City Council Meeting
July 8, 2019
Office of the City Clerk
CITY HALL
2 PARK PLAZA
6:30 PM

Official Minutes

The public is advised that the following minutes are not a verbatim transcription of business presented at the Council Meeting of the date shown; but are a synopsis of pertinent information. The public is further advised that the tapes recorded at said meeting are a matter of public record and are available to be heard at the City of Alpharetta's Clerk's office during normal business hours.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- *Mayor Gilvin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.*

II. ROLL CALL

- Council Members
  - Mayor Jim Gilvin
  - Mayor Pro Tem Donald F. Mitchell
  - Jason Binder
  - Ben Burnett
  - John Hipes
  - Dan Merkel
  - Karen Richard
- Staff
  - Bob Regus, City Administrator
  - Sam Thomas, City Attorney
  - James Drinkard, Asst. City Administrator
  - Peter Sewczwicz, Director of Public Works
  - John Robison, Director of Public Safety
  - Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Services
  - Michael Woodman, Senior Planner
  - Eric Graves, Senior Transportation Engineer/Planner
  - Tom Harris, Director of Finance

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

IV. PROCLAMATIONS

A. Eagle Scout Recognition for Troop 3143 Akshay Chaparala

B. Proclamation for Dr. Donald C. Martin

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Council Meeting Minutes (Meeting of 6/17/2019)

B. Financial Management Report: Month Ending May 31, 2019

- ❖ Council Member Merkel offered a motion to approve the consent agenda
  - The motion received a second from Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell
  - The motion was approved (6-1); Council Member Burnett abstained

VI. PUBLIC HEARING

A. PH-19-03: City of Alpharetta Capital Improvement Element

- Senior Transportation Engineer/Planner, Eric Graves, came forward to present this item.
- Staff recommends Mayor and Council approve a resolution adopting the 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Element and Annual Report as required to keep Qualified Local Government status.
- The Georgia Planning Act of 1989 (The Act) requires that local governments keep their Comprehensive Plans current as a pre-requisite for maintaining Qualified Local Government status, a requirement for eligibility for receipt of State of Georgia funds. The Act requires that local governments provide annual updates to their Capital Improvement Element (CIE), prepared in accordance with the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures and the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements.
- The CIE is designed to provide insight into key infrastructure and public improvement projects being undertaken and completed by local jurisdictions. The Annual Report details on an annualized basis the collection and use of funds derived from impact fees. Together these documents provide a means of tracking local government performance and serve as a tool for measuring progress with respect to achieving community goals as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan.
- The City of Alpharetta is required to transmit its annual update of the Capital Improvement Element to the Atlanta Regional Commission for review prior to Council Adoption.
- City Attorney, Sam Thomas, read the resolution aloud.

Public Comment:

- No Public Comment

- ❖ Council Member Richard offered a motion to approve PH-19-03: City of Alpharetta Capital Improvement Element and the resolution adopting the 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Element and Annual Report as required to keep Qualified Local Government status.

- The motion received a second from Council Member Binder

- The motion was approved unanimously (7-0)

B. E-19-02: Old Alabama Road Connector / Chapman Sign Exception

- Senior Planner, Michael Woodman, came forward to present this item.

- Staff recommends Mayor and Council approve E-19-02: Old Alabama Road Connector / Chapman Sign Exception, subject to the following conditions:

  1. Two (2) monument signs, each no more than 32 square feet in sign copy area and limited to no more than four (4) tenant panels, shall be permitted no closer than one-foot (1') from the property line along Old Alabama Road Connector.

  2. Monument signs shall provide sufficient sight distance should Old Alabama Road Connector be expanded in the future, as approved by Staff.

  3. Monument signs shall have a brick or stone base and sign cabinet shall not be internally illuminated. Decorative landscape beds shall be provided at the base of each monument sign and tree removal shall be limited, with final approval by Staff.

- The applicant, Jean Chapman, is requesting consideration of a sign exception to allow two (2) secondary monument signs within one-foot (1') of the property line along Old Alabama Road Connector. The Unified Development Code (UDC) requires that secondary monument signs be setback at least 10' from the public right-of-way. The subject property is located at 10375, 10405 & 10425 Old Alabama Road Connector on the east side of Old Alabama Road Connector and south of Mansell Road.

- The subject property is zoned O-I (Office-Institutional) and is developed with three (3), 1-story office condominium buildings. Surrounding properties are also zoned O-I, except that the property to the east is City of Roswell. Verizon Wireless is located to the west, City of Roswell to the east, an undeveloped office parcel to the south and North Point Prep School is located to the north.

- UDC Section 2.6.11 (F) General Provisions – Placement of Signs states, "Except within the Central Business District, all free-standing signs must be set back at least ten (10) feet from the public right-of-way. Within the Central Business District, all free-standing signs must be set back at least five (5) feet from the public right-of-way."

- The applicant proposes two (2) secondary monument signs at each of the project entrances and located no closer than one-foot (1') from the property line along Old Alabama Road Connector. The subject property's front property line, along Old Alabama Road Connector, is setback approximately 40' – 50' from the edge of the road. In addition, the development's parking lot is located approximately 3' – 4' from the front property line. It appears that right-of way for a future expansion of Old Alabama Road Connector was secured from the property after its development, which ultimately lead to a very limited area to place ground signage. According to the City's Public Works Department, there are no plans to widen Old Alabama Road Connector.

- Staff has reviewed the application and is in general agreement with the requested sign exception. The sign exception criteria have been met and the applicant's request should not impact surrounding properties. The proposal is unique given that the office condominium development is setback 40' – 50' from Old Alabama Road Connector. If approved, conditions are recommended requiring that both monument signs provide sufficient sight distance should Old Alabama Road Connector be

expanded in the future.

- The applicant notified adjacent property owners of the sign variance request and intent for the property. The citizen participation report states that no comments were received.

- The CZIM was held on June 12, 2019. No one signed-in and there were no comments on the request.

- The applicant, Jean Chapman, came forward to address questions from Mayor and Council and ensured Council that the address posted on the sign will be visible from the road.

Public Comment:

- No Public Comment

❖ Council Member Richard offered a motion to approve the E-19-02: Old Alabama Road Connector / Chapman Sign Exception, subject to the following conditions:

1. Two (2) monument signs, each no more than 32 square feet in sign copy area and limited to no more than four (4) tenant panels, shall be permitted no closer than one-foot (1') from the property line along Old Alabama Road Connector.

2. Monument signs shall provide sufficient sight distance should Old Alabama Road Connector be expanded in the future, as approved by Staff.

3. Monument signs shall have a brick or stone base and sign cabinet shall not be internally illuminated. Decorative landscape beds shall be provided at the base of each monument sign and tree removal shall be limited, with final approval by Staff.

- The motion received a second from Council Member Binder

- The motion was approved unanimously (7-0)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Traffic Preemption System (RFP 19-113)

- Director of Public Safety, John Robison, came forward to present this item.

- Staff recommends Mayor and Council approve RFP 19-113 to Temple Inc. at a cost not to exceed $300,000 for the installation of a traffic preemption system, associated equipment, and 5-year connectivity and support contract and authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.

- A traffic preemption system allows Fire Apparatus to turn traffic lights "green" and move through intersections in a safer manner when responding to emergency calls. The City's current traffic preemption system is over 20-years old, operates at only 40 intersections (of 129 signalized intersections in the City), and uses only Line-of-Sight (LOS) technology to activate the system. New technology is location-based (GPS) and much more efficient at moving traffic through lights upon pre-determined routes (as opposed to LOS). Updated traffic preemption system technology will result in improved call response time as well as roadway safety for the public and our first responders.

- Anticipating the need to replace the traffic preemption system, the Public Safety Department requested funding in both the FY 2019 and 2020 budgets. Funding totaling $300,000 is now available to implement this technology at as many intersections as the funding allows.

- To this end, Public Safety Department staff, in conjunction with Finance staff, prepared RFP 19-113 and advertised in March/April 2019. Proposals were received on April 18, 2019 and consisted of two responses which were submitted to the Evaluation Committee for review and ranking.

- The Evaluation Committee met on May 8, 2019 to tabulate the overall scores. Each proposal was evaluated based on the following criteria: comparable experience (30%); project team (15%); approach to project (30%); and Cost/# of Intersections (25%). The resulting scores were as follows (ranking of "1" to "5" with "5" being the highest):

    1. Temple Inc. (4.30)
    2. OB Traffic (2.53)

- The Temple proposal scored higher than OB Traffic in every category except cost. Temple's average cost per intersection totaled $2,831 which OB Traffic totaled $2,012. The Temple proposal will allow for the installation of traffic preemption system technology at 100 intersections throughout the City. A significant improvement over the 40 intersections currently active. Temple's traffic preemption system has a proven track record in the State of Georgia along with stellar support and maintenance.

Public Comment:

- No Public Comment

❖ Council Member Hipes offered a motion to approve RFP 19-113 to Temple Inc. for an amount not to exceed $300,000 for the installation of a traffic preemption system, associated equipment, and 5-year connectivity and support contract and authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.

- The motion received a second from Council Member Merkel

- The motion was approved unanimously (7-0)

B. Intergovernmental Agreement with Fulton County for Election Services

- City Clerk, Erin Cobb, came forward to present this item.

- Staff recommends Mayor and Council's approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County and the City of Alpharetta for the provision of election services for the 2019 Municipal Election in the amount not to exceed $201,945.00.

- The City of Alpharetta has requested that Fulton County conduct our 2019 Municipal Election on November 5, 2019. The County will handle all aspects of the election with the exception of qualifying, which will be handled by the City Clerk's office. Qualifying will take place on August 19, 2019 through August 21, 2019.

- The November 2019 Municipal Election will be held in order to elect a Mayor and three (3) members of the City Council (Posts 4, 5, and 6). Also included in this election are House Bill 430 (elimination of income restrictions on senior homestead exemptions) and House Bill 431 (an increase in homestead exemption from $40,000 to $45,000) Referendums.

- The total amount of the contract is $201,945.00, which includes services for election day and an early voting period of 3 weeks. This amount has increased since the previous Municipal Elections for the following reasons:

    - The City of Atlanta was involved during the previous elections and will not be having an election this year. When several cities are holding elections at once, Fulton County divides the costs amongst cities based on the number of registered voters per city. The City of Atlanta

contains a very high number of registered voters; therefore, when they are involved in the election, they consume a significant portion of the cost.

- Fulton County now does Head of Household mailings before major elections. These mailings provide important election information to each eligible household.

- Fulton County is now requiring more hands-on training for the poll workers. The increase in training results in additional payments for class instructors, class assistants, and other temporary employees who assist with the classes.

- Additionally, Fulton County has increased Election Day security.

- Currently we have $144,000.00 budgeted for election services which was based on historical cost trends. The additional funds will be transferred during the mid-year budget adjustments from (1) Contingency; (2) Revenues exceeding budget; or (3) a combination of both.

Public Comment:

- No Public Comment

❖ Council Member Merkel offered a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County and the City of Alpharetta for the provision of election services for the 2019 Municipal Election in an amount not to exceed $201,945.00.

- The motion received a second from Council Member Richard

- The motion was approved unanimously (7-0)

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- No Public Comment

IX. REPORTS

- Council Member Binder thanked the Staff that created a great Fourth of July event at Wills Park. Additionally, Council Member Binder announced that Saturday, July 13th the City will be hosting another Home by Dark concert series at Brooke Street Park featuring Marcia Ramirez and Caeland Garner.

- Council Member Hipes commended the Alpharetta arts community for hosting the Southern Summer Arts Center gallery show that took place over the weekend.

- Council Member Richard announced the Community Zoning Information Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the rotunda of City Hall.

- Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell commended the Public Works Department who was instrumental in the success of the Fourth of July event at Wills Park.

- Mayor Gilvin made an announcement regarding the recent loss of a Hall County officer who was killed in the line of duty and to keep him and his family in your thoughts. Additionally, commending our Public Safety Department who put their lives on the line everyday for the safety of our residents.

X. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

❖ Council Member Merkel offered a motion to adjourn to Executive Session

- The motion received a second from Mayor Pro Tem Mitchell
- The motion was approved (6-1); Council Member Burnett voting in opposition

❖ With no further business to discuss or items to be heard, Mayor Gilvin adjourned the meeting at 7:08 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Cobb, City Clerk