



**Mayor and Council Meeting
Work Session Minutes
July 23, 2012 6:00PM**

The Riverdale Mayor and City Council met on July 23, 2012 at 6:00PM for the purpose of conducting a regular work session. The meeting was held in the conference room on the second floor at City Hall, located at 7200 Church Street, Riverdale, Georgia 30274.

Call to Order and Welcome

With a quorum present, Mayor Evelyn Wynn-Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Roll Call

All members of the governing body were present for the meeting; Council Member Wanda Wallace was absent.

Approval of the Agenda

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

Addition(s): None.

Deletion(s): None.

Postponement(s): None.

Tabled Item(s): None.

The Agenda was approved by general consensus.

City Manager's Report

City Manager's Report: Discussion about the need to Designate Two Authorized Representatives of the City to Negotiate During the Local Option Sales Tax Meetings

City Manager advised that the Clayton County Board of Commissioners and the mayors of each municipality required each city to designate two authorized representatives to negotiate on behalf of their cities. Mayor Dixon advised that at the Mayor's Meeting it was decided unanimously by each city for each municipality to be represented by its respective City Manager and City Attorney. Mayor Dixon advised that the sentiment was that these appointed officials were familiar with the details of the negotiations and would therefore be able to speak more authoritatively on certain matters.

Ms. Jessie advised that the purpose of designating two representatives from each city was to ensure equal representation by each municipality, precluding the possibility of any city being over or underrepresented.

Mayor Dixon opened the floor up for comment by other members of the Board. Council Members Davis and Stamps-Jones had no comment. Council Member Wallace asked about the topics that would be addressed in the first meeting taking place on Tuesday, July 24th. Ms. Jessie advised that there would not be any specific figures discussed at the first meeting; that it would be a general informational meeting, with each side presenting their facts. City Attorney, David Johnson, iterated that the matters being handled at the first LOST meeting would be matters involved the explication of the eight criteria in the statute. Council Member recalled that the information being shared and discussed was the same as what had been provided Mayor/Council months prior.

City Manager's Report: Discussion about the need to Purchase Equipment for Riverdale Centre and Public Plaza.

City Manager, Iris Jessie, advised Mayor/Council that the City needed to close out the certificates of participation- the bonds that paid for the construction of the new city hall and town center. She further advised that there were extra monies available for the City to allocate towards special projects, particularly for improvement to the Riverdale Towne Center. She provided Mayor/Council with a list of the proposed undertakings by recommendation of staff. (SEE Attachment: Proposed Project List) Ms. Jessie advised Mayor/Council upgrades to the acoustic sound system in the multipurpose room as one of the priority items on the list. Included among them is the retreading of the staircase in city hall, as well as adding treatment and protect sealant to the lobby seats of the building. The installation of fiber optics was also one of the priority projects recommended by staff in order to increase connectivity and to remain allow for viable transitions to technological upgrades.

She informed Mayor/Council that the items would have to be introduced individually as resolutions and that the list was for their review until such a time. Additionally, Ms. Jessie, advised an item that was not on the list, but was also a priority, is the renewing the City's LED certification. The City would need to locate a firm to complete the unfinished work of Sizemore. Ms. Jessie advised that this was not a matter that needed to be voted on.

Mayor Dixon opened the floor up to the Board for discussion. Council Member Davis asked if consideration for the upgrading of the restroom facilities -particularly for the purpose of accommodating larger crowds during special events in the town centre- had been made. He and Ms. Jessie also discussed the procedures for installing extra external outlets- an item listed among the other recommendations. Ms. Jessie advised that no intrusive installation procedures would be done that would impact the building's edifice.

Council Member Stamps-Jones had no comments. Council Member Ruffin agreed that the upgrades to the multipurpose room were necessary. Council Member Wallace asked about upgrades to the kitchen facilities in the multipurpose room of the town centre. Ms. Jessie replied that no considerations had been made, but that she would follow up with Mayor/Council regarding those matters.

Mayor Dixon also gave her support of the list of recommended upgrades.

Ms. Jessie yielded the remainder of her time to Camilla Moore, Director of Planning and Zoning. Ms. Moore brought before the Board two candidates to fill the vacant seats on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), recommended by the Business Corp. (See Attachments: resumes, Diane Morse and Yulonda McGhee) Ms. Moore advised that there had been a vacancy for several months.

Ms. Moore issued the resumes of the candidates to the Board for review. Mayor Dixon asked Ms. Moore if she was requesting that Mayor/Council add the appointees to the consent agenda for the business session that would immediately follow. Ms. Moore affirmed. Ms. Moore indicated the reason as being a pending legal issue that would determine if a homeowner would be cited. To avoid issuing a citation to a heavily vested homeowner that could result in the demolition of a newly built farmhouse, Ms. Moore would have to present this before a full BZA.

There were no questions addressed to the candidates by the Board.

Mayor/Council reached consensus to add the item to the consent agenda.

Discussion about GOV360 by Councilman Kenny Ruffin.

Mayor Dixon opened the floor to Council Member Ruffin. Council Member Ruffin asked Mayor/Council if there were any questions about the program. Council Member Davis asked about the level of anonymity during the evaluation process. Council Member Ruffin advised that all evaluations by staff would be conducted on the basis of anonymity so as to increase the effectiveness of the program.

Council Member Ruffin advised that there were monies available in the retreat budget to host an initial training session for Gov360.

There were no further comments.

Mayor/ Council reached consensus to bring the item back for discussion at the next work session.

Discussion about information sharing and implementing ideas/concepts gained from attending a conference or course by Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones.

Council Member Stamps-Jones gave a recap of the discussion at the prior work session regarding information sharing between and amongst members of the board. This information, she advised, could be shared in a formal manner with the purpose of building consensus and increasing the overall knowledge base of the Board.

Council Members Davis and Ruffin advised against having a formal information sharing session, but were both in support of the idea to exchange information.

Council Member Wallace proposed compiling all the information gathered during the year and sharing it at the Empowerment Session at the fall retreat.

Mayor/Council reached consensus to have an Empowerment Session at the fall retreat.

Discussion about Mayor and Council Travel Policy by Councilman Ruffin.

Council Member Ruffin briefed the Board on the recommendations for updating the Travel Policy. Each board member agreed with the updates.

Mayor/Council reached a general consensus to allow staff to update the Travel Policy for Mayor/Council which would reflect those changes agreed upon.

Overview of Items that appear on the Business Session Agenda:

City Clerk, Stephanie Thomas, advised the Board on a resolution that was adopted on July 9, 2012 authorizing Staff to allow Clayton County to utilize Riverdale Regional Park for its football and cheerleading programs. The resolution, she advised, was supported by Clayton County. Staff requests permission for the Board to amend the agenda to add the resolution to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Clayton County; this agreement sets forth the terms for how the program will be linked. Ms. Thomas advised that the resolution would go under the consent agenda.

Council Member Davis contended the terms of the agreement, wherein the City of Riverdale would be given twenty percent of the sales from concession. Mayor Dixon advised that some of the price points for participation needed to be renegotiated to better accommodate parents of participants, but that the services and programs offered were agreeable.

There was also discussion regarding the kinds of sports programs that would be offered the first year. Council Member Wallace proposed that the Board convene and set the terms of the agreement to present to the County.

Mayor Dixon advised that the matter be discussed at the next work session. Council Member Davis asked about the Staff's recommendation. Mayor Dixon advised that the Board agree first, before including the Staff's recommendation.

Council Member Ruffin brought before the Board a reading program from the National League of Cities that would aide in the improvement of reading and science scores among students of the County.

Agenda Items for the next meeting:

Mayor/Council did not make any additions to the agenda for the next meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Mayor and Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM. Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Kenny Ruffin seconded.