land bank the property for the future. One of the top community goals identified through Suwanee's 2020 Vision strategic plan is improving the Suwanee Gateway.*

The City's purchase of the property is yet another example of recent multi-million dollar public and private investments in the Gateway. Recent improvements in the area have included the new Suwanee police training facility; extension of McGinnis Ferry Road; the recently completed streetscaping project at I-85; opening of Movie Tavern, QT, and other businesses; development of Northolt Parkway; and construction of 335 apartment units.

D. Pledge of Allegiance

E. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda as presented by Councilmember Foster, second by Mayor Pro Tem Goodman and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

F. Approval of Minutes

- 1. February 14, 2013 Called Council Meeting**
- 2. February 14, 2013 Council Workshop**
- 3. February 26, 2013 Council Meeting**

Motion to approve the Minutes by Mayor Pro Tem Goodman, second by Councilmember Hilscher and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

G. Special Recognition

Council recognized artist, Hope Norris from Annandale Village, for donating a painting to the City.

H. Special Presentation: 2012 National Citizen Survey Results

City Manager, Marty Allen, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2012 National Citizen Survey Results.

I. Audience Participation

- Margie Cook, 1342 Riverview Run Lane, Suwanee, GA. Ms. Cook expressed she wanted to clarify information from the Survey presentation. She stated her understanding is that approximately 1200 surveys were sent out, this is a low representation of City residents, since there are about 15,000 residents. She also stated that for the record she wanted to make an observation: The presentation tonight tells what a wonderful place for people to live, lovely parks, library families, so many opportunities for citizens to take part in, high value system, etc. She finds it very disturbing that the City has sponsored a 'Beerfest' for the past three years. With the focus on family values, why does the City continue to sponsor this event? "People will get drunk at the 'Beerfest'." She stated this is very counter to the values the City seems to encourage. She stated she was told when Town Center opened, there would be no alcohol allowed in the park. It seems the values are being lowered. Ms. Cook stated she would "like to suggest that the City feel some sort of shame in allowing the 'Beerfest' to come to our beautiful city."

NEW BUSINESS

J. Consider Alcohol Beverage License for Up Town Grille, 340 Town Center Avenue, Suite A8

Motion to approve the Alcohol Beverage License for UpTown Grille by Councilmember Foster, second by Councilmember Ireland and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

K. Consider RZ-2013-001 - Applicant: Patrick Higgins. Owner: Public Storage. Requests a rezoning from PMUD (Planned Mixed Use Development) to PMUD with a change of conditions to allow for additional self storage. The site is located at 3900 McGinnis Ferry Road and contains approximately 5.03 acres

Motion to approve RZ-2013-001 with conditions by Councilmember McOmber, second by Councilmember Hilscher and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

L. Consider Adopting Revisions to Massage Ordinance

The City adopted its Massage Establishment Ordinance several years ago. The State subsequently adopted certain rules and regulations. Staff proposes to amend the City's ordinance to conform to the State requirements.

Motion to adopt revisions to the Massage Ordinance by Councilmember Hilscher, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

M. Consider Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with Gwinnett County for Construction of the Suwanee Dam Road Multi-Use Path

The City and County are partnering to construct a multi-use path along Suwanee Dam Road from Peachtree Industrial Boulevard to Main Street. The County is funding and managing the construction. Staff recommends upgrading the proposed asphalt materials to concrete, for an estimated cost of \$30,500; the City would be responsible for this expense. This upgrade was planned and budgeted in the 2013-2017 CIP in association with the Brushy Creek Greenway project.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter an Agreement Gwinnett County for construction of the Suwanee Dam Road Multi-Use Path by Mayor Pro Tem Goodman, second by Councilmember Ireland and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

N. Consider Adopting Economic Development Incentive Ordinance

Staff has drafted a proposed ordinance that would offer economic development incentives. Such incentives might include reduction of fees, accelerated processing efforts, and other similar actions to companies that meet City-approved thresholds for jobs creation.

Motion to adopt the economic Development Incentive Ordinance by Mayor Pro Tem Goodman, second by Councilmember McOmber and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

O. Issue Proclamation Supporting the Great American Cleanup Gwinnett Challenge

The Great American Cleanup, locally hosted by Gwinnett Clean & Beautiful, is the nation's largest annual community improvement program. The initiative lasts through May 31. The proclamation is included in the packet.

Motion to issue the Proclamation supporting the Great American Cleanup Gwinnett Challenge by Councilmember Foster, second by Councilmember Hilscher and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

P. Consent Agenda

1. Authorize the Mayor to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with Gwinnett County for Title Ad Valorem Tax

Gwinnett County is working on implementation of the new Title Ad Valorem Tax. In order to receive proceeds from the tax, the Department of Revenue must have a certified distribution agreement. Gwinnett Municipal Association, along with the County and the Tax Commissioner, have negotiated a draft intergovernmental agreement regarding distribution of funds among the County and municipalities.

2. Declare Items Surplus Inventory

Staff has inventoried items to offer in an upcoming surplus sale.

3. Authorize Staff to Donate LIDAR Devices to Georgia State Patrol

Staff recommends purchasing two LIDAR speed detection devices for donation to the Georgia State Patrol. GSP is opening an office in Gwinnett and will be increasing their presence along I-85. The total cost is \$4,990, which is available from Federal forfeiture funds.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Mayor Pro Tem Goodman, second by Councilmember Foster and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber - yes

Q. Executive Session: Legal, Personnel, and/or Property Acquisition Issues – None

R. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Councilmember McOmber, second by Councilmember Ireland and so carried 6-0. Vote: Burnette – yes, Foster – yes, Goodman – yes, Hilscher – yes, Ireland – yes, McOmber – yes

Approved 4/23/2013