
Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2010, at 8:51 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

City Attorney

1. Discussion on City of Sandy Springs Gift Policy

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated Director of Communications Judy Parker requested a clarified policy dealing with the donation of items such as statues, sculptures or portraits to the City. The consideration is whether or not the City wants to take on the responsibility and care of those items. The policy states a gift transaction is only completed after acceptance by the Mayor and Council. There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item.

Public Works

1. Consideration of Approval of Financial Participation with the Fulton County Perimeter Center Improvement District in the Funding Of Lighting and Other Upgrades to the Hammond Interchange

Deputy Director Public Works Jon Drysdale stated PCID approached Public Works in a partnering opportunity on the Hammond interchange construction, which is underway. It was done as one of the first design/builds. Some additional items were not included, such as the lighting and fencing on top of the parapets.

Mayor Eva Galambos asked who wants these additional items.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale responded PCID.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked what is a strain pole.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated it supports the signals wires.

Councilmember Fries asked if he was referring to the arms.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated the vertical pole itself.

Councilmember Fries asked if it would look like a mast arm.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated yes, the bottom part of the mast arm.

Councilmember Fries asked about the fencing.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated there is no fencing like there is on the fly over bridge. They are asking for the green fencing that comes up on the bridge parapet.

Mayor Galambos stated these items would make the bridge look prettier. The original request was that the City pay almost all of the price. The City responded back and agreed to pay 50/50.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated the current estimate is that the cost will be more than \$300,000, but PCID will pay anything over \$300,000. The City's maximum amount to pay on this project is \$150,000.

Councilmember Ashley Jenkins asked where the City's \$150,000 will come from.

City Manager John McDonough stated it will be taken out of the capital reserve.

Councilmember Jenkins asked how much is in the capital reserve.

City Manager McDonough stated approximately \$4.3 million.

Councilmember Chip Collins asked if the original design had any fence.

Deputy Director Public Works Drysdale stated there is a credit given for that in the bid and an increase for the green decorative fence.

There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor

1. Gwinnett Technical College Branch in North Fulton County

Mayor Eva Galambos stated Gwinnett Technical College is going to attend the North Fulton Mayor's Association Meeting in September. The college will have an RFP that will ask each city to come forward with its best bid on how to get Gwinnett Technical College within its city. The college is challenging each city to come up with free land and creative financing. The City of Sandy Springs will receive the RFP in September.

Councilmember John Paulson asked if the Mayor had any specifics regarding this plan.

Mayor Galambos stated the college is discussing they may need 257,000 square feet of space eventually.

Councilmember Ashley Jenkins stated North River is a good location.

Mayor Galambos stated the college doesn't want to lease the property, they want to buy it. The college would be a fabulous economic development tool. They have a campus at Gwinnett Mall. The retail stores there are prospering, because of the thousands of students.

Councilmember Dianne Fries stated that is the bad thing about the North River Plaza; no retail stores would benefit since there aren't many retail stores in that location.

Council

Councilmember Fries stated Assistant Director Planning and Zoning Patrice Ruffin gave her information regarding two zoning cases. Two zoning cases need to be reinitiated. One, is the Morgan Falls Overlook Park. It is zoned M2 Heavy Industrial. Fulton County zoned the property in 1992 for a minimal

extraction for a ten year period. The time has expired and the zoning needs to be changed to R2, the original zoning. She would like to reinstate this.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked if there is a classification of zoning for municipal parks for public use.

Community Development Director Nancy Leathers stated no, there isn't that type of classification. The districts have to be one permit, private use. Generally speaking, Council can do something with O&I, because it's office and institutional. Given this location, she wouldn't suggest Council doing this, because they would set a precedent for surrounding uses. She suggests changing the zoning back to R2. The use permit standards would be applied on top of the residential district.

Councilmember Fries stated the other item is Sandy Springs Landing shopping center. This property is located behind Fire Station #2 on Sandy Springs Circle, near Brooklyn Café. Fulton County, in 1981, zoned this property to allow retail only. Since then, there have been medical and restaurant uses added at this location.

Mayor Galambos asked if staff can bring Council their recommendations to fix the zoning.

Councilmember Karen Meinzen McErnery added and to honor the recommendations of Sandy Springs Landing. She doesn't want to do something the tenants don't want.

Assistant Director Planning and Zoning Patrice Ruffin stated there are tenants in that location under the O&I uses.

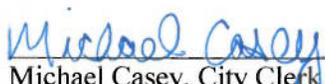
Councilmember DeJulio stated he would like Mayor and Council to think about a municipal zoning where the City cannot set precedence for something else.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Date Approved: September 7, 2010



Eva Galambos, Mayor



Michael Casey, City Clerk