

**COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 20, 2006 – 6:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Statesboro City Council was held June 20 2006 at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor William S. Hatcher and Council Members Will Britt, Tommy Blicht, Gary Lewis, Joe Brannen and John Morris. Also present were City Manager George Wood, Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle, City Attorney Sam Brannen, Planning Director Jim Shaw and City Engineer Maz Elhaj.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES ON JUNE 6, 2006

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to approve the minutes of June 6, 2006. Councilmen Britt, Blicht, Lewis, Brannen, and Morris voted in favor of the motion.

RECOGNITION: MR. JONATHAN SIMPSON AND MR. SAM GASTON

The Director of Community Relations for Safe Ride, Sam Gaston, stated the idea for Shuttle Gus is a reliable means of transportation for those in need, whether it is from intoxication or a ride to or from a doctor's appointment, or whatever the need. Volunteers will provide the transportation in vehicles rented as part of the program.

The Council was supportive of this initiative, but no action was required.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

RZ 06-05-01 MOTION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS:

a) APPLICATION RZ 06-05-01: MR. KEITH GAVIN ON BEHALF OF PAUL AND HEATHER COLEMAN, REQUESTING REZONING FROM R-20 TO R-15 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL FOR PROPERTY AT 215 MERRYWOOD DRIVE.

Planning Director Jim Shaw stated the applicant Keith Gavin would like to transfer part of the property from his adjoining Merrywood lot to further enlarge his lot. Due to the current zoning classification the said property cannot be reduced further. Rezoning the said property to R-15 would allow the applicant to transfer another 5,000 square feet to Oak Leak Drive. The majority of Greenbriar Subdivision is zoned R-20. The lots are approximately 20,000 square feet and over seventy-two percent are in compliance with the R-20 zoning restrictions. Staff recommends denial of the requested rezoning. The Planning Commission voted to approve the request with a split vote.

Councilman Blicht made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen to deny the request for rezoning from R-20 to R-15 single family residential for property at 215 Merrywood Drive. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT ON SECOND READING ORDINANCE #2006-09: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STATESBORO REGARDING PARADES AND PICKETING.

Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen for the adoption of Ordinance 2006-09 amending the Code of Ordinance of the City of Statesboro regarding Parades and Picketing. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT ON FIRST READING ORDINANCE #2006-10: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE STATESBORO MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING ALCOHOL BEVERAGES.

City Manager George Wood stated we are just clarifying the language. The first change is in section 6-4 from section 1(b) basically says the Alcohol Control Board or Administrative staff may request additional documents, leases, contracts, layouts, plan, or other information that the board considers pertinent to access the application for license. Secondly the provision in section 6-29 section 3(b) clarifies how long a misdemeanor can bar an individual from a license.

After further discussion, the ordinance was amended to clarify the intent further. Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen that the ordinance as further amended be adopted. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT ON FIRST READING ORDINANCE #2006-11: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STATESBORO REGARDING INTERFERENCE WITH BUSINESSES.

City Manager George Wood stated he, City Attorney Sam Brannen and Chief York were researching parade and picketing permit and there is nothing in effect that says an individual can not knowingly attempt to block access to an on going business. He stated this is a balance between someone's right to picket and everyone else's right to have free access to and from businesses. We want to include this provision in the same chapter as the ordinance for parades and picketing.

Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2006-11. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2006-16: A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE FY 2007 BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2006-22: A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A NEW CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF STATESBORO, GEORGIA.

City Manager George Wood asked Mayor Hatcher if he could discuss this resolution 2006-16 and Resolution 2006-22 together specifically dealing with the revised job classification plan. Mayor Hatcher agreed to the discussion. Mr. Wood stated the reason is for the adoption of the budget that includes the pay plan. He said this matrix has columns for Steps A-R going left to right and Grades 1-26 going down rows. In the Carl Vinson Institute of Government's 2001 Pay Plan matrix every cell has a formula that is tied to grade 11 step A. Grade 1-20 is a five percent difference from each previous grade. He said grades 21-25 each have ten percent difference from each previous grade. He said grades 25-26 is a twenty-five percent differential. Mr. Wood stated the reason is when they did this chart they created a grade for City Manager and no-one in the city has ever used grade 26. Personnel Director, Woody Chapmen and myself contacted the Carl

Vinson Institute of Government and worked with them on changes to correct the 2006 matrix. Mr. Wood stated now the matrix shows a five percent differential for steps A-R and a ten percent differential for grades 1-26.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to approve Resolution #2006-16 for the fiscal year 2007 budget and capital improvement program; and also Resolution #2006-22 to adopt a new classification and compensation plan for the City of Statesboro, Georgia. Councilmen Blich, Lewis, Brannen, and Morris voted in favor of the motion and Councilman Britt opposed. The motion carried by a 4-1 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2006-23: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE THIRD BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2006 BUDGET.

Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to approve Resolution 2006-23. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2006-24: A RESOLUTION DECLAIRING CERTAIN PERSONAL PROPERTY SURPLUS AND ITS METHOD OF DISPOSAL.

City Manager George Wood stated we have some IT equipment that we want to cannibalize for parts. Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to approve Resolution 2006-24. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE A TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH ALLTEL FOR WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS, USING THE RATES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE STATE OF GEORGIA'S CONTRACT.

City Manager George Wood stated in 2004 the Mayor and Council award a two-year contract to Alltel for the City's cell phone services and this contract expired in May of this year. He said we can use the state contract carriers, which include Alltel, Cingular, Sprint, and Verizon.

Mr. Wood stated our research showed that Alltel had adequate and comparable coverage in the southeast and were the best choices. We currently have sixty-eight authorized cell phones in a share pool of 60,000 minutes. The city pays \$35.11 per phone for sixty-three of these without nationwide roaming, and \$43.64 for four phones with the roaming and \$46.59 for one PDA. After researching all the plans we discovered that Alltel's Greater Freedom Plan and Business total Freedom Pooling plan will result in a monthly saving of \$376.36 and an annual savings of \$4,408.32.

Councilman Blich made a motion, seconded by Councilman Brannen to approve the authorization of a two-year agreement with Alltel wireless communications, under the Georgia State Contract. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO AWARD A BID IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,850.00 FOR RECORD MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

City Manager George Wood asked Chief York to discuss this software. Chief York stated the current provider; USA Software has provided service to the Police Department for twelve years. In the past three years the courts went to equipment software and currently the Sheriff's Department, the Bulloch County Magistrate Office and recently Georgia Southern University have

gone to the Data Management System software. Communication is a prime key to our line of work. This system is necessary for us in law enforcement to work together.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt to award the bid in the amount of \$44,850 for Record Management Software for the Police Department. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO ACCEPT A BID FROM GANN CAR CRUSHING FOR \$61.00 PER TON FOR WHITE GOODS ACCUMULATED AT THE LAKEVIEW TRANSFER STATION.

City Manager George Wood stated we get appliances and other items that end up at the Transfer Station and we do not send these items to the landfill. He said we have to have the Freon removed from these items first, which is an EPA requirement before disposal. Mr. Wood stated we dispose of these items accepting the highest purchase price for the material based on bids.

Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to award the bid to Gann Car Crushing for \$61.00 per ton for white goods accumulated at the Lakeview transfer station. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO AWARD A BID TO PITNEY-BOWES FOR AN ENVELOPE FOLDER/SORTER/INSERTER MACHINE FOR THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

City Manager George Wood stated utility billing has gone from a post card to a paper bill and an envelope. He said there is more privacy for a person's bill and it gives us the opportunity to communicate with our citizens through inserts at no extra cost. Mr. Wood stated this machine will collate, fold, and stuff the paper into the envelope, and seal it. When you look at the man hours involved compared to the machine, you will see that the machine will pay for itself.

Councilman Britt asked how was the first response from the customers in regards to the new billing system. Director of Finance and Administration Judy McCorkle stated the utility clerks have gotten all compliments on the envelopes.

Councilman Britt made a motion, seconded by Councilman Blich to award the bid to Pitney Bowes for the D1400 in the amount of \$6,411. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT TO INSTALL SUBDIVISION INFRASTRUCTURE IN WHISPERING PINES SUBSIVISION.

City Manager George Wood stated Whispering Pines LLC, developer said that he would finish all the utilities before he started building the other lots and he subsequently changed his mind. So the developer has come back to our staff and provided us a letter of credit for \$202,841 to finish the said job. Mr. Wood recommended amendment of the agreement to install the subdivision infrastructure.

Councilman Morris made a motion, seconded by Councilman Lewis to adopt the amendment to the agreement for installing infrastructure in Whispering Pines. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

REPORT FROM STAFF

CITY MANAGER GEORGE WOOD - Just a reminder of the GMA Conference from June 24-28. Also our Finance Department is receiving an award for their 2005 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. I just wanted to commend Judy McCorkle and her staff on an excellent job.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION/CITY CLERK JUDY MCCORKLE - Reminder our annual tax sale is coming up on August 1, 2006 at 10:00am on the front steps of City Hall. This is the first Tuesday of the month and that is a Council Meeting day, but the state law requires the sale to be on the first Tuesday of the month.

PLANNING DIRECTOR JIM SHAW - The staff is asking for the approval of the final plat of Whispering Pines, phase 4. This plat will complete the loop road for the subdivision when combined with the phase 1. This plat conforms to the preliminary plat and a letter of credit was provided.

Councilman Brannen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Britt to approve the final plat of Whispering Pines Subdivision for phase 4. The motion carried out by a 5-0 vote.

There are two items for the upcoming meeting on July 5, 2006

- a. Southeast Georgia Investment Associates requesting rezoning for (HOC) Highway Oriented Commercial) to Planned Unit Development for property located at 719-721 South Main Street
- b. Lane and Chris Van Tassell request a 5-foot variance of the 10 foot side yard setback requirement for a building addition at 507 Peg Wen Boulevard.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.