Regular Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council
Tuesday, May 4, 2010
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Regular Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Scott Colbert, Temple Emanuel offered the invocation.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eva Galambos called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Color Guard from the Piedmont Chapter of the Georgia Society Sons of American Revolution presented the Colors and led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Michael Casey reminded everyone to silence cell phones and pagers at this time. Additionally, those wishing to provide public comments, during either a public hearing or the Public Comment section 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 Clerk.

City Clerk Casey called the roll.

Mayor: Mayor Eva Galambos present.

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

(Agenda Item No. 10-111)

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Fries moved to approve the Meeting Agenda for May 4, 2010. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Agenda Item No. 10-112)

1. Meeting Minutes:
   a. January 5, 2010 Regular Meeting
   b. January 5, 2010 Work Session
   c. January 19, 2010 Regular Meeting
   d. January 19, 2010 Work Session
   e. April 6, 2010 Regular Meeting
   f. April 6, 2010 Work Session
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(Agenda Item No. 10-113)
2. Approve 2010 CDBG Action Plan and Establish Budget  
   (Nancy Leathers, Director of Community Development)

(Agenda Item No. 10-114)
3. Ordinance to Amend Chapter 54, Article III, Section 54-51, to add a Subsection (c) setting forth the Deduction allowed the Collector of the Hotel-Motel Tax  
   (City Attorney, Wendell Willard)

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Fries moved to approve the Consent Agenda for May 4, 2010. Councilmember Meinzen McEnery seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation - Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week

Mayor Eva Galambos stated the President of the United States designated May 15th Peace Officers Memorial Day. The week of May 9-15 is National Police Week. The men and women of law enforcement agencies in Sandy Springs, GA, play a central role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of our citizens. It is important that all citizens understand the responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices of the law enforcement officers. Police Week 2010 provides the opportunity to commemorate law enforcement officers, past and present.

Carl Bank, Sons of the American Revolution Piedmont Chapter introduced himself, Paul Prescott, Jack Ferguson, and Senior Vice President of Sons of the American Revolution for the state of Georgia, Bob Sapp. Carl Bank then explained how the first peace officer in United States, Robert Forsyth, was the first to fall in the line of duty in the city of Augusta, Georgia. Robert Forsyth was appointed by George Washington in 1789. Carl Bank thanked Mayor Galambos.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There was no Public Hearings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

(Agenda Item No. 10-115)
1. Request Approval for Hightower Trail Sidewalk Survey and Design Services

Community Development Block Grant Manager Vann McNeill stated that on March 2, at the regular meeting, Council heard from a representative from the Community Action Center regarding the sidewalk at Hightower Trail. At the Council’s request, the staff consulted with Mulkey Engineers and Consultants, who are currently working on a sidewalk between Dalrymple and the river, to look at this area and give a scope and cost estimate. Council received an aerial photograph. Mr. McNeill explained the map that the council was viewing.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked why the sidewalk stops at Wing Mill.
CDBG Manager McNeill stated that based on the foot traffic potential for the post office and for people that live on those two streets; Council might consider sidewalks on both sides. The consultant provided the estimate for a sidewalk on both sides of the street.

Councilmember Fries stated the proposed sidewalk is just short of two apartment complexes. She asked if they have to construct the sidewalk on both sides of the street.

CDBG Manager McNeill answered no.

Councilmember Fries stated that they could construct one side of the road and complete the whole stretch, picking up the area where the apartments and townhomes are located.

CDBG Manager McNeill stated that could be done. He understands there are discussions with MARTA to come from the east, and potentially from the south side.

**Mayor Eva Galambos** asked if MARTA is going to install sidewalks.

**Capital Program Director Marty Martin** stated there are some sidewalks funded by MARTA. Garrin Coleman with Transportation Planning developed scopes of work to extend sidewalk development down the remainder of Hightower where CBDG leaves off.

**Councilmember Ashley Jenkins** stated if we construct the sidewalk on both sides of the street with the CBDG money, then this MARTA money can pick up on one side.

Capital Program Director Martin stated that it can pick up on one side up to Dunwoody Place.

Councilmember Fries asked if it would make sense for us to use City money to do the side that MARTA is not going to do.

Capital Program Director Martin stated in this case, it’s CBDG money for part of the construction and MARTA money for the other part of it.

CDBG Manager McNeill stated the target area takes in the whole stretch, so you have the freedom to use CDBG on either side or both sides.

Councilmember Fries said MARTA is only on the south side. She would like to find out much MARTA will pay for.

**Councilmember Chip Collins** asked what is the rationale to do the sidewalk on both sides here?

**Transportation Planning Division Manager Garrin Coleman** stated we have a cost proposal for surveying from the post office out to Dunwoody Place on one side.

Mayor Galambos asked what is the rationale of doing the CBDG money on both sides?

CDBG Manager McNeill stated it was from going out in the field and looking at the residential area on the north side and post office on the south side, it appears there would be a lot of foot traffic on Roswell Road to those two areas, including the Community Action Center. It was just a suggestion and there is an estimate for both sides in the event that’s what Council elects to do.
Councilmember Fries asked Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman if the topography would allow construction of sidewalks on both sides of Roswell Road to Wing Mill.

Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman stated there is a steep area on the northern side, but then you have problems on the southern side at the first parcel. Past the first parcel it will get better, constructability wise. You could construct on either side or both with the federal money.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that the Community Action Center is on the north side.

Councilmember Fries stated this might be an area where the sidewalk can be constructed on one side and then switch in the middle.

Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman stated currently the City’s quota for the MARTA funded portion is for the southern side. It can be changed to the northern side.

Mayor Galambos asked if we save CDBG money by constructing one side, what would we use the remainder of the money for?

CDBG Manager McNeill stated he is not sure of the cost. There is a need to do concept drawings for an estimate. All of the funds that Council committed from 2008, 2009, and 2010 are going toward the block grant sidewalk project.

Councilmember Fries stated that it makes sense that the Community Action Center has sidewalks.

Mayor Galambos asked if they are ready for a motion.

Councilmember Jenkins stated if it is CDBG money, then it’s not our money.

CDBG Manager McNeill stated the City receives an annual allocation between $500,000- $600,000 at this point.

Mayor Galambos asked if we don’t use all the money, does the City save it for future use or forfeit it?

CDBG Manager McNeill stated no, it’s held and spent on projects as quickly as the City can.

**Motion:** Councilmember Fries moved to approve the Hightower Trail Sidewalk Survey and Design Services; surveyed and designed on one side, taking into consideration the MARTA funding; and have staff work with the design people and MARTA to see which side of the road will work best.

Councilmember Jenkins asked if Council has to vote on this now.

CDBG Manager McNeill answered no.

**Withdrawal of Motion:** Councilmember Fries withdrew her motion.

**Motion and Second:** Councilmember Fries moved to table to a future meeting Agenda Item No. 10-115, Request Approval for Hightower Trail Sidewalk Survey and Design Services. Councilmember Jenkins seconded the motion.
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Councilmember Jenkins asked Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman how long it will take staff to meet with MARTA to decide which side of the road, whether its north or south, will be the most cost effective.

Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman stated that the IGA is going to MARTA tomorrow. Once they sign the IGA, then the City can move forward with the project. Currently the City has $900,000 allocated for sidewalk projects.

Mayor Galambos asked does the IGA specify which side of the street.

Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman stated it does not.

Councilmember Jenkins asked which streets are included in the IGA.

Transportation Planning Division Manager Coleman stated Allen Road, Dunwoody Place, Hightower Trail, Hope Road, south side of a section of Roswell Road, a road immediately south of I-285, Northwood, and two sections in the PCID area are the roads included.

Mayor Galambos stated there is a motion on the floor.

**Vote on the Motion:** The motion carried unanimously.

(Agenda Item No. 10-116)
1. Resolution Authorizing the City’s Application under FY2010 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program

**Grant Administrator Eden Freeman** stated that there is a copy of a completed application in the Councilmember’s packet that was prepared to submit to the Georgia Forestry Commission for funding under the 2010 Urban and Committee Forestry Grant Program. Last year, funding was received for an inventory at the Lost Corners property which is currently under way. We want to build upon that success and submit an application this year for a total project cost $15,040. We would provide $7,500 in Federal funds and $7,540 for cash, and in-kind match. The purpose of the project is to conduct three conservation ordinance training sessions and then have a large Arbor Day celebration.

**Motion and Second:** Councilmember Karen Meinzen McEnerney moved to approve Agenda Item No. 10-116, a Resolution Authorizing the City’s Application under FY2010 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program. Councilmember DeJulio seconded the motion.

**Councilmember Meinzen McEnerney** asked if the workshops on the importance and values of trees would be for homeowners.

Grant Administrator Freeman stated the workshops would be open to the public. A primary focus is for City developers, because many of them aren’t aware of the tree conservation ordinance.

**Mayor Eva Galambos** asked if there are any other questions.

**Vote on the Motion:** The motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

a) Mayor and Council Reports
Mayor Eva Galambos stated a majority of the Council approved participation in the Military Appreciation Day at the end of May. Councilmembers need to let Mayor Galambos know whether or not they will be attending, so unused seats can be released to staff and military personnel. The date for this event is May 24, 2010, at the Cobb Galleria. Also, several of the elected officials are going to the Georgia Municipal Association Conference and it would be nice to have door prizes this year.

Director of Communications Judy Parker stated she has already received a $150 waffle iron donated by Newell-Rubbermaid.

Mayor Galambos asked Councilmember Paulson if he’d like to carry the City flag at the Municipal Association convention. She then asked Councilmember Jenkins if she can be the formal representative of the City at the business meeting.

Councilmember Dianne Fries asked if the Mayor would like Hospitality to make a gift basket and the response was yes.

b) Staff Reports

City Manager John McDonough stated the household hazardous waste day is in June. He will send out the exact date. A household hazardous waste day was held in Johns Creek, at a cost of $60,000, in which they serviced over 500 households. This event is limited to City residents. The purpose is to dispose of fluorescent light bulbs, hazardous material, pesticides, paints, etc.

Councilmember Fries asked the City Manager if he was suggesting the City have one of these days and pay for it. Is it different than the recycling day and where will it be?

City Manager McDonough answered yes; it is a hazardous waste day. Staff is proposing it be held at the old Jumper Chevrolet site.

Councilmember John Paulson asked if the City pays for this and how much it will cost.

City Manager McDonough stated that the estimate is about $60,000.

Mayor Galambos stated the reason it is costly is because you have to pay someone to dispose of the hazardous materials.

Motion and Second: Councilmember Meinzen McEnery moved to add this item to the agenda; and make a resolution to engage Keep North Fulton Beautiful to conduct a hazardous waste disposal day in the month of June at a cost not to exceed $60,000. Councilmember Paulson seconded the motion.

City Manager McDonough stated this item can be brought back at the next meeting with a full report.

Withdrawal of Motion: Councilmember Meinzen McEnery withdrew the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Eva Galambos called for public comments.

Elna Sheetz, 145 N. Mill Rd., stated she is from the Community Action Center and thanked Mayor and Council for their support. She would like Council to consider the topography for the sidewalk on the south side where there is a blind rise, and people coming from MARTA would have a problem crossing
the street with strollers and at night.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**
There was no Executive Session called.

*(Agenda Item No. 10-117)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember DeJulio moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Fries seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Date Approved: August 3, 2010

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Michael Casey, City Clerk