

MINUTES

City of Carrollton Mayor and Council Meeting

November 6, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Public Safety Complex, Court/Council Chambers, 115 West Center Street, Carrollton, Georgia

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor and Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 6, 2017 in the Public Safety Complex, Court/Council Chambers, 115 West Center Street, Carrollton, Georgia. Mayor Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Members present: Mayor Walt Hollingsworth, Mayor Pro-Tem Gerald Byrd, Councilmember Jim Watters, Councilmember Lane and Councilmember Rory Wojcik. Members absent: None

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Hollingsworth.

III. INVOCATION

The invocation was offered by Finance Director Jim Triplett.

IV. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Mr. Barry Dalton, 150 Tony Drive, Carrollton provided samples of his miniature garden train set and stated he would like to donate the train set and accessories to the City. Mr. Dalton stated that he was willing to donate the time and energy to design the layout. Mr. Dalton advised that the space needed for the train set display would be between 400 and 800 square feet.
- Ms. Annette Johnson of Atlanta, requested support of the Mayor and Council as she seeks to have a portion of Highway 27 South honorarily named "Dr. Samuel Thomas Memorial Highway". Ms. Johnson stated that Dr. Thomas was her great uncle and the first African American doctor at Tanner Hospital. Ms. Johnson reported that she had been in contact with Senator Dugan's office regarding the matter. Councilmember Byrd requested City Manager Grizzard to research how the City has honorarily named portions of highways after individuals and have the information available for the next meeting.
- The following City of Carrollton Fire Department employees expressed their support of Fire Chief Jimmy Bearden operations of the Fire Department and expressed appreciation to the Mayor and Council and to City Manager Tim Grizzard:
 - Captain Bill Messer, 26-year employee
 - Lt. Bill Lambert, 20-year employee
 - Lt. Allen English, 22-year employee
 - Lt. Al Jones, 27-year employee
- Mr. Troy Smith, 35-year veteran firefighter for Gwinnett County expressed support for Chief Bearden, remarked on the professionalism of the entire department and requested the Mayor and Council to gauge the department's success on the ISO 1 rating and not allow others who are not firefighters to come in, complain and disrupt the department.
- Dr. Deidre Rousch, Carrollton resident, expressed appreciation and support for Chief Bearden and his willingness to always assist in events she has organized.
- Catherine Johnson, resident of Nizzear Lane reported continued issues with trash not being picked up as scheduled and debris being strewn by the garbage truck within the complex.

V. MINUTES (August 7, 2017 and August 28, 2017)

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Byrd, seconded by Councilmember Wojcik to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2017 and October 19, 2017 meetings as presented. Discussion on the Motion: Mayor Pro-Tem Byrd stated that in regard to the October 19, 2017 Meeting Minutes which reflect the vote on the purchase of five (5) Bristol Lake properties, that it be noted that he requests that in the proposed program; that two (2) of the properties be made available to those persons in the Human Relations/Services or Clergy field. (Motion passed 5-0.)

VI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Wojcik:

- Expressed appreciation to staff and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

Mayor Hollingsworth:

- Expressed appreciation to Main Street Director Aundi Lesley for assistance with a lighting issue at the Amp.
- Thanked Chief Richards and the Police Department for all efforts the night of Halloween where Police Officers shut down streets to allow safe trick or treating in areas.
- Expressed appreciation to the Fire Department.

Councilmember Lane:

- Thanked the Fire Department for everything they do and stated that if he had given the impression that he is not supportive, he apologized and stated he would be a better defender of the department in the future.

Mayor Pro-Tem Byrd:

- Stated he had visited almost 3,000 homes during the election canvassing and had enjoyed meeting constituents face to face.
- Expressed appreciation to Carrollton Parks and Recreation Director Peter Maierhofer and staff for the recent hosting of the Miss Sparkle Pageant for girls with special needs.
- Thanked everyone who attended and assisted with the annual Boo Bash in West Carrollton.
- Expressed appreciation to City Manager Grizzard and Public Works Director Mike Green for all efforts on removing blighted structures.
- Recognized Audrey North for her efforts in the fight against drugs.
- Thanked all those responsible for nominating him as the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association (GRPA) Regional Volunteer of the Year, which resulted in him being named the GRPA State Volunteer of the Year for 2017.

VII. CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Grizzard:

- Announced the City had received a \$10,000 grant from the Georgia Municipal Association for the purchase of trench boxes. Expressed appreciation to Safety Director/Operation Manager Tony Richardson and Human Resource Director Faith Pullen for their work on procuring the grant.
- Announced the City had received another \$10,000 grant from the Georgia Municipal Association to assist with health and wellness benefits, such as the City's annual health fair.
- Expressed appreciation to the Police Department for closing a few of the busy streets for trick or treaters on Halloween.

VIII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Byrd, seconded by Councilmember Wojcik to approve the Agenda as presented. (Motion passed 5-0.)

1. Police Vehicle Purchase

City Manager Grizzard advised that in January of this year, staff brought before the council the anticipated need for the replacement of seven patrol cars that all had high mileage. At that time, the Mayor and Council approved the purchase of one (1) Dodge Charger; of which was paid for with seized drug money and is in service. In June of 2017 the Mayor and Council approved the purchase of four (4) more vehicles. Those have been ordered and have yet to be received. The dealer has indicated that we should receive a portion of the order in the next few weeks.

City Manager Grizzard reported that this summer, three (3) vehicles with extremely high mileage were in accidents and deemed not worth repair. The insurance reimbursements were added to drug task force money and a fifth vehicle was ordered. This purchase was reported to the Mayor and Council in the monthly report last month. This vehicle has not been received either.

City Manager Grizzard advised that eight (8) vehicles remain in service with mileage between 120,000 and 141,000. Police Chief Richards requests approval to procure one more Dodge Charger from the state contract winner which is Akins Ford Dodge Jeep Chrysler of Winder, GA. The price has gone down slightly from the previous purchases and is \$24,363.75 and the purchased would be paid for with seized drug money.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Byrd, seconded by Councilmember Watters to authorize the purchase of a police pursuit vehicle (2018 Dodge Charger) fully equipped and painted from Akins Ford Dodge Jeep Chrysler of Winder, Georgia. (Motion passed 5-0.)

2. Revisions to Main Street Bylaws

Community Development Director Erica Studdard advised that in September 2014, the Mayor and City Council voted to amend the Main Street Program's Bylaws by: (1) Changing the process by which the Main Street Board of Directors are appointed; (2) Reducing the number of Directors on the Board, and (3) Moving the fiduciary responsibilities of the Main Street Program to the City.

Director Studdard reported there were several unintended negative consequences that arose from these changes. The appointment process is cumbersome and the Board will be more effective by additional members that can serve on the four subcommittees that are established by the Main Street Program.

Director Studdard requested that the Mayor and Council revise the Main Street Bylaws by amending the following:

- Amend the Board of Director appointment process to allow the Mayor and Council to make appointments upon recommendation from the Board of Directors. (Director Studdard advised that this is the standard process other Boards and Commissions within the City use. It was also the process that was used from the Main Street Program's inception until the Bylaws revision in September 2014, and it works well. The current system requires recommendation of the entire membership, then the nominee approval by the Mayor and City Council, and then a vote of the entire membership. This process is lengthy and is not necessary.)
- Increase the number of Board of Directors from five to seven (5-7) Directors to seven to nine Directors (7-9). (Director Studdard advised that the optimal number for an effective Board of Directors is nine (9). Director Studdard noted that three (3) of the Board member's terms expire in January 2018, and requested that the Mayor and Council staffer the appointments of the additional members so there are not five (5) new members all at once. Director Studdard proposed that the Mayor and City Council appoint three (3) new members at the January 2018 meeting and then an additional two (2) members in July 2018.)

Director Studdard also recommended that the responsibility for the finances for the Main Street Program remain with the City.

Motion by Councilmember Wojcik, seconded by Councilmember Watters to amend the Main Street Bylaws as presented. (Motion passed 5-0.)

3. Fire Department Audit Recommendations Implementation – Update

City Manager Grizzard presented the following Fire Department Audit Recommendations for consideration to move forward with purchasing and implementing: SCBA Masks-\$18,000, Turnout Gear Washer/Dryer Unit-\$20,000, Leather Boots-\$22,000 and proceed with the recommended Fire Department promotions-\$44,000.

City Manager Grizzard advised that the funds needed to purchase the equipment and implement the promotions can be found within the current Fire Department budget, and a budget amendment would not be necessary. City Manager Grizzard advised that staff needed direction to proceed with fulfilling the recommendations.

Fire Chief Jimmy Bearden addressed the Mayor and Council and stated the Fire Department had been very blessed with good equipment throughout his career, and the enhanced safety measures are appreciated. Chief Bearden advised he wanted it known that the department has always purchased and utilized safe equipment and exercised frugality when purchasing equipment, without compromising safety. Chief Bearden compared existing equipment with the proposed upgraded equipment to a Cadillac vs. Toyota vehicle purchase, citing both will get you where you need to go safely, with the Cadillac having additional safety features. Chief Bearden stated that he had been working closely with the City Manager over the last six weeks to accomplish the suggestions without a budget amendment.

City Manager Grizzard commended Chief Bearden and reminded the Mayor and Council of the City's obtaining an ISO rating of 1, and compared Carrollton's ISO 1 rating to other department in surrounding counties, including: Douglas County-ISO 4, Haralson County-ISO 4, Heard County-ISO 5, Coweta County-ISO 4, Carroll County-ISO 3 and Newnan-ISO 2. City Manager Grizzard stated that all the mentioned agencies are excellent departments, but do not hold a candle to the Carrollton Fire Department.

Motion by Mayor Hollingsworth, seconded by Councilmember Lane to approve the purchase of the Fire Department Audit recommended equipment (SCBA Masks-\$18,000, Turnout Gear Washer/Dryer Unit-\$20,000, and Leather Boots-\$22,000) and proceed with the recommended Fire Department promotions (\$44,000). Discussion on the Motion: Councilmember Lane confirmed the cost of each recommendation and that the City could meet the recommendations without a budget amendment. (Motion passed 5-0.)

4. Revocable Encroachment License for 108 Adamson Square

Director Studdard advised that the City has received a request from Greg Camp, acting on behalf of March Investments LLC, to encroach in the City's public sidewalk (right of way) 6'6" at 108 Adamson Square. The purpose of the encroachment is for the construction of a permanent rooftop deck. The building was previously Max and Henry's and will continue to be used as a restaurant/bar.

Director Studdard briefly reviewed the proposed revocable license agreement and shared photographs of the proposed encroached area. Director Studdard pointed out that the permanent deck structure will be cantilevered above the first story of the building, and no portion of the structure will obstruct pedestrian flow along the sidewalk. The license agreement as proposed can be terminated by the City with 180 days written notice.

Motion by Councilmember Wojcik, seconded by Councilmember Watters to approve the revocable encroachment license agreement for 108 Adamson Square. (Motion passed 5-0.)

XI. ADJOURN

There being no additional business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.