

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 1 of 13

Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on September 3, 2024 Following Work Session, Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

II. Roll Call and General Announcements

Members Present: Mayor Rusty Paul, Councilmember John Paulson, Councilmember Melody Kelley, Councilmember Melissa Mular, Councilmember Jody Reichel, Councilmember Tibby DeJulio, Councilmember Andrew Bauman

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rusty Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Public Comment

1. **Bill Griffith, 9580 Roberts Drive, Sandy Springs - Roberts Drive Sidepath**

V. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Tibby DeJulio**, seconded by **Councilmember John Paulson**, to approve the meeting agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

VI. Consent Agenda

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Jody Reichel**, seconded by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- A. **2024-217** Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2024 City Council Special Called Meeting
August 20, 2024 City Council Meeting
- B. **2024-218** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration to Accept the Dedication of Permanent Easement for the Construction and Maintenance of Slopes on Property Located at 2480 Spalding Drive (Tax ID# 06-0358- LL-079-0), Lying in Land Lot 358 of the 6th District, Fulton County, City of Sandy Springs, Georgia

Resolution No. 2024-09-118

- C. **2024-219** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration to Accept the Dedication of Permanent Easement for the Construction and Maintenance of Slopes on Property Located at 5720 Riverside Drive (Tax ID# 17- 0165-LL0311), Lying in Land Lots 165 and 166 of the 17th District, Fulton County, City of Sandy Springs, Georgia

Resolution No. 2024-09-119

- D. **2024-220** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement on Property Located at 387 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070-0002-002-3); S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-120

- E. **2024-221** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement on Property Located at 399 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070-0002-010-6); S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-121

- F. **2024-222** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement on Property Located at 415 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070-0002-011-4); S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-122

- G. **2024-223** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement on Property Located at 425 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070-0002-005-6); S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-123

- H. **2024-224** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of an Agreement to Purchase Fee Simple Right of Way and Temporary Construction Easement on Property Located at 561 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070-0001-010-7); S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-124

- I. **2024-225** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Acceptance of a Temporary Easement for Construction of Driveway on Property Located at 367 Hammond Drive in Land Lot 70 of the 17th District, City of Sandy Springs (Tax ID #17-0070- LL-028-1), Associated with the S2-193 Hammond Drive Widening Project

Resolution No. 2024-09-125

VII. Presentations

There were no presentations.

VIII. Public Hearing

There were no public hearings.

IX. New Business

- A. **2024-226** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve a Contract Award to Rhodeside & Harwell, Inc. for the Creation of Design Guidelines and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract

Matthew Anspach, Senior Planner, Community Development presented a recommendation to approve a contract award to Rhodeside & Harwell, Inc. for the creation of design guidelines and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

The City issued Request for Proposals RFP 24-066 on May 22, 2024 to identify a contractor to create design guidelines for six areas of the City, including:

1. Greater City Springs
2. Perimeter
3. North End
4. Powers Ferry
5. Crossroads
6. Neighborhood Village

The geographic boundaries for these areas are generally shown in the map. The Design Guidelines will establish desired architectural and urban design characteristics for the various mixed-use and commercial districts noted above.

The proposed contract with RHI will total \$280,275. Sufficient funding is available in Capital Project CD 231 - Citywide Design Guidelines.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember Jody Reichel**, seconded by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, to approve a contract award to Rhodeside & Harwell, Inc. for the creation of design guidelines and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

Councilmember Reichel asked will Council be able to participate in the discussions? How long will the study take?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said yes, participation is priority. There will be opening interviews to get feedback on what is desired. The timeline is sixteen to eighteen months. It is a thorough process as we seek feedback from everyone through various means.

Councilmember Melissa Mular said there will be stakeholder groups for this. How is this put together and how does the City decide who participates?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said we will be working with the consultant team

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 4 of 13

on these details as part of the opening process but that information is not currently available. This will be a part of the interviews with Council and the outreach we make.

Councilmember John Paulson asked will this include public comments from the affected areas?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said yes.

Councilmember Andy Bauman asked what will the finished product be? Will this result in Council action, Planning Commission review, and then Council action?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said yes. There will be a new book with guidelines. As we go through the process, we will determine how to do design guidelines, how enforceable they are, and whether they create need for new development codes to help support the guidelines.

Councilmember Bauman said this is a process that may have started as it relates to the form-based code, and since the City removed the Design Review Board about ten years ago. Does the City have guidelines for what was done before?

Ginger Sottile, Director, Community Development, said there are some guidelines already in the City's Code, mostly for commercial district areas of the City, and this is what this is for. There are going to be guidelines and some will be mandated by the Code. We will determine this as we go through this process.

Councilmember Bauman said the idea is to take out some of the guesswork out of planning projects. Is it accurate to say this is all part of a form-based Code?

Community Development Director Sottile said that is correct.

Councilmember Bauman said and also to take some of the negotiation out and is separate from a rezoning.

Community Development Director Sottile said that is correct. We can guide them and share what we would love to see these projects look like and the things that will be required. There will be some back and forth, and we do this now with our Thursday meetings discussing the different design elements.

Councilmember Bauman said more information is needed on past project successes and where improvements are needed for when Council and the citizens weigh-in. What has been your experience in the last several years with the elements of this that the City has in the current codes?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said we currently have a baseline and prohibit certain things that the community determines they do not want to see from past experiences. It is a good baseline and includes details on primary colors and how much transparency you have for example. This is going to be more about the six districts, what makes them unique, how to build on that, and what the community wants to see.

Councilmember Bauman said the City has an adoptive priority of redevelopment but we are not seeing a lot of this. It is how you set the expectations. The goal is to have quality design but does not overly constrain those that want to invest in the City. Is there a goal to a bias towards flexibility for more development and redevelopment, or is this seen as restrictive, constrictive, or neutral?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said there are ways to keep anything currently in existence looking nice that may express what this area is trying to become. A lot of developers are interested in being a part of that. For any new redevelopments, this does the same thing except they are coming in brand new, and will not deter them from wanting to be a part of whatever the project is for in that area. This will especially better explain to people that may not be from here and do not know what the community wants.

Councilmember Bauman said I want to be sure that in this \$280,275 exercise plus staff time, we are cognizant of the goals here. To **Councilmember Mular's** point, it is critical we have the right stakeholder groups because I am concerned about unintended consequences, the development code, and the hand of government on this. We must be guarded that we intend that this process is to both get quality design, but not to unnecessarily constrain the redevelopment that the City needs.

Councilmember Mular said often with redevelopment, some actions trigger other things that are needed, for example more parking, or an upgraded facade. Do you foresee this happening with redevelopment and people may want to upgrade their designs standards, or will this be separate?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said we do not know the answer as yet, but there will be a difference between what comes out of this in terms of what is required, versus what is suggested. The consultant will probably say there are a lot of ways to do this and we will be cognizant of Council's comments tonight.

Mayor Paul said to **Councilmember Bauman's** comments, we all have concerns. There have been a number of conversations, not so much in the commercial districts as in the residential. **Eden Freeman, City Manager**, and I have discussed the need to look at the City's Code and figure out simple projects to minimize the amount of perceived bureaucracy that some of our contractors and homeowners have felt. This may be the same in some commercial areas. The genesis of the City's permitting process is grounded in consumer protection to ensure plans are adequate and implemented. There was a period in United States history where that was an issue and there may still be some here and elsewhere. The purpose of the permitting process is to ensure the quality of construction that the consumer is getting, and we want to make sure that continues, and we do not appear to be or become overly burdensome to the people who are trying to get this. It is an issue that we struggle with, but the good news is we meet every two weeks and can begin to fix it. We have a lot of pressure from the Georgia General Assembly, particularly with more residential than commercial design guidelines. This is because they perceive that adds to the cost of housing and there is a lot of push back. We want to ensure as we are building, it is done right, particularly on simple projects. As we go through this process, let us be cognizant that we are on a fulcrum, and we want to keep it leveled.

Councilmember Kelley asked are multifamily-developments generally included in these type of guidelines?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said yes. None of this concerns the low density residential neighborhoods, and this is more about the corridors, nodes, and districts throughout the community.

Councilmember Kelley asked will there be some overlap between this exercise and the Next Ten Comprehensive Plan? Will they operate separately, especially in terms of the stakeholder group?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said the newer Next Ten will begin after this, and

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 6 of 13

even when it does start up, it starts very slowly. It is very preliminary.

Councilmember Kelley asked will there be enough space?

Community Development Senior Planner Anspach said not quite but certain considerations should be made throughout this process to go with the newer Next Ten update.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2024-09-126

- B. **2024-227** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration to Approve a Contract Award to Blount Construction Company, Inc. to Construct the 4787 Riverview Road Drainage Improvement Project and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Contract

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to approve a contract award to Blount Construction Company, Inc. to construct the 4787 Riverview Road Drainage Improvement Project and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

In 2022, the City engaged an engineering firm to develop plans to correct deficiencies in the stormwater system under the roadway near 4787 Riverview Road property. The Project involves replacement of the deficient drainage system for the roadway and rehabilitation of a corrugated metal pipe culvert that carries stormwater to the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, property belonging to the National Park Service. The Project will upgrade the drainage system to City standards. The Project scope consists of:

- Spincast 132 linear feet (LF) of 36-inch Corrugated Metal Pipe
- Replace 39 LF of 24-inch Reinforced Concrete Pipe
- Replace two pre-cast concrete catch basins
- Install Rip Rap outlet protection
- Install a headwall

A section of the Project is partially within the National Park Service land. Initial coordination with the National Park Service has already been made, but an application for a Special Use Permit is required to be obtained by the contractor prior to construction.

To advance the Project, the City issued an Invitation to Bid (“ITB”) 25-003 on July 10, 2024 seeking bids from qualified contractors to construct the Project. A mandatory pre-bid site visit was held on July 22, 2024. Two (2) contractors attended the pre-bid meeting. However, bids from three (3) contractors were received on August 13, 2024. The bid from SCA Construction, Inc. was considered non-responsive since they did not attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting. Bid results were as follows:

Bidder	Bid
SCA Construction, Inc.(non-responsive)	\$151,956.20
Blount Construction Company, Inc.	\$301,751.06
Vertical Earth, Inc.	\$363,000.00

Upon review of the bids, City Staff recommends that contract award be made to the lowest, most

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 7 of 13

responsible and responsive bidder, Blount Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$301,751.06.

The engineer's construction cost estimate for the Project is \$250,000.00. There are adequate funds available in the Stormwater Capital Maintenance and Improvements Account budget to award this contract.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember Andy Bauman**, seconded by **Councilmember Melissa Mular**, to approve a contract award to Blount Construction Company, Inc. to construct the 4787 Riverview Road Drainage Improvement Project and to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.

Councilmember Bauman asked how is it relatively favorable for \$301, 751.06 versus the \$250,000.00 estimate? Is 20% over a good number?

Public Works Director Martin said the engineer's estimate is from someone not in the business everyday of doing this work. The contractor showed a significant level of difficulty in mobilization cost of this work. There is about a fifty-foot difference between roadway grade and some of the stormwater work that must happen on permanent drainage easement. That staging mobilization ability to access the site was key, and the engineer estimated a level of cost associated with that.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked has the City used SCA Construction in the past?

Public Works Director Martin said yes, and successfully. In this case, we were not certain they understood the complexities and the challenges of this particular site.

Councilmember DeJulio said their bid was 50% less and \$150,000 is a lot of money. Since they have done work for the City, was any attempt made to remediate this situation?

Public Works Director Martin said we required a mandatory pre-bid and site visit attendance, and they did not attend the meeting.

Councilmember DeJulio asked is this the only reason they did not get the bid?

Public Works Director Martin said yes. Their bid was \$151,956.20 but they probably did not grasp the full complexity of the project and challenges associated with it. We tried to avoid the bidder only looking at paper to assess the challenges and cost of the project without a detailed site visit and explanation from staff.

Councilmember John Paulson said it was mentioned that the thirty-six inch diameter will get spincast as part of the pre-bid. Did a spincast contractor come to the site? Was a camera used to see what it looks like?

Public Works Director Martin said we have looked. Part of the cost challenge is spincasting as staging is difficult for that work, because it is remote and down the slope. Probably crane work will be required to access and get spincast gear down there.

Councilmember Paulson asked did a spincast contractor see this?

Public Works Director Martin said no. They were not required to do that as part of the mandatory site visit, only getting the team on board was required.

Councilmember Paulson asked did they call out the spincast contractor as a sub?

Public Works Director Martin said that information is not available tonight but will be provided to Council.

Councilmember Paulson said spincasting is a lining of a pipe and sprayed with concrete. Depending on the condition of the pipe and the contractor's knowledge the contract can get lost quickly with a small project. How many feet long is this project?

Public Works Director Martin said it is one-hundred and thirty-two feet for the spincast work.

Councilmember DeJulio asked what is spincasting?

Public Works Director Martin said if it is a corrugated metal pipe, it will deteriorate over time. A concrete liner is sprayed inside to effectively create a smaller but intact ring inside the pipe, and you do not have to suffer the costs to keep the pipe up to standard.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2024-09-127

- C. **2024-228** Request for Mayor and City Council to Approve a Lighting Services Agreement with Georgia Power Company to Install Pedestrian Scale Lighting for the Morgan Falls Streetscape Project (Project No. T-2404) and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreement

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director, presented a recommendation to approve a lighting services agreement with Georgia Power Company to install pedestrian scale lighting for the Morgan Falls Streetscape Project (Project No. T-2404) and to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

The City has previously entered into agreements with GPC to obtain pedestrian scale lighting along sidewalks and side paths. Pursuant to this Agreement, GPC will provide design and construction of the lighting installation. The City will provide support to the GPC lighting installation where site adjustments are required. Upon completion of installation, GPC will operate and maintain the lighting.

The scope of work for the Project includes the following:

1. Install 59, 13' high green direct burial poles with 50 watt, post top, LED luminaires
2. Install eight, 13' high green direct burial poles with double, 50 watt, post top, LED luminaires
3. Install eight, 13' high green direct burial poles with 70 watt, shepherd's crook mounted LED luminaires
4. Install one, 13' high green direct burial pole with double, 70 watt, shepherd's crook mounted LED luminaires
5. Install eight, 120 watt, LED Archeon streetlights on existing wood distribution poles
6. Install nine, 3'-4" high, green, cast aluminum, illuminated (30 watt LED) bollards
7. Install all underground feeds to lights
8. Install photocells for dusk to dawn operation, including separate switching/controls for lights

along Lantern Parade route

The Agreement requires an upfront contribution of \$703,750.00 for installation. There is a monthly lease cost of \$2,642.13, for ongoing equipment, maintenance and energy costs, to be paid through the City's Street Lighting Account.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember Melody Kelley**, seconded by **Councilmember John Paulson**, to approve a lighting services agreement with Georgia Power Company to install pedestrian scale lighting for the Morgan Falls Streetscape Project (Project No. T-2404) and to authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked with \$703,750.00 for installation and the \$2,642.13 lease payment, what is the duration of the lease? Is it in perpetuity?

Public Works Director Martin said the \$703,750 for installation is a one-time cost. This comes out of the FY 2024 funded Street Lighting Project. From there is a City Lighting Account that is updated periodically as lights are added to where power is provided throughout City. The recurring Lighting Account annual budget item is where the monthly lease cost will land and there is a cost for the duration the lights are installed there.

Councilmember Tibby DeJulio asked what is the duration of these lights?

Public Works Director Martin said they are in perpetuity.

Councilmember Paulson asked who sets that?

Public Works Director Martin said that is established by Georgia Power.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2024-09-128

- D. **2024-229** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration to Authorize a Lease-Purchase Agreement for the Purchase of a Pierce Enforcer Pumper (Fire Truck) for the Sandy Springs Fire Department and to Authorize the City Manager to Execute All Documents Related to the Transaction

Dan Lee, City Attorney, presented a recommendation to approve a lease-purchase agreement for the purchase of a Pierce Enforcer Pumper (Fire Truck) for the Sandy Springs Fire Department and to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the transaction.

On August 6th, 2024, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into certain agreements with Pierce Manufacturing, Inc., through Ten-8 Fire & Safety, LLC, for the purchase of new equipment for the Sandy Springs Fire Department and for the buyback of current equipment of the Sandy Springs Fire Department, in the amount of \$1,102,700.00. The Mayor and City Council had previously approved, within the operating budget of the Fire Department, the annual expenditure for this fire equipment, as the initial payment on a three (3) year lease to purchase agreement.

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 10 of 13

Pierce has been the City's single source provider of fire apparatus since its inception. Pricing for the Equipment is in accordance with the competitively bid contract (RFP No.1905) awarded to Pierce by the National Purchasing Partners (NPP). RFP 1905 became effective May 27, 2020 and is valid until May 27, 2025 (with an option for three (3) additional 1-year renewals). Under the City's purchasing policies, the City is authorized to utilize competitively procured contracts provided through other governmental entities. Ten-8 and Pierce representatives have stated that the pricing under the RFP 1905 contract is the most competitive and forms the basis of what would be provided to the City under a standalone bid scenario.

Pricing includes:

- One (1) Pierce Custom Pumper with Equipment: \$1,339,290.00
- NPP.gov Discount: \$10,440.00
- North End Consortium Discount: \$22,000.00
- Pre-pay Discount: \$174,150.00
- Trade-in for one (1) 2013 Pierce Quantum Pumper: \$30,000.00
- Total Cost: \$1,102,700.00
- Delivery Time: Approximately Forty-Eight (48) months
- Payment Mode: Purchase Order upon approval
- Payment Due Date: Pre-payment upon approval (30 days)

The City of Sandy Springs Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget has appropriated funding available for this purchase with financing provided through PNC Equipment Finance, LLC at an interest rate not to exceed 4.74% for three (3) years with first payment due May 2025.

Motion and second. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Jody Reichel**, to approve a lease-purchase agreement for the purchase of a Pierce Enforcer Pumper (Fire Truck) for the Sandy Springs Fire Department and to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the transaction.

Councilmember Paulson asked is the dollar amount approved on August 6, and the dollar amount tonight the same amount of money, or less or more?

City Attorney Lee said the purchase amount is \$1,102,700. The lease is calculated at 4.74% of the initial lease payment which would be \$499,000 in May 2025. It will be three equal annual payments in arrears of that amount.

Councilmember Paulson asked will they get the truck in three years?

City Attorney Lee said it will be forty-two months.

Councilmember Paulson asked is it the same dollar amount discussed at the August 6, 2024 City Council meeting?

City Attorney Lee said it is the exact dollar amount. Because it is a different transaction and since Council voted on this, we negotiated that there will be a performance bond ensuring that the truck will be delivered though the money is already paid. The money borrowed from PNC bank will be held in escrow by the manufacturer of the truck until it is delivered, accruing interest at the time, and the City gets the credit of \$174,000 for the interest that accrues plus the escrow.

Vote on the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2024-09-129

X. Reports

A. 2024-230 Mayor and Council Report

Mayor Rusty Paul said most of Council attended the groundbreaking for North Springs High school. **Councilmember Jody Reichel** has worked on this for a long time together with individuals in the community. North Springs is one of the oldest schools in Fulton County that is being upgraded as it should have sometime ago. We are thankful for the Board of Education and the leadership of the school board to be able to get this done.

The Georgia General Assembly will return in January and preparations have started. I will be in a joint session with the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) for legislative policy discussion, to begin to look at joint policies that help local government in next year's General Assembly. There are some things policy-wise the City would like to see done and I will bring that up both at the joint meeting between the counties and the cities, as well as when GMA meets singularly on Thursday. One thing we will discuss is the City's annual Hometown Connection where all the legislators come, and we are setting this up prior to the session. We are looking forward to start preparing properly to get the kinds of things we need. If there is anything any Councilmember would like to be considered part of their legislative agenda please get it to me as soon as possible. There will be another meeting in January to discuss it once the session begins, but this is an opportunity to refine some policies that GMA will be pursuing.

B. 2024-231 Staff Reports

1. June 2024 Unaudited Financials

City Manager Freeman said **Toni Carlisle, Chief Financial Officer**, is in final preparation for the FY 2024 Audit and this is a report of the June 2024 Unaudited Financials in her absence.

As of June, the City completed FY 2024. Revenues ended at 117.70% and expenditures ended at 93.38% of the budget. The City achieved 100% of all core revenues except Motor Vehicle Taxes shown in the financial packet. The reason for that is Motor Vehicle Taxes are being phased out as vehicles purchased after March 2013 are taxed under Title Ad Valorem Tax (TAVT). The overall departmental expenditures ended below budget ranging between 42% to 97%. As mentioned, the FY 2024 Audit is in progress with auditors visiting the City to conduct their onsite testing.

Councilmember John Paulson asked how does the actual line-up with the assumed amounts for revenue and expenses?

City Manager Freeman said we anticipated fewer dollars coming in to not have a surprise at the end of the fiscal year. Overall the City performed well for FY 2024 based on the budget.

Councilmember Paulson asked is there a big difference in what was assumed for next year's budget, based on how we thought this year would end?

Meeting of the City of Sandy Springs City Council – SUMMARY MINUTES
Studio Theatre, Sandy Springs City Hall and Broadcast Via Live Webinar and Teleconference
September 3, 2024 Following Work Session
Page 12 of 13

City Manager Freeman said no. The Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) section of the packet shows the City collected \$35,000,000 but only \$26,000,000 was budgeted.

Councilmember Andy Bauman said this is why I want to focus on LOST. For the coming year, there was a lot of concern about LOST revenue and smaller concern about property taxes. It will be interesting to see the trends for July and August based on the concerns. It looks like LOST revenue finished strong and will remain in a strong position for the current fiscal year.

City Manager Freeman said the City budgeted about \$31,000,000 for LOST for FY 2025 and we were at \$35,000,000 of total collections this year. We have always taken a conservative approach to budgeting those numbers.

Mayor Paul said the agreement the City has with Fulton County means the City's portion of LOST taxes on a percentage basis will decline starting in the current year and to the end of the ten-year period. Our annual percentage will decrease. This is probably the last year we will get close to what we have historically received. Going forward it will decline slightly but there will be a significant impact on our LOST revenues by the end of ten years.

City Manager Freeman said our share was 9.5512% for 2023, 9.4894% for 2024, and for 2025 it will be 9.389%.

Councilmember Bauman stated it went down in the completed fiscal year and revenues were up by \$6,000,000.

City Manager Freeman said that is correct.

XI. Executive Session

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Tibby DeJulio**, to recess from regular order and enter executive session for the purposes of real estate and litigation discussion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Passed Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0

Yeas: John Paulson, Melody Kelley, Melissa Mular, Jody Reichel, Tibby DeJulio, Andrew Bauman

Nays: None

The Executive Session began at 6:58 p.m.

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember John Paulson**, seconded by **Councilmember Tibby DeJulio**, to adjourn the executive session and return to regular order. The motion carried by unanimous vote. **Councilmember Jody Reichel** was absent during vote.

Passed Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Yeas: John Paulson, Melody Kelley, Melissa Mular, Tibby DeJulio, Andrew Bauman

Nays: None

The Executive Session ended at 7:34 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

Motion and vote. A motion was made by **Councilmember Tibby DeJulio**, seconded by **Councilmember John Paulson**, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by unanimous vote. **Councilmember Jody Reichel** was absent during vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.