

Regular Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding

INVOCATION

Reverend Michael Sullivan, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, offered the invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting Page Imani Phillips, North Springs Charter High School student, led the Pledge of Allegiance

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

Superior Court of Fulton County Judge Shawn Ellen LaGrua administrated the Oath of Office to all of the Councilmembers elect and then to the Mayor elect.

Mayor Rusty Paul gave a brief speech following the swearing in ceremony. He began by thanking his family members and paying homage to his predecessor, Eva Galambos. He quoted President Kennedy's inaugural address stating, "...the torch has passed to a new generation." After eight years in existence, the City has emerged from childhood into adolescence and is maturing. The City operates with unparalleled efficiency and effectiveness. He is starting his term as Mayor with four primary objectives that he asked Council to help achieve.

First is completing the City Center project; transforming that area into a place that we embrace. The new mixed-use project of the City Center should become the heartbeat of Sandy Springs. This should be a place where community happens with parks, and performing and visual arts. The City Center should be an area for groups of people to meet and interact and enjoy community activities.

Second, the City Center should be used to help revitalize the Roswell Road corridor. The community must make a commitment to improve the Roswell Road area by patronizing the restaurants and retail businesses that already exist. Our government's job is to ensure this redevelopment brings with it the quality the community deserves and expects.

Next, the City is a desirable and successful community due to the wonderful neighborhoods. There is nothing more important than protecting and preserving the neighborhood quality and character of Sandy Springs. It's our neighborhoods that give us cohesiveness. Neighborhoods are dynamic and need to be evolving. At the same time, there should be a concentration on commercial and retail growth within well-defined areas, while assuring the neighborhoods and housing are updated, attractive, and inviting. The City needs affordable owner-occupied and rental housing that meets the needs of our police, fire, EMS, teachers, nurses, young professionals, and young families.

Finally, over the next four years he will talk a lot about building community. The City has done a tremendous job and functions well at being efficient, effective, and innovative. However, City does not equate to community. Community is where we care for each other, bond with one another and work with one another to develop common goals and a common vision for what this City can become.

One of the greatest honors ever afforded to him is the trust the City has given by electing him Mayor. Former Mayor Eva Galambos set a standard that is impossible to match, but he will strive for what they both and the Council believe in, and what the citizens want: quality in all we do; maintain a record of integrity in all we attempt; think innovatively when confronted with challenges; and settle for nothing less than the greatness that this City, this community, deserves.

BENEDICTION

Rabbi Ron Segal, Temple Sinai, offered the benediction.

There was a 10 minute recess at this time to allow people to leave before the Regular meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Paul called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to approve the Regular Meeting agenda for January 7, 2014, with the addition of an agenda item for the appointment of a member to the Sandy Springs Development Authority. Councilmember Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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 Paul present

Councilmembers: Councilmember John Paulson, Councilmember Ken Dishman, Councilmember Graham McDonald, Councilmember Gabriel Sterling, Councilmember Tibby DeJulio, and Councilmember Andy Bauman present.

ELECTION OF A COUNCILMEMBER TO BE MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to nominate Councilmember Tibby DeJulio as Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilmember Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael McDonald, 7040 Riverside Drive NW, asked for an update regarding the proposed Braves stadium and how it will impact Sandy Springs traffic.

Mayor Rusty Paul stated that there is not an update at this point, but staff has begun the process of analyzing the impact.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Agenda Item No. 14-001)

1. Meeting Minutes:
 - a) December 17, 2013 Regular Meeting
(Michael Casey, City Clerk)

(Agenda Item No. 14-002)

2. Consideration of the Acceptance of the dedication of two Right of Way Deeds as part of the zoning requirements (7700 and 7710 Nesbit Ferry Road)
(*Garrin Coleman, Director of Public Works*)
Resolution 2014-01-01

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Paulson moved to approve the Consent Agenda for January 7, 2014. Councilmember DeJulio seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Heards Ferry Elementary School Relocation Update - David Knotts, Director of Land Management, Fulton County Schools

Director of Land Management David Knotts introduced the following individuals in attendance: Director of Capital Improvements Mike Wilbourne; Executive Director of Facilities Services Joseph Clements; Jeff Julaino and Mike Leach, employees of Collins Cooper Carusi; Chip Brown with Breedlove Planning; and District 3 Fulton County School Boardmember Gail Dean.

Jeff Julaino with Collins Cooper Carusi gave the presentation.

Councilmember John Paulson asked what the target number of students for this school building is.

Mr. Julaino responded 850 students.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked how many students are currently attending Heards Ferry Elementary.

Mr. Julaino stated the number is less than 850 students, around 600.

Councilmember Andy Bauman asked how many children may be able to walk to this school.

Mr. Julaino stated they have not looked at those numbers.

Mr. Knotts stated Fulton County schools also did a student count when the traffic study was being done. The current number of students that walk to the school ranges from twenty-eight families up to as many as fifty-two, depending on the weather. A study for the future has not been determined.

Councilmember Bauman asked if additional infrastructure will be needed for this.

Mr. Knotts responded no. This will all be done through the acquisition.

Councilmember Sterling asked if anything has been taken into consideration regarding the traffic, especially the proposed Braves stadium and the infrastructure needed to keep the children safe when walking near the school.

Mr. Knotts stated Fulton County has been in discussions with the City regarding the stadium being close by and will determine what needs to be done.

Councilmember Graham McDonald stated people drive cars at a high speed on Powers Ferry Road. He asked if there will be buffers along the play fields to protect the school children from traffic.

Mr. Knotts stated Fulton County has determined what needs to be done for the traffic includes installing traffic calming devices.

Councilmember Sterling asked if traffic calming can be placed on Powers Ferry Road; if pedestrian infrastructure in place; and if it is in the pedestrian plan.

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated he believes Mr. Knotts was referring to the speed signs and a mid-block crossing. Staff is looking at a sidewalk extension as part of this project. There are four to five other intersections that will need turn lane extensions or modifications.

Councilmember Sterling stated with the addition of the Braves stadium he is concerned about the traffic plan.

Director of Public Works Coleman stated staff is taking that into account.

Councilmember Bauman stated this will be the first public school in District 6. He asked if this item will be heard by Council again.

Mr. Knotts stated this is the first update on this project. Fulton County will meet with the community next before coming back to Council again with another update.

Councilmember Sterling asked about Riverwood High School.

Mr Knotts stated Heard's Ferry Elementary will be constructed first and then the redevelopment of Riverwood will be planned.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Alcoholic Beverage License

(Agenda Item No. 14-003)

1. Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for The Liquor Cabinet at 7748 Spalding Dr, Norcross, Georgia 30092. Applicant is Govindbhai P. Patel for Retail/Package Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this item is a change of ownership for an alcoholic beverage license application for wine, malt beverage, and distilled spirits for The Liquor Cabinet. The applicant has met all requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Rusty Paul asked about the address being located in Norcross, GA.

Councilmember John Paulson stated that area is serviced by the Post Office in Norcross, even though the address is physically in Sandy Springs.

Mayor Paul called for public comments in support of or in opposition to the application. There were no public comments.

Motion and Second: Councilmember Paulson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14-003, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for The Liquor Cabinet at 7748 Spalding Drive, for Retail/Package Wine, Malt Beverage & Distilled Spirits. Councilmember Sterling seconded the motion.

Councilmember Paulson stated the application indicates the business is located in The River Exchange shopping center, but it is actually in Spalding Corners shopping center. He asked if the two names are for the same location.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked when the zip code issue can be addressed.

Director of Communications Sharon Kraun responded it is currently being reviewed.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.

(Agenda Item No. 14-004)

2. Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Traditions Golf Management, LLC DBA Steel Canyon at 460 Morgan Falls Rd Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350. Applicant is Gregory A Nesbitt for Consumption on Premises Malt Beverage

Finance Director Karen Ellis stated this item is a new application for consumption on the premises of malt beverage for Steel Canyon Golf Club. The applicant has met all the requirements and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Paul called for public comments in support of or in opposition to the application. There were no public comments.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Sterling moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14-004, Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Traditions Golf Management, LLC DBA Steel Canyon at 460 Morgan Falls Road, for Consumption on Premises of Malt Beverage. Councilmember Dishman seconded the motion. There was no Council discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

(Agenda Item No. 14-005)

1. Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City and Fulton County School Board for the Use of School Facilities at Lake Forest Elementary School

Director of Recreation and Parks Ronnie Young stated this item is the renewal of an existing IGA that the City's Recreation and Parks Department has with the Fulton County School Board for the use of school facilities at Lake Forest Elementary School. He requested that Council approve this item for the City Manager to sign.

Motion and Second: Councilmember Paulson moved to approve Agenda Item No. 14-005, Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City and Fulton County School Board for the Use of School Facilities at Lake Forest Elementary School. Councilmember DeJulio seconded the motion.

Councilmember John Paulson asked if there is any change in this IGA compared to last year.

Director Recreation and Parks Young responded no. The agreement obligates the City to perform maintenance outside the school facility, which includes the grounds, shrubbery, and the grass playing field. This is a great use for the building, because the City does not have to invest in a similar type of facility in order to offer programs to the children.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked if the City has an IGA with Heard's Ferry Elementary and if this is something the City should consider.

Director Recreation and Parks Young responded not at this time. City staff will investigate the possibility for the future.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

1. Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor Rusty Paul stated since he is no longer a member of the Development Authority, there needs to be an appointment to the board in order to have a quorum for the meeting on Thursday, January 9th.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated the Development Authority assisted The Davis Academy with a refinance on the loan for the property in order to save on interest payments. The Weber School is now seeking assistance from the Development Authority to refinance the \$10.2 million school loan.

Mayor Paul nominated Craig Johns to fill a vacancy as a member of the Sandy Springs Development Authority.

Motion and Second: Councilmember Sterling moved to approve the nomination of Craig Johns to the Sandy Springs Development Authority. Councilmember Dishman seconded the motion.

City Attorney Willard stated the Development Authority is limited to one elected official serving on the board.

Mayor Paul stated he will be bringing additional appointments to Council for different boards in the near future.

Vote on the Motion: The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling stated the annual MLK Celebration will be held on January 20, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in the Council chambers.

Mayor Paul stated at a future meeting he will recommend to Council a resolution that will combine the current functions of the Design Review Board with the Planning Commission in order to streamline the City's processes.

2. Staff Reports

a) November Financial Report – Finance Director Karen Ellis

Councilmember Gabriel Sterling asked if the City is bringing in more revenue than originally anticipated based on the new State tax law for automobile tags.

Finance Director Karen Ellis responded that is correct.

Councilmember Sterling stated the City is behind on interest earned compared to what is in the budget. Staff discussed following its own policy of investment for the three State allowed options in order to give the City more revenue.

Finance Director Ellis stated from November through December 2013 the City's certificates of deposit matured and currently there is little invested. She has already prepared something for the City Manager's review regarding the City's investment strategy.

Director of Public Works Garrin Coleman stated the City currently has a bridge replacement project going on at the Northridge interchange over GA 400. Staff met with GDOT and the contractor prior to the holidays regarding traffic backups in the afternoon going northbound. The contractor will implement

a striping change next week. When driving northbound on GA 400 traffic enters the loop ramp and then goes back to the intersection at Dunwoody Place. Currently, there are two lanes in that direction. One is a dedicated left turn lane going southbound on GA 400 and the other is a through lane. The goal is to restripe the dedicated left turn into a straight-thru left lane and possibly provide a left turn if there is room. Staff is also looking at adding an additional message board to try to prevent que jumping.

Mayor Paul asked if staff has discussed hiring an off duty police officer to assist with the traffic congestion during rush hour.

Director of Public Works Coleman responded no, but that is something staff will consider. Staff discovered the northbound ramp meter was not functioning properly and that is being corrected. The contractor appears to be on schedule and plans on doing limited blasting on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, January 6th - 10th between the hours of 12 – 4 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Gannon, 505 Taunton Way, wonders why Fulton County tears down and rebuilds schools faster than any other school system in the country.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation and Real Estate

Motion and Vote: Councilmember DeJulio moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation and real estate matters. Councilmember Sterling seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with Councilmember Paulson, Councilmember Dishman, Councilmember McDonald, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember DeJulio and Councilmember Bauman voting in favor of the motion. Executive Session began at 7:18 p.m.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember DeJulio moved to adjourn Executive Session. Councilmember Dishman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, with Councilmember Paulson, Councilmember Dishman, Councilmember McDonald, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember DeJulio and Councilmember Bauman voting in favor of the motion. Executive session adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

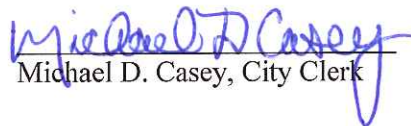
ADJOURNMENT

Motion and Vote: Councilmember DeJulio moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Sterling seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Date Approved: January 21, 2014



Russell K. Paul, Mayor



Michael D. Casey, City Clerk

CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GA

STATE OF GEORGIA
FULTON COUNTY

January 7, 2014

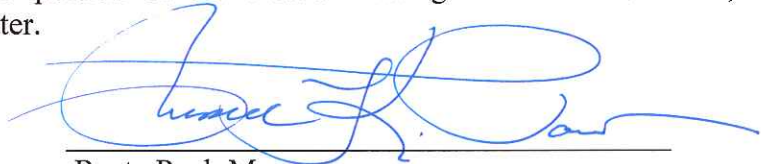
AFFIDAVIT FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personally comes Eva Galambos, Mayor of the City of Sandy Springs, who on oath says that to the best of her knowledge and belief, on the 7th day of January, 2014, in the city aforesaid, a meeting of the Council was closed to the public for the following reason(s):

Discussion or voting on real estate matters pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(b)(1);

Attorney/client privilege in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency or any officer or employee or in which the agency or any officer or employee may be directly involved, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1).

and that except for the foregoing, no portion of the closed meeting involved discussion, presentation, or action on any other matter.



Rusty Paul, Mayor

Sworn to and subscribed before me,
this 7th day of January, 2014.



Notary public (SEAL)

