
Work Session of the Sandy Springs City Council was held Tuesday, August 18, 2009, 9:09 p.m., Mayor Eva Galambos presiding.

Community Development

1. TA09-018 – An Ordinance to Amend Article 22, Appeals, and Article 28, Rezoning and Other Amendment Procedures, of the Sandy Springs Zoning Ordinance.

Director of Community Development Nancy Leathers stated these amendments are an attempt to establish an appeals procedure in the Zoning Ordinance which allows all the ordinances in the City to be appealed in the same way to the same body. Staff is working with the City Attorney to develop language and revisions which would allow everything to be referred back to the Zoning Ordinance.

Public Works

1. Funding Issues for the Capital Improvement Program Streetscape Projects, Sandy Springs Circle and Hammond Drive Pedestrian Enhancements Phase 1 (T-0006) and Roswell Road (Cliftwood to Hammond) Streetscape (T-0008).

Transportation Engineer Greg Ramsey stated the major issue staff is facing is that very few owners are willing to donate the property and these issues were not budgeted in these projects. In order to complete the projects without the donations, it will cost approximately \$1.5 million. There is some flexibility with project T-0006 in which the City could reallocate the funds from phase two or phase three into phase one.

Councilmember Paul asked what happens to the money if the City decided to cancel the projects.

Transportation Engineer Ramsey answered that the City would lose the LCI funds for that section.

Councilmember DeJulio asked how much money does the City have invested into the project.

Transportation Engineer Ramsey stated the City has encumbered the design cost at this point; \$40,000 for T-0006 and \$68,000 for T-0008.

Councilmember MacGinnitie asked the total project cost was for each of these projects.

Transportation Engineer Ramsey stated the total cost for T-0008 will be \$2.2 million.

Councilmember Paul stated these are projects that will enhance the value of the property along the roads. He stated if the banks and property owners don't see the value of that, then the City should pull the plug on it. The City should reallocate the funds available to use the other projects.

City Manager John McDonough suggested allowing staff to look at alternatives to still utilize the available funds, work with those owners that are willing to donate, and to return to Council with recommendations. Council agreed to this suggestion.

City Attorney

1. Proposed Amendments to the Business and Occupation Tax Ordinance to Provide for Hearings and Appeals.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated this is a proposal dealing with amendments to the Occupation Tax Ordinance. The ordinance the City adopted from Fulton County did not have anything in it regarding the process of appeals by a taxpayer. This has been a continuing issue and concern, because due process is not built in as a means of informing them what they need to do and the deadlines required for appealing.

After discussion, the consensus of Council was to move forward with this item at the next Regular Council Meeting.

2. Proposed Ordinance Regarding within the Right-of-Way

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated the Zoning Ordinance addresses private property parking. This ordinance will clarify and make better provisions with parking requirements on the streets, standing parking.

After discussion, the consensus of Council was to move forward with this item on the Consent Agenda at the next Regular Council Meeting.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Date Approved: March 16, 2010



Eva Galambos, Mayor



Michael Casey, City Clerk