

AGENDA
CITY OF SUWANEЕ, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING AND WORKSHOP
AUGUST 12, 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

5:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING
Council Chambers

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Executive Session – Legal Matters**
- C. Adjournment**

5:40 P.M.
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Big Splash Room - #2302

- D. Zoning Board of Appeals Annual Report**
Board members will be present to report to the Council.
- E. Police Quarterly Report**
Chief Jones will present his department's quarterly report.
- F. Staff Updates Agenda:** The following items are not planned for discussion at the workshop, unless specifically requested by Council.
 - **Council Mid-Year Retreat**
Per the Short Term Work Program, Council will be holding a mid-year visioning retreat. This has been scheduled for Saturday, August 28 in Lavonia. Staff is working with facilitator Rick Packer on the agenda and format. Staff will provide further details before the retreat.
 - **Harvest Farm**
Jessica Roth presented in two sessions of the American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) conference on August 5 and 6, highlighting Harvest Farm. Project landscape architect Sean Murphy, also presented in a separate session showcasing green practices in community

gardens and also featured Harvest Farm. Fifty tour participants are expected to arrive at Harvest Farm on Sunday, August 8 around 12:15 pm for brunch and a tour. Approximately 25 gardeners will be on hand to welcome the tour and join in the brunch. Council is invited to attend this event.

Applications for 2011 plots (period begins January 1, 2011) will be released by October 1. City residents (both current gardeners and new applicants) will receive priority in assignment.

- **Speed Zone Ordinance**

Every three years the City must adopt an updated speed zone ordinance, which includes a list of streets and highways on which Police may use speed detection devices. The City's current list expires on December 31, 2010. Upon adoption by Council, this will be forwarded to the State Department of Public Safety for review and approval. Approval of this ordinance will be included on the August 24 consent agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

- **Downtown Manager**

Former Downtown Manager Catherine Dixon recently resigned and Alison Starnes has accepted an offer to take over this position on August 25. With this transition, staff recommends changing this position to a full-time FLSA exempt position, in addition to changing the title to Downtown and Business Development Manager. Approval of these changes will be included on the August 24 consent agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

- **Amended Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance**

The City adopted an amendment to the Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Pollution Control Ordinance in December 2009 and forwarded this to the State Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for review and acceptance. EPD has forwarded comments requesting revisions to the adopted ordinance. Staff has updated the ordinance accordingly. Approval of this amendment will be included on the August 24 consent agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

G. Economic Indicators Report

The Economic Indicators Report for the 2nd quarter of 2010 highlights economic indicators for Suwanee including unemployment, foreclosure data, vacancy rates and residential development progress. This particular report also includes a more in-depth discussion of housing in Suwanee, including a recommendation on how to restart some stalled projects. Staff will present an overview of it at the workshop.

H. Historic Preservation Ordinance

Per Council's request, staff has prepared an addendum to the historic preservation analysis that was presented at the June workshop. This revised analysis includes further explanation of the recommendations section, a draft timeline and a draft historic preservation ordinance. Staff will provide more details at the workshop.

I. Urban Camping Ordinance

Staff recommends that Council consider adopting an urban camping ordinance, which would address people sleeping and living in parks, under bridges, and in other outdoor areas. Staff has worked with Gregory Jay to prepare a draft ordinance, modeled after Norcross's ordinance.

Approval of this ordinance will be included on the August 24 consent agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

J. Radar Signs

The City has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the installation of radar signs (also called Dynamic Driver Feedback signs). Proposals are due on August 17. Staff anticipates forwarding a recommendation on award of contract for the August 24 meeting, along with a policy to consider that will address how such signs will be used within the City. Staff will provide more details at the workshop. Consideration of this contract and policy will be included on the August 24 regular agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

K. Video Surveillance System

The City has also released an RFP for the installation of video surveillance cameras in the parks and along the Greenway. Proposals for this project are also due on August 17. Staff proposes a staggered implementation of the cameras in order to beta test the technologies. Staff anticipates forwarding a recommendation on award of contract for the August 24 meeting. Staff will provide more details at the workshop, including a plan for implementation. Consideration of this contract will be included on the August 24 regular agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

L. Pierce's Corner Renovation

At the July workshop, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) presented a request to Council to approve funding for renovation of Pierce's Corner. Council requested that staff, DDA, and the project architect explore some issues further and report back at the August workshop.

M. Public Arts Commission Opening

Due to her recent acceptance of a position with the City, Alison Starnes has resigned from the Public Arts Commission (PAC). With that in mind, the PAC has an opening and expects to forward a recommendation by the workshop for Council to consider on the August 24 regular agenda, unless Council prefers otherwise.

N. PEPSI Refresh Grant

Pepsi has accepted the City's application for a \$250,000 grant to build an accessible treehouse and educational center at White Street Park. Voting will begin on September 1 and conclude on September 30. The two projects in the \$250,000 category with the highest number of votes will each win a grant. Staff will present more details on the project, as well as the publicity campaign to seek votes.

O. Park Enhancements

Staff is preparing to implement the park enhancement projects included in the CIP for FY 11. As discussed at the July workshop, staff has launched a campaign to solicit feedback from residents and park users, including Facebook and website posts, e-mail blasts, an article in the August Crossroads newsletter, and the posting of fliers in the City's parks. Staff has also walked each of the parks with landscape architect Sean Murphy. Staff has received numerous suggestions and will present those received to date at the workshop. Staff also seeks Council suggestions on these improvements.

P. Preferred Gas Provider Program

As discussed at the July workshop, Gas South has approached the City about joining its alliance program. Based on direction from Council, staff has continued researching Gas South's pricing and service data, as well as potential programs available from other providers. Staff will share this information at the workshop.

Q. 2010 Millage Rate

Two public hearings have been scheduled to consider the 2010 millage rate – the first on Thursday, August 12 at 11:00 am and the second on Tuesday, August 24 at 6:30 pm. The Council is scheduled to consider the millage rate at the August 24 Council meeting. The draft ads prepared for these hearings use a proposed rate of 5.77 mills.

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

- **Water System Improvements**
- **White Street Park**
- **I-85 Landscaping Project**

S. 2011 Council Retreat

Staff needs to begin planning for the 2011 Council retreat, normally held in late January or early February. As discussed at the July workshop, staff forwarded a Doodle survey to identify potential dates. Based on the responses from four Council members, the following weekends appear to be possibilities: Jan. 27-29; Feb. 3-5; and Feb. 17-19. Staff seeks consensus on a preferred date.

T. December Chamber Event & Workshop

We have had discussions about hosting a Chamber meeting on December 16 in City Hall. Should we wish to do this, we would need to reschedule the Council's workshop, as it has been scheduled for the same date. Staff proposes to move it to Wednesday, December 15.

U. Update on Gwinnett Convention & Visitor's Bureau

Jace Brooks will provide an update.

V. Update on Gwinnett Municipal Association Activities

Council-led discussion.

W. City Manager's Report

- i. Special Recognition Options for the August 24, 2010 Council Meeting**
- ii. Minutes for Approval**
 - 1. July 27, 2010 Council Meeting*
 - 2. July 30, 2010 Called Council Meeting*
- iii. Other Updates**