

Regular Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 6:57 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rusty Paul called the meeting to order at 6:57 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Raquel D. González made the general announcements and called the roll.

Mayor Rusty Paul – present.

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Paul led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

City Clerk González read that given the meeting format, those wishing to provide general public comment are instructed to submit comments via email by 12:00 pm. All general public comments received were emailed to the City Council in advance of the meeting and are published with this evening's agenda. Comments for public hearings were due prior to the beginning of this evening's meeting. All public comments are made a part of the official meeting record.

We received five general (5) public comment cards.

V. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved that the meeting agenda be approved for Tuesday, September 15, 2020. Council Member Reichel seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. 2020-229** September 1, 2020 City Council Work Session Minutes
September 1, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

- ~~**B. 2020-230** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule~~
Removed from Consent Agenda and placed under New Business

- C. 2020-231** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the City of Sandy Springs 2021 Planning and Zoning Schedules and to Amend the 2020 Board of Appeals Remaining Schedule

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-103

- D. 2020-232** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Clarify and Supersede Resolution No. 2020-08-86 for the Purchase and Financing of New Equipment for the City Of Sandy Springs Fire Department and to Authorize City Manager to Execute Documentation to Effectuate Same, Including Certain Lease Documents; and for Other

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-104

Motion and Vote: Council Member Bauman moved to adopt the consent agenda be approved for Tuesday, September 15, 2020, removing item 2020-230, Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to adopt the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule from the consent agenda and put it on the meeting agenda. Council Member Burnett seconded the motion as amended. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Presentations – none.

VIII. Public Hearing

- A. 2020-233** ABL_71143 - Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Thrill Korean and Bar, LLC DBA Thrill Korean Steak and Bar at 5958 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. Applicant is Jae Shim for Consumption on the Premises Wine, Malt Beverages, and Distilled Spirits

Toni Carlisle, Assistant Finance Director presented the application for consumption on the premises Wine, Malt Beverages, and Distilled Spirits. This business is located between Cliftwood Drive and Hammond Drive, Council District 3. Applicant submitted a completed application on June 15, 2020. Applicant has passed the background investigation. Staff recommends approval.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Paul closed the public comment period.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Burnett moved for approval of agenda item 2020-233, ABL_71143 - Approval of Alcoholic Beverage License Application for Thrill Korean and Bar, LLC DBA Thrill Korean Steak and Bar at 5958 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. Applicant is Jae Shim for Consumption on the Premises Wine, Malt Beverages, and Distilled Spirits. Council Member Reichel seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2020-230 Moved from Consent Agenda** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule

City Clerk González presented the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule for the Council's review and approval.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Bauman moved to adopt agenda item 2020-230, Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the 2021 City Council Meeting Schedule, with one modification the removal of the

September 7, 2021 proposed meeting. Council Member Reichel seconded amended motion. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Bauman stated that the September 7 conflicts with one of the Jewish high holidays of Rosh Hashanah. For many in the Jewish community, of which there is a large segment in Sandy Springs, this particular holiday is a two-day holiday that will begin the evening of September 6, 2021 and conclude on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at sundown. Nothing precludes the City from calling a Special Called Meeting later in the week, should the need arise.

Council Member Paulson stated that historically we have scheduled a break in the month of July each year and then spend the next month catching up. He asked was there any thought to just re-scheduling the September 7, 2021 meeting to Thursday, September 9, 2021.

Mayor Paul stated that by changing the normal day of a regular meeting could cause difficulty in getting the word out that we have a regular meeting on a Thursday. Paul suggested a special called meeting if necessary. Due to the unique nature of this particular holiday over a 3-day period, the originally scheduled September 7 meeting could take place on August 17 not time sensitive. This would create less confusion in the community. Everyone expects us to be here on Tuesday night. We have had some special called meetings that are outside the norm. As Council Member Bauman outlined, if we have a time-sensitive matter, we could have a special called meeting to deal with that item or items.

Council Member Bauman apologized for not contacting Council Member Paulson or others regarding this. Though, he spoke with Mayor Paul regarding that same issue because he is very loathe to skip a meeting, but Mayor Paul explained to him that this was to honor our Jewish community, citizens and staff who are of the Jewish faith.

Council Member DeJulio asked if there was any thought on the July break being moved to the September 7 meeting, since technically September 7 is still summer.

Mayor Paul stated that the July break falls in the middle of the July 4 holiday. He is hoping for fireworks next year. It all falls so close and many people take vacations around July 4 taking advantage of the holiday to extend vacations. He further stated he did not think that cancelling this meeting in September would be a big thing. During that time of year if we find that it is a hardship, we can always schedule a special called meeting and get it well publicized. This is a matter of honor and respect to a significant portion of our community, to cancel this meeting. If it were to fall on Christmas, I would want to cancel it too.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-108

- B. 2020-234** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Contract Agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for the Georgia Smart Communities Challenge Grant

Kristen Wescott, Traffic Transportation Unit Manager presented the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) administers the federal funding awarded as part of the Georgia Smart Communities Challenge program for projects awarded in the Metropolitan Atlanta region. In order to accept the funding, the City of Sandy Springs is required to enter into a sub grant agreement with ARC. The agreement establishes the scope of services, procurement processes, and subcontracting requirements. The sub grant agreement must be signed prior to the City spending any funds on this project.

Staff recommends entering into a sub grant agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) to accept federal funding for a transit efficiency project as part of the Georgia Smart Communities Challenge program. The City was awarded \$75,000, for a total project cost of \$93,750. The minimum required local match would be \$18,750 (20%). The City has already set aside funding for a pilot transportation project so the project would not need any additional funding. Mayor and City Council approved the application with the local match requirement of up to \$25,000 at the June 2, 2020 meeting

Motion and Vote: Council Member Reichel moved for approval of agenda item 2020-234, Consideration of a Contract Agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for the Georgia Smart Communities Challenge Grant. Council Member DeJulio seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-105

- C. 2020-235** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Master Agreement by and between the City of Sandy Springs and The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, by and on behalf of Kennesaw State University (KSU).

Kristin Smith, Assistant City Manager presented the City of Sandy Springs continuously evaluates leading practices to develop forward-thinking solutions that enhance the value of services provided to residents, businesses, and visitors. The partnership with KSU will provide another tool to think creatively, provide research to solve real problems, and ensure Sandy Springs remains on the cutting-edge of service delivery. KSU is a Tier 2 research institution offering more than 150 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees across 13 colleges to its now 41,000 students, as of the fall semester. Sustainable and Safe is one of four broad themes designed to guide the future trajectory of KSU's interdisciplinary research enterprise. Through this partnership, Sandy Springs will serve as an urban laboratory for research driven by KSU's Sustainable and Safe Communities initiative. The Master Agreement sets forth the general framework and basic terms and conditions applicable to all projects on which the City and KSU partner. It creates a framework within which the City and KSU will identify specific projects, defined by Project Specific Agreements. At this time, no financial commitments are anticipated. Any financial obligations anticipated for specific projects will be considered through each Project Specific Agreement.

Mayor Paul added he wanted to add a coda to this. He has been trying to announce this for months ahead of the curve. Paul expressed his excitement about this opportunity for the City. Georgia is divided into territories. Many fall within the geographic territory of each of the state universities. The City is under Georgia State's territory, but when Sam Owens was the President of KSU, he approached him for the opportunity for KSU to provide a Master's program for our business community. KSU is teaching both its MBA and MBA certificate programs on our campus. Paul had a brilliant idea that since KSU was moved up to a Tier 2, why not invite them to use Sandy Springs as their urban laboratory. With their research that allow the City to be their guinea pig. This provides us with the option and opportunity to receive a tremendous amount of free consulting and help us stay on cutting-edge technology, etc. Dr. Roger Totaro head of the Economics Department is a well-respected economist and economic model expert. He is excited to use Sandy Springs, tax revenues, base, and our data for research projects. This would be across the entire university. If they receive a grant for research and are looking for a place to send their students, or professors we have an agreement with them. He says it is one of the most exciting things since he has been Mayor. He is very delighted that we have this unique opportunity in Georgia, and perhaps in the U.S. to see a community the size and complexity of Sandy Springs form a relationship with a respected university working together on these kinds of research projects. This has taken about 6-8 months to bring this agreement before the Council. We have been talking about it this for several months.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Paulson moved for approval of agenda item 2020-235, Consideration of a Master Agreement by and between the City of Sandy Springs and The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, by and on behalf of Kennesaw State University. Council Member Bauman seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

- D. 2020-236** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Approve a Change Order for Kimley-Horn & Associates for Abernathy Road at Roswell Road Roadway Safety Analysis, Short Term and Long Term Intersection Improvements

Kristen Wescott, Traffic / Transportation Unit Manager presented a presentation of the FY20 IIP Roadway Safety Analysis for Roswell Road at Abernathy Road. We awarded a contract to Kimley-Horn to perform a dig-down on crash analysis and diagramming for five years and to present us with their recommendations. There are proposed short-term improvements: 1. Westbound Abernathy Road right turn lane signalization; 2. Pull back east leg median nose; 3. Simplify southbound signage; 4. Southbound left turn lane barrier; 5. Roswell Road southbound right turn lane mountable curb / crosshatching stripes; and 6. Southern driveway Abernathy Square, Right-in, Right-out Median. The design cost for the short-term proposed improvements is \$87,000, which includes public involvement.

The Consultant identified innovative intersection alternatives that could provide more capacity and reduce crashes. Using traffic simulation analysis, they propose to review and compare alternate intersection options to see which ones have the greatest benefit and to recommend a preferred alternative. The traffic engineering cost for the long-term proposed improvements is \$74,100.

The recommended change order is \$161,000, \$87,000 for design of the short-term improvements and \$74,100 for traffic simulation of long-range improvement alternatives and predictive analysis of crash reduction. The existing contract is \$54,970. With the proposed change order, the total cost of the project would be \$216,070. The FY 2021 budget has sufficient funds under T-7000, Intersection Improvements, to fund this change order.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Reichel moved for approval of agenda item 2020-236, Consideration of a Resolution to Approve a Change Order for Kimley-Horn & Associates for Abernathy Road at Roswell Road Roadway Safety Analysis, Short Term and Long Term Intersection Improvements. Council Member Burnett seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Reichel asked that we begin doing some of the short-term improvements now or will we wait for the complete study before we begin installing / instituting the improvements.

Traffic / Transportation Unit Manager Wescott stated that on a quarterly basis, we can meet with our District 7 GDOT Traffic Operations Group to give them an advanced look at what we have looked at so far. It is possible that some of these short-term improvements can be advanced by the District 7 Office, if they find them suitable for their safety programs. We recommend moving forward with the design and that helps us work more closely with our partners, such as the DOT to advance design that the City is aboard.

Council Member Burnett mentioned that a few years back there was a presentation of a study for this particular intersection, and at that time, there were a number of elaborate changes recommended, i.e., fly-overs, etc., and the Council declined to move forward with those recommendations. Burnett wanted to clarify if these recommendations relate to major roadways changes similar to that or are these more focused on a near term, easier solutions.

Traffic / Transportation Unit Manager replied that what we really want to do is to make sure that we balance safety, operations and cost considerations. What we are looking at are intersection designs that minimize impacts to adjacent properties, and see how we can use the existing ROW more effectively. There are opportunities to look at some of the innovative intersection designs that are used in other parts of the state and the county that can bring about that safety reduction. When we have the safety reduction, we also have operational improvements.

Council Member Paulson asked if we could meet with GDOT to see if they can informally agree to these designs prior to us paying for the designs. He does not want to spend this money and have GDOT come back and say, no, that it is something that cannot be done. We are talking about long-term improvements; this is still long-term improvements at this intersection. He referred to the study that Council Member Burnett referred to and asked that we not re-invent the wheel; lets resurrect that study and make sure our current contactor has that as a reference before they begin this next phase.

Traffic / Transportation Unit Manager responded that long-term, we already know this is a highly congested intersection; the short-term proposed improvements short of hit the crash patterns that we have now but long-term to really effect a more sustained operational and safety design. That is why we are proposing looking at these things more closely. Because the initial scope of work looked at crashes and crash patterns, we did not get into the deep dive on operational analysis. What this proposes is really thinking about how these different operational configurations could work and bring about both safety and operational improvements for the long-term. Stepping back to your first reference, we have talked with the District 7 Traffic Operational Staff and nothing we have proposed here would be outside their approval in terms of looking at solutions. We have actually talked with them already about the findings and proposed solutions. The good news is they have a Quick Response Safety Program, and some of these proposed solutions might be eligible for that program. She stated that there is proposed public involvement with this design project; that is something we can explore.

Council Member Burnett, particularly in the afternoon going into the Weber School, we have at least one or two officers parked out on Roswell Road, and it can really get problematic through there around 3:00 pm. Would it be possible to include Weber in these discussions to look at alternatives to see how we can get some of that school traffic off Roswell Road at 8:00 am and 3:00 pm hours? That is a challenge through that corridor at those times of the day.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-106

- E. 2020-237** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of Approval of a Change Order, Scope of Work and Fee, CMES, Inc. for the Spalding, Dalrymple, Trowbridge Intersection Construction Project (TS 103) and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Revised Contract Documents

William H. Martin, Jr., AIA, Public Works Director presented that project TS103 for Spalding, Dalrymple, Trowbridge is well underway since the contractor commenced construction in early summer. A challenge the contractor recently encountered was that a 12" water main was extremely shallow when compared to all as-built information that Atlanta Water had or any estimation that our engineers had at the time the project was designed; so much so, that as we widen the road on the Spalding leg of the project, the depth of the water line interferes with the base of the roadways as planned to be constructed there. This change order before you tonight relocates this water main 300' or so both laterally and vertically to put it at an appropriate depth to provide adequate cover for the water main as it crosses this Spalding leg of the project. The contractor's quote for the water main relocation, based in large part, upon already established prices within the contract, is \$94,142.00 to relocate this water main out of the bed of the roadway to an

adequate depth so that the intersection project can continue with construction. Staff recommendation, after review of the contractor's quote, and understanding the complexity of the work there, is that we award this change order to CMES, Inc., the prime contractor for this project in the amount of \$94,142.00. Sufficient funds are available in the TSPLOST Program to fund this work. This water main is being moved both laterally and vertically to give is sufficient room and get it away from the roadway all together.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Reichel moved for approval of agenda item 2020-237, Consideration of Approval of a Change Order, Scope of Work and Fee, CMES, Inc. for the Spalding, Dalrymple, Trowbridge Intersection Construction Project (TS 103) and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute Revised Contract Documents. Council Member Bauman seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Paulson asked for clarification on the water main moved out of the pavement section so that it will now be off on the shoulder, now. He asked if this is an old pipe that was going to be replaced anyway this day.

Public Works Director Martin stated that he did not know the age of the pipe but went on to clarify that if the cover is sufficient, you can probably put a concrete cap over the pipe to protect it. He went on further to say that this was so shallow they actually uncovered the pipe in portions as they began to grade for the roadway base; it actually intrudes into the roadway base in this case. That is the challenge. If we had had a little more depth, we could have pursued a concrete cap to protect it, but in this case, that was not an option. Question addressed to Mayor Paul, since this was originally the City of Atlanta Watershed pipe, which we inherited; they have a Maintenance Program for Repair and Replace their pipes; can we reach out and touch them to see if they can assist us with the cost of this relocation.

Mayor Paul replied that we will approach them about receiving help on the cost of this relocation.

Council Member Bauman stated that we have a larger issue with Atlanta Watershed, and stick this one on the list of why getting more reliability for water. To Public Works Director Martin, he asked to clarify that in the world of government public works projects; this is a small amount of change. Do we have a trigger; when do we trigger bidding on change orders. He was not suggesting that here because they won the bid through an open RFP process that we approved. On the other hand, he wants to make sure that they, too, are aware of the fact and we have to do our own scrubbing of the numbers so we do not get nicked, dined in a change order. He stated that he is just asking a process question; is there a point where we trigger a higher scrutiny for a change order.

Public Works Director Martin stated that this was a competitive process to award to this prime contractor in the first place. The challenge for this change order is that it is located within the midst of a project, which gets complex. He further went on to state that we scrutinize each change order to that end. For instance, we had a less impactful, relatively minor fiber optic cable relocation of our City cable that we needed to move with this project. We competed that work because it was not necessarily integral to the prime contractor ability to perform the work. In that case, knowing that others could easily accomplish the work, we competed that work, in the interest of getting the best value for the City. In this case, many of the prices we do have are the prices that we already had in the contract for the contractor, so those were already there. Yes, where we can, especially within a change order, we do not necessarily always obligate that work to the prime contractor. If there is an opportunity to compete it and have other perform that work, we do pursue that.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-107

- E. 2020-238** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Supplemental Resolution Approving the Supplemental Bond Resolution of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Approving the Final Terms of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Taxable Refunding Revenue Bonds (City of Sandy Springs City Center Project), Series 2020

Andrea Surratt, City Manager stated that sitting as the Public Facility Authority (PFA) you have adopted the resolution for the Supplemental City Resolution for the winning bid. This particular item is to accept the resolution from the PFA as City Council sitting in your place tonight. The winning bid is Wells Fargo; today we went through the process and this resolution updates what you initiated on April 21, 2020. We have the original resolution; this amends the resolution, plugging in the final numbers. It creates a \$16.67M (2.27%) savings over the life of the bonds and \$625K annually is our savings for this new financing. It would include a closing on October 6, 2020, and you would be asking for and authorizing the City and Bond attorneys and staff to move forward with the paperwork required for this transaction.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Reichel moved for approval of agenda item 2020-238, Consideration of a Supplemental Resolution Approving the Supplemental Bond Resolution of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Approving the Final Terms of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Taxable Refunding Revenue Bonds (City of Sandy Springs City Center Project), Series 2020. Council Member DeJulio seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-110

- F. 2020-239** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution (A) Approving the Bond Resolution the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Revenue Bonds (Public Facilities Project), Series 2020B to Provide Funds to Finance the Acquisition of Land and the Renovation of Public Safety Facilities and the Construction of Fire Stations and (B) Authorizing a Lease Agreement between the Authority and the City in Connection with the Projects.

Andrea Surratt, City Manager presented that this item is also coming from the PFA, asking to approve a resolution to move forward with new monies to fund our Public Safety facility, including purchase of the land and renovation of the building and to construct a facility such as a fire station. This item is coming just behind the work you just did to re-fund the current bonds that we have for City Springs and the savings is significant enough that we are ready for Council to consider the recommendation of the PFA for this particular bond project. Again, authorizing up to \$60M for these projects and this begins the process of considering these monies for these projects.

Motion and Vote: Council Member Paulson moved for approval of agenda item 2020-239, Consideration of a Resolution (A) Approving the Bond Resolution the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Authorizing the Issuance of the City of Sandy Springs Public Facilities Authority Revenue Bonds (Public Facilities Project), Series 2020B to Provide Funds to Finance the Acquisition of Land and the Renovation of Public Safety Facilities and the Construction of Fire Stations and (B) Authorizing a Lease Agreement between the Authority and the City in Connection with the Projects. Council Member Reichel seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-111

- G. 2020-240** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, with Respect to Proposed Financing of the Acquisition, Construction, Installation and Renovation of Public Safety Facilities and a Fire Station through the Issuance of one or More Tax-Exempt Debt Financings; and for Other Purposes.

Andrea Surratt, City Manager presented that this resolution relates to previous items where we are asking for a bond for new projects that we just listed, fire station, police station and purchase of land. This particular resolution is one that relates to the IRS code for the particular projects and actually requires the governing body to declare its official intent to reimburse expenditures made in connection with the projects. It is to fulfil §1.150-2 of the Income Tax Regulations of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved for approval of agenda item 2020-240, Consideration of a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs, Georgia, with Respect to Proposed Financing of the Acquisition, Construction, Installation and Renovation of Public Safety Facilities and a Fire Station through the Issuance of one or More Tax-Exempt Debt Financings; and for Other Purposes. Council Member Burnett seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09-112

X. REPORTS

A. 2020-241 Mayor and Council Report

Mayor Paul reported that Governor Kemp has extended his Executive Order from September 15, 2020 through September 30, 2020 with no significant changes, there is no action that Council needs to take to conform to anything we have done to any changes in the Executive Order. We have a meeting tomorrow through the auspices of Congresswoman Lucy McBath, with the U S Postal Service (USPS). We have an ongoing series of issues with the USPS, one of which they have never recognized the City of Sandy Springs as an entity. In their coding system, we are still listed as the City of Atlanta. The challenge with that, for example that so many of you will recall, we went three weeks with absolutely no COVID cases in Sandy Springs. The reason was the zip coding, the Public Health Department was listing those in the City of Atlanta and we were wondering why we were the only city in Georgia who had absolutely no COVID cases and the inaccuracy of those reports made it difficult for us to respond. The Census is going on right now and while the Census Bureau is using the same software, but they include the Census blocks. The Census Bureau has assured us that anybody who lives in Sandy Springs will be appropriately apportioned in their process. How can we know, if they are listed in Atlanta, some of our own residents may end up being put into the City of Atlanta as part of their census numbers rather than Sandy Springs. That has an impact on our schools; our City revenues; wide-range of a lot of different decisions that the Federal government makes; it will have an impact on re-districting of Congress, legislature, County Commission; and, the City Council districts. These are things that are not trite; they are not trivial; many of our citizens end up paying higher sales tax as a result. So, we are going to talk about that tomorrow. We are also going to talk about the frustration that many of our citizens have about the delay getting mail. There are many parts of our city that only get mail deliver 2-3 times a week. We are fully aware the USPS is in dire financial straits and that has been highly publicized. It is his opinion that the delivery of mail on a timely basis is a fundamental requirement of the USPS, which goes back to the founding of our country. The Federal government reserved postal services for itself in the Constitution and if the USPS needs help, then Congress of the United States should step up to make sure we have timely mail delivery. But, it is also very important that when a state creates a new jurisdiction, a new city, that the USPS should automatically recognize the act of the Georgia General Assembly in creating not only Sandy Springs, but Johns Creek, Milton, South Fulton and any other cities that have been created over the last 15 years. We are just the first; many of the

cities are having problems with this situation, too. Through the auspices of Congresswoman McBath, we have a Zoom meeting with the USPS officials here in Atlanta and we are hoping they will listen and respond to us on both those two issues.

Council Member Paulson on September 11 the Misty Creek Church had a service honoring both the fallen first responders as well as the local first responders. This happened on Friday night, he attended and 50-60 people attended it, nine of our finest were there and they did a good job. I know there were a number of those around the City but that was the one he attended.

Mayor Paul further reported that he was glad Council Member Paulson brought that up because the Mayor had the honor of participating with the Weber School, and the Israeli Counsel General and our own Chief of Police Ken DeSimone, Weber and through the auspices of folks called GILEE. It is a joint training mission with the Israelis and we had a Zoom ceremony in which they awarded the police department a plaque on 9/11. They had previously given one to the fire department; great recognition; great job by a group of very bright, capable and articulate young people in making that presentation. He stated he was absolutely delighted and honored to be part of that; he was glad Council Member Paulson brought that up.

Council Member Bauman, first of all that he hear nothing but great feedback as a Weber parent, about that program. Hat tip to you, Chief and others. He thought it was the young student government that was involved and the GILEE Program is the Georgia International Law Enforcement Exchange that we have participated in for years where we go over to Israel and officers come here. Thank you for acknowledging that. I do believe that Andrea Surratt is going to report to us on Census, so this is just a reminder that these USPS incentives are interrelated so we do look forward to hearing her report.

B. 2020-242 Staff Reports

City Manager Andrea Surratt began with the Census

2020-243 1. Census 2020 –

We receive a report each week from Fulton County that tracks our progress and we are still making good strides with our Census counts being higher than most of the other municipalities in North Fulton. We struggle in an area that she believes is important and that is how to reach those in our apartment complexes that maybe commute to another part of the metro for their job or have a different sort of rhythm for their day and making sure they complete their Census forms as well. Our numbers as of today, we are at a 62% collection rate. Overall very good progress despite the difficulties of getting the information during COVID. Here is what we have done: (1) we have been very active in promoting the Census across our social media, especially reaching apartment communities in the North End and in the south end; (2) we have spent a lot of time trying to get the word out there; (3) we have distributed posters in retail locations, you'll see signage in many of the gas stations, convenience stores, small businesses. We have distributed over 150 of those posters and banners in the last 30 days. (4) We have distributed 10,000 postcards in the apartment communities and other neighborhoods; and (5) we installed street banners, with a variable message board; (6) we have paid for a social campaign on social media, Google ads, NextDoor, Facebook, etc. We have tried to reach as many people as we can possibly reach. Originally, the deadline was October 30, 2020, but last month the Census Bureau told us that they are going to move it to September 30, 2020, so we have just begun door-to-door efforts. The Census is hiring people go out and knock door-to-door. We may have duplicated efforts in some cases, but it is important for us to get the word out especially in those lower response areas.

2. Heavy Rain Event –

Just wanted to mention that staff is very much aware of the heavy rain event post-hurricane that we know is coming in our general direction, so we will be ready with the EOC; on-call for Public Works to respond to downed trees and other problems we may have due to a number of inches of rain expected on Thursday.

3. July 2020 Unaudited Financials –

The General Fund revenues for the fiscal year which began July 1, 2020, are approximately 2.26% compared to the Adopted Budget; so a little lower than the Adopted Budget. We are at 8.33% of the year. The General Fund Expenditures are approximately 5.64% compared to the Adopted Budget; again at 8.33% of the year. Most revenues that are sales tax related, franchise electric, insurance premium taxes are collected once a year. The Local Option Sales Tax is collected and recognized in June; so that amount is 2.04M. Our sales tax is less than last year but again trending up. We feel like we have hit the bottom in April 2020 and are now trending upward. This was the most vulnerable part of our budget we were exposed to and it seems to be stabilizing. We will review this each month and report any concerns.

Council Member Paulson asked to return to slide three of the 42-slide presentation, to discuss this a bit. When looking at this it looks like our July Fiscal 2021 Budget is twice our fiscal 2020 budget and again, 2+ times our 2019 Budget. Is this giving us any indications about how our year is going to be? July YTD FY2021 is at 1.9M; July YTD FY2020 is at 90K; and July YTD FY2019 is at 80K.

City Manager Surratt reported that yes, this is way up. She feels that some of that relates to sales tax online collections that we are experiencing. Again, these are the COVID related revenues, not every revenue we collect, so you will not see Property Tax in this chart but you would see sales tax. We will verify this again and bring it back next month.

Council Member Burnett do you talk frequently with other City Managers and perhaps CFO's about what they are seeing. He knows there was a story on one of the networks a week or two ago about how well Georgia's economy is doing. This was a national story, maybe on CNBC, about how well Georgia's economy has done despite COVID. Do you compare notes with other City Managers in what they are seeing; do you have a feel for how we are doing in Metro Atlanta?

City Manager Surratt said that she talks fairly frequently with the other North Fulton managers; again, we are all trying to be very cautious with expenditures; we are worried about if there is a change in the economy in the future, we are still cautious about the next 6-12 months. She stated that none have experienced any further dips than what was shown just now, the April dip was what others were experiencing as well, in the North Fulton area. She compares notes with peers outside the state and she feels that Georgia is in an enviable position.

Mayor Paul stated he is going to report a few data points. First, the City's attorney has reminded me that the state's revenues were up 15% in August and sales taxes were up; one of the ironic pieces was sales tax available, disbursed to local governments was down 2.3%, not sure where the dichotomy has come. The interesting thing about sales tax collections is that in the core, the City of Atlanta and areas right around the metro area have had a higher decline in sales tax revenue because no one is going to work; no one is going to lunch; no one is leaving their offices to go shopping; in that core area in Fulton County, between January and July, TSPLOST collections was down 7.1% year over year. While that is in the core; the regional average was down 3%. July was down about .03% year over year. Transportation taxes have been hit heavily because no one is driving, even though traffic is beginning to pick back up. Gasoline and petroleum consumption is still down about 3.9% year over year. In August, transportation revenues were still down 2.5%. Statewide sales taxes were up 5/6% in August, but the local sales tax available for distribution was

down .04% flat. You are all aware of the CARES disbursement with the County Commission; we thought we had an agreement to go higher, and the County Commission decided not to do so. We are still expecting about a \$30M allocation countywide for the cities, which means we will get about \$6M from that; we get about 20% of those revenues based on a per capita basis. Hopefully, that money is beginning to flow to us; at least the County promised that it would begin to flow to us very quickly. The challenge is we have the end of November to spend it all, but Chief Sanders and the City Manager both have been tracking our expenses; so, we know exactly how we can allocate those resources when we get there. Hopefully, that will help offset some of the additional expenses that you've seen in the emergency management area, which are all directly related to COVID. You have heard the expenses we have encountered; Chief Sanders is worried about the ambulance service, they have incurred about \$5M in additional expenses that as of now is not reimbursable. The County has not been forthcoming to make sure that we are made whole from the monies that they have received; and we are the only county in the state that did not have some kind of agreement between the county and state on an equitable distribution of those funds. All the mayors had a conversation with the state; talked with the Governor. The state still has some money and we made an appeal that the Governor might supplement what we gain from the Fulton County Commission. \$30M is still better than the \$2.9M they originally allocated for 13 cities; that has been a real sore point between the cities and the County Commission. The fact that they have taken has been a real disappointment; it is irresponsible. That money was allocated by Congress to help us weather this and for them to take a huge, disproportionate portion – they are 99% municipalized, and then for them to take basically 70% of those resources to apply to all the citizens of the County, which they serve as well, but we haven't gotten a breakdown of how those funds are being utilized. We do know that even though the City of Atlanta got their own direct allocation, the County Commission is spending money inside the City of Atlanta, so they are getting a double portion and the rest of the cities in Fulton County are paying a huge penalty.

Normally, we go into Executive Session and when we return, we simply adjourn for the evening. Tonight there will be an issue discussed in Executive Session that Council may wish to come back and act upon publicly. This is something that has come up late but did not want to spring it in the middle of Regular Session and it is related to real estate. We can discuss and if it is Council's desire, we can come out afterward and have a quick, brief discussion and vote if it is desire of Council.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. 2020-244 Real Estate & Personnel

Motion and Vote: Council Member Paulson moved to suspend Regular order and enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing real estate and litigation. Council Member DeJulio seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session began at 8:30 p.m.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved adjourn Executive Session and return to the Regular Session. Council Member Bauman seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Council Members Paulson and Reichel absent having left Executive Session prior to adjournment.

Executive Session ended at 10:29 p.m.

Mayor Paul, Council Members Bauman, Burnett, DeJulio and Soteres returned to Regular Session.

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved for approval amendment of agenda to add agenda item 2020-245, Consideration of a Resolution to Allow the Anne Frank House and Exhibit be housed on City Springs Property. Council Member Soteres seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously. All council members in attendance at the time of this proposed amendment to the agenda.

XI. CONTINUED NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2020-245** Request for Mayor and City Council Consideration of a Resolution to Allow the Anne Frank House and Exhibit be Housed on City Springs Property

Motion and Vote: Council Member DeJulio moved for approval of agenda item 2020-245, Resolution to Allow the Anne Frank House and Exhibit be housed on City Springs Property. Council Member Paulson seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

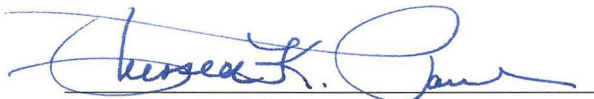
Council Member DeJulio stated that the Anne Frank House and Exhibit has been a real blessing to Sandy Springs; it was very high on the priority of our former Mayor Eva Galambos; she worked very hard to get it here and he feels that it is appropriate to keep this in the City of Sandy Springs. He feels that having the House and Exhibit on the City Springs property is a perfect place for this. **Resolution No. 2020-09-108**

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion and Vote: Council Member Bauman moved adjourn the meeting. Council Member Paulson seconded. Mayor Paul called for a roll call vote. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 p.m.

Dated approved: October 6, 2020.


Russell K. Paul, Mayor


Lia Jones, Interim City Clerk