

Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 6:01 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

Invocation – Rev. Dr. Bill Murray – Holy Innocents’ Episcopal Church

Council Members present: Council Members: John Paulson, Chris Burnett, Jody Reichel, Andy Bauman, Steve Soteres and Tibby DeJulio.

STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

Performing Arts Center

1. **19-363** Performing Arts Center Update

Director of Performing Arts Center, Shaun Albrechtson provided a brief update of his first 100 days at the City Springs / Sandy Springs Performing Arts Center. Focus will be on branding because there is some confusion in local surrounding areas and businesses. Additionally, discussed the Internal Operating Platform, repackaging food and beverage, the need to stabilize programming; upcoming season 3 programming, annual and partner events, programed events, City Springs Membership Program and Future Steps.

Public Works

2. **19-364** Steam Impairment Study

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert introduced Kim Shorter with SWP&E, LLC who presented the results of their Steam Impairment Study. Sandy Springs has four (4) waters that are impaired: Crooked Creek, Long Island Creek, Marsh Creek and Nancy Creek. There were 139 stormwater projects identified, 38 of which are stream restoration projects and represent a \$111 million dollar total investment.

3. **19-365** Nancy Creek Watershed Improvement Project

Assistant City Manager Jim Tolbert explained that in response to the study just presented and along with the City’s new Sustainability Manager, staff began exploring ways the City might make a difference. There was some flooding that occurred in the Nancy Creek watershed in August, and the City began investigating and working on solutions.

Sustainability Manager Catherine Mercier-Baggett presented that although this creek is located in 3 counties and touches 7 cities, Sandy Springs has about 6 square miles of watershed in the City. Most of the watershed has been declared a sensitive area, where the City of Sandy Springs has higher requirements for stormwater management. In response to the August flooding, there is an upcoming project to be located at Pine Forest Road / Old Creek Road at Dalmer that will (a) improve the catch basin at 425/435 Pine Forest Road; (b) address pipe size at 420 Old Creek Road; and (c) address the junction box at 430 Old Creek Road. Staff is recommending a watershed study to include understanding the threat; determine ways to assist with obstruction removal; study impact of recent developments; address stream restoration and coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions. There is a multi-disciplinary group already assembled. Staff is proposing in-house preliminary project coping and findings presentation in early 2020. If it is determined that consultants are needed, there is \$250,000 set aside for Green Infrastructure. Staff will be issuing a Request for Proposal in early spring of 2020 with project delivery in the summer of 2022.

4. **19-366** False Alarm Reduction Program Update

Police Captain Dan Nable stated that the City now operates under a True Verification monitoring protocol prior to 911 being called related to intrusion alarm activations. There is a three-step process: Confirmation by alarm user at the alarm site or via self-monitored audio/visual equipment; confirmation by a private guard responder at the alarm site; or audible and/or visual evident provided by a monitored alarm system, provided such evidence shall be made available to the 911 center (within 24 hours). With True Verification, the calls have dropped approximately 80%. The City still experiences a 99%+ false alarm rates, but the call volume into ChatComm and the reduced burden on the responding officers has reduced significantly. There still will need to be some small modifications to the Ordinance.

- The proposed ordinance modifications include:
 - Clarification that failure to provide proof of verification for an intrusion alarm constitutes a false verification.
 - Deleting obsolete language from the definition of "Verify".
 - The proposed resolution would establish fines for false verification:
 - First failure to submit verification: \$250
 - Second failure to submit verification: \$500
 - Three or more failures to submit verification: \$1,000

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at: 6:51 p.m.

Date Approved: November 19, 2019.



Russell K. Paul, Mayor



Coty Thigpen, City Clerk