

**CITY OF SUWANEE, GEORGIA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 20, 2004**

*Meeting Location: Suwanee City Hall*

Present: Nick Masino, Mayor  
Carol Hassell, Mayor Pro Tem  
Jace Brooks, Councilmember  
Jimmy Burnette, Councilmember  
Alan Landers, Councilmember  
Jeannine Rispin, Councilmember  
Hardin Watkins, City Manager  
Elvira Rogers, City Clerk  
Gregory Jay, City Attorney

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**6:30 P.M.  
PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Masino opened the Public Hearing at 6:37 P.M. City Manager, Hardin Watkins read the Procedures for Public Meetings for the record.

- 1. MRPA-2004-001 – River Corridor Certificate Request. Gwinnett Prado, LP proposes a Bank of America in the 2000-foot Chattahoochee River Corridor. The subject property totals 15.94 acres located in Land Lot 238 of the 7<sup>th</sup> District east of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard south of McGinnis Ferry Road.**

A public hearing must be held for all river corridor certificate requests. The City has received such a request from Gwinnett Prado, LP to build a Bank of America.

Marty Allen, Planning & Economic Development Director, stated that the Atlanta Regional Commission has reviewed the request and deem the site appropriate. City Council must approve the River Corridor Certificate Request.

There was no audience participation and the Public Hearing Closed at 6:40 P.M.

**7:00 P.M.  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

- 1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by Mayor Masino.

- 2. Announcements**

- a. Jackson Street Cemetery Advisory Committee

Jackson Street Cemetery Advisory Committee will initially consist of the following persons: Councilmember Jimmy Burnette, Rev. Fert Richardson, ~~Debra Bowens~~ Sandra Watson, Telesa Jakes, James Davenport, Elvira Rogers, Rich Edinger, Hardin Watkins, one additional Council representative. Mayor Masino is scheduled to formally appoint the committee during this portion of the meeting.

Elvira Rogers presented background information regarding the Jackson Street Cemetery. Mayor Masino appointed a committee to serve as the Jackson Street Cemetery Advisory Committee as follows:

**Community Representatives:** Sandra Watson, James Davenport

**Suwanee Parish United Methodist Church:** Rev. Fert Richardson, Telesa Jakes

**City Representatives:** Hardin Watkins, Elvira Rogers, Rich Edinger

**Council Representative:** Jimmy Burnette and one additional Councilmember

b. Other

- Updated City of **Suwanee Maps and Brochures** have been printed and are available here at City Hall. Thank you to the many Suwanee businesses who made these publications financially feasible through their advertising support.
- The **Suwanee-Duluth Farmers Market** will start in June. The first two will be in Duluth along Main Street on June 5 and 12. The next two will be in Suwanee on June 19 and 26 in the City Hall Parking Lot. If you are interested in selling items at the Farmer's Market go to the City's website or contact Vicki Keyser.
- **Suwanee Day 2004** is scheduled for September 18 and will be in a new location – Town Center Park. If you are interested in being a vendor at the festival, a sponsor for the festival, or a volunteer to help plan the festivities, please contact Vicki Keyser. Sponsor deadline is May 15, 2004.
- The **Suwanee Super Playground** will be built June 9 – 13. We still need volunteers so go to the City's website to sign up. 125 volunteers are needed for each shift – there are three shifts each day for 5 days. We also need 10 construction captains to serve as project leaders and be present for the duration of the 5-day build. Hand Tiles were sold this past weekend.
- Last week the kids at Suwanee Elementary, Riverside Elementary, and Parsons Elementary voted on the name of the playground. The name is **PlayTown Suwanee**.

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Masino was assisted by Aaron Germann of Scout Troop #534.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes**

##### A. 3/4/04 Called Meeting

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve 3/4/04 Called Meeting Minutes, second by Councilmember Landers and so carried 6-0.**

##### B. 3/16/04 Council Meeting

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve 3/16/04 Called Meeting Minutes, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 4-0-2 (Councilmember Brooks and Councilmember Rispin).**

##### C. 3/22/04 Called Meeting

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve 3/22/04 Called Meeting Minutes, second by Councilmember Landers and so carried 3-0-3 (Councilmember Brooks, Councilmember Rispin, Mayor Masino).**

#### **5. Adoption of Agenda as Presented**

Motion by Councilmember Brooks to adopt the agenda with the following changes: Move Item 9H to Item #12, add Item #13 "Review of Capital Improvement Plan" and change Adjournment to Item #14, second by Councilmember Rispin and so carried 6-0.

#### **6. Special Presentations**

##### A. Take Pride in Suwanee Month Proclamation

This is on behalf of Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful. Mayor Masino and Mayor Pro Tem Hassell presented a Proclamation to Connie Wiggins, Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful Director, naming May, 2004 Take Pride in Suwanee Month. Ms. Wiggins thanked the City for 25+ years as environmental stewards.

##### B. Presentation from Suwanee Elementary School PTA

Heather Thomas presented the City a plaque for our assistance with the Friends and Heroes Playground Project at the school. Mayor Masino and Councilmember Brooks accepted on behalf of the City.

#### **7. Audience Participation – None.**

#### **8. OLD BUSINESS – None.**

#### **9. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. MRPA-2004-001 – River Corridor Certificate Request. Gwinnett Prado, LP proposes a Bank of America in the 2000-foot Chattahoochee River Corridor. The subject property totals 15.94 acres located in Land Lot 238 of the 7<sup>th</sup> District east of Peachtree Industrial Boulevard south of McGinnis Ferry Road.**

If anyone wishes to build within a river corridor, they must receive a certificate from the local governing authority. The City has received such a request from Gwinnett Prado, LP to build a Bank of America. ACTION: Consider the river corridor certificate request.

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve MRPA-2004-001, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 6-0.**

- B. Consideration of an Amendment to the Occupational Tax Ordinance to Reflect Recent Legislation Concerning the Definition of Gross Receipts**

Recent legislation was passed that added language to the definition of gross receipts under the Occupational Tax Ordinance. The ordinance is included in your packet with the needed changes. ACTION: Consider the amendment to the Occupational Tax Ordinance.

**Motion by Councilmember Burnette to approve an Amendment to the Occupational Tax Ordinance, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 6-0.**

- C. Consideration of Adoption of the Citywide Park Signage Plan**

A Comprehensive Signage Plan has been an item on the Short Term Work Program that has not been funded to this point. As the City nears completion on several park projects, the need for standard signage has become more apparent. Staff has contacted a highly recommended professional outdoor graphic design firm to put together an affordable design program for a family of City signs. A copy of the signage program is included in your packet with a detailed memo from Marty Allen outlining several options. ACTION: Consider the Citywide Park Signage Plan.

**Motion by Councilmember Rispin to approve the Citywide Park Signage Plan, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 6-0.**

- D. Consideration of Alcohol Request from Wild Wing Cafe**

Wild Wing Café has submitted an application for an 8-week concert series at Town Center Park. This concert series would include the sale of alcohol, which requires Council approval. They have also proposed partnering with the City for our Grand Opening Event at Town Center Park, which would also include the sale of alcohol. ACTION: Consider the alcohol request.

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve the alcohol request from Wild Wing Cafe, second by Councilmember Landers and so carried 6-0.**

#### **E. Consideration of the Budget Adjustments**

The budget adjustments will close out four capital projects: Settles Bridge Sidewalk Fund, Buford Highway Sidewalk Fund, Scales Road Sidewalk Fund, and Settles Point Road Culvert Fund. Each of these projects is complete. All remaining funds within these completed projects will be transferred to the General Fund. The details are included in your packet. ACTION: Consider approval of the budget adjustments.

**Motion by Councilmember Burnette to approve the budget adjustments to close out four capital projects, second by Councilmember Brooks and so carried 6-0.**

#### **F. Consideration of Approval of Change Order #4 for the Suwanee Creek Greenway Project**

This change order is an increase of \$56,662.50. Item one is for the pier changes. Item two is the addition of vertical beams that eventually will become a covered bridge. Items three and four are the privacy fence and gate located at the rear of Swift Atlanta at the request of the business operator. Item five is the addition of a seat back on the bench located on the switchback. Item six is the removal of dead trees that could end up falling onto the trail. Item seven is the installation of stairs at Suwanee Sports Academy per the agreement with SSA. There will be revenue to offset a portion of the expense of the floating pier problem. ACTION: Consider change order #4.

**Motion by Councilmember Brooks to approve Change Order #4 for the Suwanee Creek Greenway Project, second by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell and so carried 6-0.**

#### **G. Consideration of Adoption of the 2004 City Council Retreat Report**

Included in your packet are three documents that make up the "Retreat Report." One is a summary of the notes taken by Hardin Watkins during the retreat. The second document is Gordon Maner's report as facilitator of the retreat sessions. The third is the retreat evaluation. Staff would like this report to be adopted to formalize the action items contained within the documents. ACTION: Consider adoption of the 2004 City Council Retreat Report.

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to approve adoption of the 2004 City Council Retreat Report, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 6-0.**

#### **H. Consideration of a Resolution to Authorize the City to Execute Lease Supplements Under the GMA Direct Leasing Program for Three Crown Victoria Police Cars with Emergency Equipment for the Police Department**

The City enters into these leases every year for Police Vehicles and brings them before City Council each time. The leases are already budgeted. Staff recommends approval. ACTION: Consider the resolution.

**Motion by Councilmember Rispin to approve a Resolution to authorize the City to Execute Lease Supplements Under the GMA Direct Leasing Program for Three Crown Victoria Police Cars with Emergency Equipment for the Police Department, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 6-0.**

**10. City Manager's Report**  
A. March Financial Reports

**11. Land Acquisition Update (Possible Executive Session)**

Councilmember Rispin indicated via an e-mail message on April 15 that she has one item for discussion.

**Motion by Councilmember Rispin to Enter Executive Session, second by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell and so carried 6-0.**

**Motion by Councilmember Brooks to Exit Executive Session, second by Councilmember Landers and so carried 6-0.**

**12. Consideration of a Right of Entry Request from Gwinnett County**

Gwinnett County is improving the intersection of Tench Road and Suwanee Dam Road by adding a traffic signal in preparation for Level Creek Elementary School opening in the fall. The County needs a Right of Entry and a Construction Easement along the Right-of-Way of Suwanee Dam Road.

Although there is not a formal set of plans for the project, City staff feels like we can list our understanding of the County's commitment in a letter and get all discussions recorded clearly prior to actually signing the right of entry document. ACTION: Consider authorizing the Mayor to sign the right of entry request.

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Hassell to authorize the Mayor to execute the Right-of-Entry request from Gwinnett County, subject to review by the City Attorney, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 6-0.**

**13. Review of Capital Improvement Plan**

City Manager, Hardin Watkins, distributed a revised project list for Council review and discussion. Councilmember Rispin stated that an overpass needs to be seriously considered for connectivity of the Library, City Hall Complex and Town Center Park.

**14. Adjournment – 9:00 P.M.**

**Motion by Councilmember Rispin to Adjourn, second by Councilmember Burnette and so carried 6-0.**

**Approved 5/18/04**