

AGENDA
CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
APRIL 15, 2010

Note: As set forth in the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Suwanee does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. Billie Marshall, 330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee Georgia 30024 has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice Regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, is available from the ADA coordinator.

The City of Suwanee will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice. Any requests for reasonable accommodations required by individuals to fully participate in any open meeting, program or activity of the City of Suwanee should be directed to Billie Marshall, 330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee Georgia 30024. 770-945-8996.

Meeting Location: City Hall, 330 Town Center Avenue, Big Splash Room

5:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

A. Municipal Court Semi-Annual Report

Judge Lewis will present the semi-annual report for Municipal Court.

B. Presentation: Buford Highway Concept Plan

The final draft plan was presented to the community on Thursday, March 18th during an Open House at City Hall. Staff has been working with the consultant to refine the final draft document. The consultant will present the recommendations during the workshop and distribute a copy of the draft final plan to Council for review.

C. Staff Updates Agenda: The following items are not planned for discussion at the workshop, unless specifically requested by Council.

1) Suwanee Gateway

The "Get It At The Gateway" promotion was held the week of March 22nd, with 17 business participating.

2) Alcohol License for Maracas Cantina

Maracas Cantina, located at 320 Town Center Avenue, Suite C-8, has applied for an alcohol beverage license for the on-premise consumption of beer, wine, and distilled spirits. Ms. Janice Marie Toms is the applicant. Staff has reviewed the license and recommends approval. This item will be included on the April 27 Public Hearing and Regular Agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

3) Surplus Sale

The Govdeals.com auction for the City's recent surplus items is currently underway and will end on April 11.

4) Harvest Farm

Harvest Farm offered its second educational class, Square Foot Gardening, on March 27 and 29. Over 100 people attended the class and feedback was again very favorable. The March 27 class was held in conjunction with an organizational meeting for the 2010 gardeners; approximately 70 people attended that meeting. The education committee plans to offer more classes once the garden opens, some of which will be demonstrations in the garden.

The Managing Board held its first meeting on April 7. The Board voted to hold its regular meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month, at 4:00 pm in the Big Splash room. 2010 officers are: Chair – Rosalie Tubre; Vice-Chair – Chantéz Daya; Secretary – Jeanne Haynes; and Treasurer – Deborah Thornton.

Staff is currently working with Vince Dooley to have him do a lecture and signing of his new book, Vince Dooley's Garden: A Horticultural Journey of a Football Coach. The event will take place in conjunction with the May 27 Toast @ Town Center. The event will be sponsored and coordinated by Harvest Farm, as a benefit for the garden. More details will be announced as they become available.

Staff has worked with Rosalie Tubre to complete the application for the \$50,000 Pepsi Refresh grant to construct a treehouse at White Street Park. Pepsi allows a maximum of 1,000 applications per month. Despite submitting an application at 12:01 am on April 1, the limit of 1,000 applications had already been reached for April voting. We will continue submitting each month and provide updates, as appropriate.

5) Requests for Proposals

Staff has recently issued two Requests for Proposals (RFP) for various professional services. The first is for support services for the City's IT system. The City currently contracts for these services with American Integrated Services. The second is for program management services for the City's capital projects. The City's contract with HEERY International expired on December 31, with HEERY continuing to work for the City on day-to-day basis. Submittals for both of these RFP's are due on May 6. Staff will provide an update at the May workshop and anticipates forwarding a recommendation for Council to consider at the May 25 Council meeting.

6) Great American Clean-Up

The City is currently participating in the annual Great American Cleanup campaign, which runs through May 31. The purpose of this campaign is to encourage community wide spring-cleaning through enhanced code enforcement efforts. The City will conduct a code enforcement sweep of all neighborhoods and business districts, citing issues with outside storage, trash and debris, inoperable or unlicensed vehicles, tall grass and weeds, and exterior property in need of repairs. If property owners fail to address cited issues, the City can mow the grass or clean up the trash, for example, and bill the property owner. Cited property owners also may have a lien placed on their property or be issued a summons to appear in Municipal Court. Staff also encourages residents to report violations – either by calling Code Enforcement staff or reporting through SEE Online.

7) Suwanee Day at Gwinnett Braves

Thursday, July 8th is Suwanee Day at the Gwinnett Braves game. All Suwanee residents will be able to receive discounted tickets for that game. Staff, along with the Suwanee Business Alliance, will also promote this to encourage community-wide attendance. This is a 7:05 pm game versus the Charlotte Knights. Staff will provide additional information as it becomes available.

8) Arbor Day Celebration

The City will hold its Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 24. The celebration will take place at White Street Park, in conjunction with a work day to construct the plots at Harvest Farm. Volunteers will plant various fruit and nut trees along the trails in the south pasture.

9) Commuter Rail Meeting

Per the Short Term Work Program (STWP), staff is proceeding with hosting a meeting of representatives from cities located along the proposed rail. This would include: Gainesville; Sugar Hill; Duluth; Norcross; Doraville; Chamblee; Oakwood; Flowery Branch; and Buford. Details are currently being developed and staff will provide an update, as appropriate.

10) Fee Schedule Revision

Staff is in the process of installing the LiveScan fingerprinting machine. Staff recommends adding a fee of \$50.00 to the City's fee schedule to cover the cost of fingerprinting and transmitting the prints to GCIC. Consideration of this item will be included on the April 27 regular agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

D. Suwanee Gross Receipts Discussion

Staff has analyzed City data concerning gross receipts of Suwanee businesses and will present the findings of this study during the workshop.

E. AMD-2010-001: Permitted, Conditional And Special Uses

Staff prepared this amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to eliminate Barber Shops, Beauty Shops and similar uses from the Permitted Special Uses list within all residential zoning districts. These uses are currently addressed through the recently adopted Home Occupation Ordinance and should not require a Special Use Permit. This item will be included on the April 27 Public Hearing and Regular Agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

F. AMD-2010-002: Shared Parking Amendment

Many communities treat parking in mixed use districts differently than in more conventional suburban areas. As such, staff has prepared a proposed amendment to the City of Suwanee Zoning Ordinance to modify Article III Definitions and Article XV Parking Regulations, Section 1501 and to create Section 1509 Shared/Mixed Use Parking to establish procedures for meeting or reducing parking requirements through shared parking arrangements and/or providing a mix of appropriate uses. This item will be included on the April 27 Public Hearing and Regular Agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

G. RZ-2010-001, Applicant: John Thomas Partners, LLC; Owner: First Covenant Bank

The applicant requests a rezoning from PMUD (Planned Mixed Use District) to PMUD with a change of conditions (to allow for construction of 43 townhomes). The site is located in Land Lot 208 of the 7th District along Park Pass Way and contains approximately 4.49 acres. Staff recommends denial of this application. The Planning Commission voted 5-0 to approve it with amended conditions, at their January 5 meeting. At the February 23 meeting, Council postponed this item to the April 27 meeting. This item will be included on the April 27 Public Hearing and Regular Agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

H. RZ-2010-002, Applicant: American Towers Inc.; Owner: Benny R. Sims

The applicant requests a rezoning from C-2 (General Commercial District) to M-1 (Light Industry District) to allow for expansion of a legal non-conforming telecommunications tower. The site is located at 3185 Smithtown Road and contains approximately 0.47 acres. The Planning Department recommends approval with conditions. The Planning Commission will consider this application on April 13; staff will update Council at the workshop on their recommendation. This item will be included on the April 27 Public Hearing and Regular Agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

I. Schedule for Water Rate Setting Process

The STWP indicates staff and Council will consider a revised rate structure for the City's water system. Staff has prepared a draft schedule for customer notifications and public hearings, anticipated to allow Council to consider revising the rate structure at the May 25 Council meeting.

J. Camera in Parks

Per the STWP, staff has been investigating the feasibility of cameras in certain parks. Staff has met with vendors and others and will provide an update at the workshop.

K. Pierce's Corner Rehabilitation

As discussed and on the STWP, staff is proceeding with rehabilitation of the Pierce's Corner building and site in order to bring it up to code and lease out. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and Downtown staff will oversee this project. The DDA has requested that Council create a capital budget for this project in order to proceed, in an amount not to exceed \$615,000. Discussions on funding for this project have centered on using existing fund balance. Should Council wish to proceed this fiscal year, consideration of this item can be included on the April 27 regular agenda.

L. Update on Construction Projects - Staff will provide an update on the following projects at the workshop.

- **Water System Improvements**

- **Martin Farm Park Restrooms & PlayTown Suwanee Pavilion**

Construction began on the Martin Farm Park restrooms the week of April 5. The PlayTown Suwanee pavilion was recently permitted and construction will soon begin on that project, as well.

- **White Street Park and Harvest Farm**

Construction is nearly complete on the community garden portion. The gardeners have been invited to a work day on Saturday, April 24 to construct and plant their plots. The contractors are currently working on the trails, parking, and other parts of White Street Park. Construction on the barn began the week of April 5. Design and coordination of the cistern is underway and it will be installed in conjunction with the barn rehabilitation.

- **Settles Point Road Stormdrainage Project**

As of April 6, the contractor has neared substantial completion on this project.

M. Historic Preservation

Agenda item requested by Councilmember Goodman.

N. Renaming of Buckeye Pavilion

Agenda item requested by Mayor Williams.

O. Update on Gwinnett Convention & Visitor's Bureau

Jace Brooks will provide an update.

P. Update on Gwinnett Municipal Association Activities

Council-led discussion.

Q. City Manager's Report

- i. Special Recognition Options for the April 27, 2010 Council Meeting**

- 1. Police Annual Awards*
- 2. Meggitt Donation to Police Department*

- ii. Minutes for Approval**

- 1. March 23, 2010 Council Meeting*
- 2. March 29, 2010 Called Council Meeting*

- iii. Other Updates**