

Regular Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, August 7, 2012, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

INVOCATION

Reverend Ron Gilreath, Mount Vernon Presbyterian, offered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eva Galambos called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Michael Casey reminded everyone to silence all electronic devices at this time. Additionally, those wishing to provide public comment during either a Public Hearing or the Public Comment segment of the meeting are required to complete a public comment card. The cards are located at the back counter and need to be turned in to the City Clerk.

City Clerk Casey called the roll.

Mayor: Mayor Eva Galambos present

Councilmembers: Councilmember John Paulson, Councilmember Dianne Fries, Councilmember Chip Collins, Councilmember Gabriel Sterling, Councilmember Tibby DeJulio, and Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Eva Galambos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Agenda Item No. 12-188)

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion and Vote: Councilmember DeJulio moved to approve the Meeting Agenda for August 7, 2012. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Agenda Item No. 12-189)

1. Meeting Minutes:
 - a) July 17, 2012 Regular Meeting
(Michael Casey, City Clerk)

(Agenda Item No. 12-190)

2. Consideration of the Acceptance of the Dedication of a Right of Way Deed as part of the Zoning Requirements - 4710 Northside Drive
(Kevin Walter, Director of Public Works)
Resolution No. 2012-08-48

(Agenda Item No. 12-191)

3. Consideration of the Acceptance of the Permanent Drainage and Temporary Construction Easement - 8845 North River Parkway

(Kevin Walter, Director of Public Works)

Resolution No. 2012-08-49

Motion and Vote: Councilmember DeJulio moved to approve the Consent Agenda for August 7, 2012. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. GA 400 Hospitality Hwy Bike Ride Donation to SSPD - Dianne Fries

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated there is a GA 400 Hospitality Hwy Bike Ride that is held annually. As a Hospitality Hwy Board member, she is excited that approximately 1,200 people participate in the race and ride through Sandy Springs.

Eric Broadwell, Bike Roswell and Junior Flyers, stated he works with the organizations to promote safe bicycle riding and to advocate for proper bicycle laws. He is the President and founder of the Junior Flyers cycling team. He introduced his daughter, Sophia, who also rides on the team. The team competes nationally and nationals were held in Augusta, GA this year. Next year the Junior Flyers will be going to Wisconsin. The organizations promote an active family lifestyle and all are welcome to attend.

Sophia Broadwell, Junior Flyers Cycling member, stated she is here to present a check in the amount of \$1,000 from the Junior Flyers Cycling to the Sandy Springs Police Department Benevolent Fund.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

(Agenda Item No. 12-192)

1. Resolution to Authorize the Transmittal of the Draft Annual Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Update to the Regional Development Center and State for Review and Comment

Manager of Planning and Zoning Patrice Dickerson stated this item is the annual update of the Capital Improvements Element and short term work program in accordance with the impact fee requirements. Staff has reviewed the update.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12-192, Resolution to Authorize the Transmittal of the Draft Annual Capital Improvements Element (CIE) Update to the Regional Development Center and State for Review and Comment. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2012-08-50

(Agenda Item No. 12-193)

2. Consideration of Approval of the Second Round FY2012 Capital Paving Contract

Director of Public Works Kevin Walter stated staff recommends that Council approve the second round of the paving contract using the remaining FY2012 funds. The list of streets for paving was presented to

Council in July 2012, to be funded by the remaining money in the paving contract fund. The list is comprised of the streets from the 2009 grading list in order of severity. Bids were received from six different companies. Staff recommends awarding the contract to the lowest bidder, CW Matthews, in the amount of \$1,838,984.95.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked when the paving will begin.

Director of Public Works Walter stated the paving should begin in four to six weeks.

Motion and Second: Councilmember Fries moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12-193, Approval of the Second Round FY2012 Capital Paving Contract and awarding the contract to CW Matthews. Councilmember Sterling seconded the motion.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked when the updated street report will be ready.

Director of Public Works Walter stated the final report will be ready in October 2012, but there will be a draft report available to Council in mid-August.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2012-08-51

Mayor Eva Galambos asked Director of Public Works Walter if at the next City Council meeting he can explain the change in terms of how local streets and roads will be financed, since the SPLOST did not pass. She asked if LARP is still available.

Director of Public Works Kevin Walter responded no. The City has a local maintenance improvement grant this year. The stipulation in the law does not affect the grant that is in process, but will affect the grant for the following year.

(Agenda Item No. 12-194)

3. Consideration of Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the MARTA Funded Projects Currently Programmed in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

Director of Public Works Kevin Walter stated staff is recommending approval of a second amendment to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) /MARTA offset funds and IGA between the City of Sandy Springs and MARTA. This agreement would extend the completion time of the project by one year to the date of December 31, 2013. Commitments for the grant of \$1.75 million have been received and half of that amount has been expended. There is concern that all of the money will not be able to be spent by the end of 2012.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked what the reason is for the delay.

Director of Public Works Walter stated the program includes bus shelters on State Route 9. Staff has had protracted discussions on the design of the bus shelters.

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated at two separate Council meetings, Council has voted to approve a particular bus shelter design. She does not understand why the City has not moved forward with the bus shelter design that was chosen. She asked how much money is in the MARTA advertising fund. The five years of advertising funds was to be used for the bus shelters in downtown Sandy Springs.

Director of Public Works Walter stated the bus shelter decision was postponed due to the overlay district modifications and City Center planning.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if MARTA or GDOT are saying the new bus shelters cannot be installed.

Councilmember Fries stated she was told GDOT was not fond of the bus shelter design selected by Council.

Director of Public Works Walter stated he will bring a status report on this item back to Council.

Councilmember John Paulson asked for a schedule on this project.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnery stated Public Works staff gave an update to her and two neighborhood representatives. There is considerable pushback on the design of the median. She fully supports pedestrian crossings for safety reasons. Roughly 600 people cross the street near Long Island Drive and Roberts Drive daily. The medians do not allow a right turn into the Fountain Oaks shopping center and it affects Mystic Drive. Staff is looking at the warrants that might exist for traffic lights at Long Island and Roswell Road. Staff is making sure the City balances the needs of the pedestrians with that of the neighboring drivers. There is the potential of cut through traffic in the neighborhoods as well.

Councilmember Fries asked if staff should find another location to install the pedestrian crossing.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated this area has a high amount of pedestrian traffic.

Councilmember Fries stated Council had discussions regarding this issue when the center islands were installed at Northridge Road and some individuals had issues with the islands at that time.

Councilmember Meinzen McEnery stated staff needs to gather the facts before moving forward on this item.

Councilmember Sterling stated he would also like a schedule of when each item of the project will be completed.

Councilmember Chip Collins asked if the sidewalk connectivity and safety upgrade projects are separate projects or if the money is incorporated into other projects as part of the sidewalk and intersection improvement program.

Director of Public Works Walter stated he believes those projects are separate.

Councilmember Collins asked if any of those projects have been completed.

Director of Public Works Walter stated some of the projects have been completed, but not all of them. Staff will provide a schedule to the Council of all the completed projects.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to defer Agenda Item No. 12-194, Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the MARTA Funded Projects Currently Programmed in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), to the August 21, 2012, City Council Meeting. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(Agenda Item No. 12-195)

4. Consideration of Resolution to Authorize Acceptance of 2011 Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Grant Award

Assistant City Manager Eden Freeman stated this item is a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the 2011 Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails grant for the Lost Corner property. At the City Council meeting in November 2011, Council authorized the submission of the application. The City requested \$90,000 in Federal funds. The Sandy Springs Conservancy agreed to provide a maximum cash match of \$25,000, along with volunteer hours for the remainder of the match. The City will not be providing any match for this program. In attendance this evening is Linda Bain with the Sandy Springs Conservancy. She recognized Cheryl Barlow and Trisha Thompson for assisting in preparing and submitting the grant application.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked about the total amount of the grant.

Assistant City Manager Freeman stated the total amount, including the match, is \$121,000.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling stated the amount in cash is \$25,000. He asked about the \$6,840 for in-kind time.

Assistant City Manager Freeman stated that amount is 600 hours at \$11.40 an hour.

Councilmember John Paulson stated it is wonderful when the Conservancy assists with funding these projects.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerny stated the Friends of Lost Corners was also very active in this item.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Collins moved to approve Agenda Item No. 12-195, A Resolution to Authorize Acceptance of 2011 Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Grant Award. Councilmember Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2012-08-52

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor and Council Reports
2. Staff Reports
 - a) Annual Report of Seized Property – Police Chief Terry Sult

Police Chief Terry Sult stated the annual report of seized property is a requirement by State law that. The report includes what the City has received of the State asset forfeiture funds and what has been expended. The Police Department also reports to Council the Federal asset forfeiture. The total of State and Federal funds in the seized funds account is about \$350,000. Last year, the City spent about \$100,000 out of the State forfeiture funds. The funds have to be used for law enforcement purposes and cannot supplant the current budget. Some of the funds went towards the Heroes of Sandy Springs museum, a Ford Expedition for inclement weather situations, and towards a Federal grant for the camera system. A majority of the funds were used to set up the rapid response team. The team is a shift tactical team that is comprised of on duty officers that are equipped to handle active shooter situations. The team will also serve as the civil response team for protests.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the cost for the flight suit is actually multiple suits.

Police Chief Sult responded yes.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked about the total amount of money for State seizures.

Police Chief Sult responded the amount is about \$75,000. Much of the money is spent on training and augmenting the special teams, which are not normal operating expenses.

Councilmember Fries asked if the items seized have been liquidated.

Police Chief Sult responded not all of them. Staff works with the finance staff to sell the items at online auctions.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked about the six police cars that have not moved in the last six months.

Police Chief Sult stated a few of the cars will soon be sold at auction. The cars that have the large bumpers on the front are used for pit training vehicles.

Mayor Galambos suggested Police Chief Sult mention that staff is working on addressing the issue of false alarms.

Police Chief Sult stated staff is working on an ordinance in conjunction with the cities of Dunwoody and Johns Creek. There are draft ordinances that are in legal review at this point and the final version will be brought before Council no later than September.

Councilmember Fries asked if the "We Buy Gold" businesses can be regulated to hold the gold for a week or to inventory the gold.

Police Chief Sult stated the gold businesses fall under the pawnshop ordinance. He had a meeting with the District Attorney on how the pawnshop and precious metals store information can be shared across the county to be able to track sales.

Councilmember Sterling stated he was speaking to a gentleman from Barrow County and there is a business there where an individual was bringing in between \$1,000 and \$1,500 a week worth of gold to sell.

Mayor Galambos asked if there is any evidence that the businesses that buy gold in Sandy Springs are receiving stolen gold.

Police Chief Sult stated there is no specific evidence, but occasionally that will occur without the store owner's knowledge.

Councilmember Sterling stated since the pawn ordinance does not apply to the gold businesses; those businesses are not required to make copies of driver's licenses. The metal companies have specific regulations like the pawn shops do, but these regulations do not apply to the gold companies.

Police Chief Sult stated there is no metal recycling business in Sandy Springs, but almost all of those businesses are required to see identification from anyone that is recycling trash metal.

b) Citizens on Patrol Update – Police Chief Terry Sult

Police Chief Terry Sult asked Citizens on Patrol Coordinator Mark Thomas and Officer Jeff Holmes to the front. Officer Holmes is the coordinator for the Police volunteer services and Mr. Thomas is the coordinator for the Citizens on Patrol program. In August 2011, there were 13 individuals who signed up for Citizens on Patrol. In addition to the ten weeks Citizens Police Academy, an eight week training

course was required. The eight week course included training on traffic control, radio procedures, operations, first aid, safe vehicle operations, and practical exercises using police equipment. Four additional weeks of in the field training was required as well. Currently, two specially marked patrol cars are operated by the Citizens on Patrol and they wear specially designed uniforms. The uniforms are designed to project the image and authority the volunteers have and most importantly, it distinguishes them from the police officers. In April 2012, sixteen additional volunteers graduated, which resulted in a total of twenty-nine members. Currently, there are nineteen individuals signed up for the class starting in September. There may be a need to add a third car as a backup; in case one of the cars becomes inoperable due to the increase in volunteers. The volunteers have assisted staff with special events that include the Sandy Springs Festival, the GA 400 Hospitality Bike Ride, and the Special Olympics Torch Run. One of the volunteers was working and monitoring the radio while a drug transaction occurred and the suspect started running from the officers. As the volunteers were patrolling the park, they located the suspect vehicle and called the officers to the area. An arrest was made from that occurrence. Since August 2011, 422 four hour shifts have been performed by Citizens on Patrol. The volunteers have accumulated 1,549 hours of service in patrolling. The total number of volunteer hours for the whole department has been over 3,300 hours. That number equates to almost 2 full time positions and about \$120,000 worth of savings to the Police Department.

Mark Thomas, Citizens on Patrol Coordinator, thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting the Police Department's volunteer organization. The Citizens on Patrol has a very active group of volunteers. The group's objective is to partner with the Police Department to help them to be more effective and efficient. The volunteers can do things a sworn police officer does not need to do, such as waiting on A-tow to arrive at an incident location. When the volunteers perform these duties, it allows the officers to continue patrolling. The volunteers are confident in the work they do.

Police Officer Jeff Holmes stated he is a new employee with the Police Department. He is impressed by the number of volunteers the Police Department has. The citizens of Sandy Springs love the Police Department and show it by volunteering. The volunteers for the GA400 Bike Ride were required to arrive at 5:45 a.m. in order to receive their assignments and the volunteers had no objections.

Police Chief Sult stated Officer Holmes was previously employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as a supervisory agent. He was also a Colonel at a Sheriff's Department managing law enforcement resources. He is now employed with Sandy Springs Police Department as a part time officer. Officer Holmes's expertise allowed the department to move a full time person back into the field. The volunteers have responded to hundreds of calls for service that the police officers would normally respond to. Those calls have been residential and business checks, stranded motorists, illegal parking, traffic hazards, information for officers working traffic, and a few animal calls.

Councilmember John Paulson asked if Citizens on Patrol is a nationwide concept.

Police Chief Sult stated Citizens on Patrol is a nationwide program. The department followed specific standards as the program was developed. Two agencies he previously worked with utilized Citizens on Patrol. The Sandy Springs Citizens on Patrol is by far the most successful he has experienced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Gannon, 505 Taunton Way, stated he is speaking on behalf of High Point Civic Association. The Lakeside rezoning will be before Council in two weeks. He hopes that Council has read the four page consent order. The applicant continues to ask for more and provide less. The applicant previously was going to provide shuttle service every thirty minutes to the MARTA station and now will not be providing the service. The applicant was going to be spending money at the intersection of Hammond Drive and Glenridge Drive and now will not be doing that either. There has always been discussion of having the tree buffer at Glenridge Drive. The current consent order states there is fifty-five feet from the center of

the road. That means the applicant can tear down the trees to provide the roads needed. There is plenty of space on the property for the square footage. He does not know who was representing the issues in negotiations. The neighborhoods were not informed on what happens if Council does not approve the application in two weeks. The applicant has no incentive to speak to the neighborhood, because the applicant believes an agreement has already been made. Traffic at this intersection may be an issue.

Linda Bain, 2370 Kimbrough Court, stated she represents the Sandy Springs Conservancy. The Conservancy is pleased to be part of the project to construct a trail at Lost Corners. The trail will allow the public to enter the 22 acre parcel and enjoy the area.

Trisha Thompson, 145 River North Drive, stated she represents the Friends of Lost Corners. She thanked Mayor and Council for the encouragement over the years. The \$25,000 came from the initial raising of funds for the property. It is delightful that the City volunteered Assistant City Manager Eden Freeman to assist with the grant.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked about the Boy Scouts attending this Council Meeting.

Bill Walsh, Boy Scout Leader Troop 370, stated the Boy Scout troops are from St. James United Methodist Church in Sandy Springs. The troops are working on their citizenship in the community merit badge. His son John is working on his eagle project, which he will finish in September or October 2012.

John Walsh, Boy Scout Troop 370, stated his project is trail cleaning near Ridgeview Middle School. It will benefit the community because he and other neighbors use that trail frequently. The project will also include installation of trail markers, so no one gets lost on the trail.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

(Agenda Item No. 12-196)

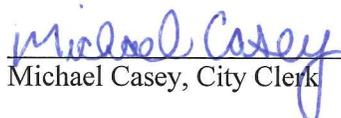
ADJOURNMENT

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Date Approved: August 21, 2012



Eva Galambos, Mayor



Michael Casey, City Clerk