

Minutes
City of Doraville
June 7, 2004

Those Present: Mayor Jenkins
Mayor Pro Tem Lamar Lang
Councilmembers: Thurman Roach
Ed Lowe
Jason Anavitarte
Marlene Hadden
City Attorney: Rick Powell
Not Present: Councilman David Weese

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jenkins.

The minutes of May 17, 2004 were read with a motion and second to approve. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Din Quan Cheng of 2691 McClave Drive came before the council to discuss a setback reduction variance on his father's property. Mr. Cheng said we wanted to enclose the carport. He said he had met with the City Inspector and was told he needed 10 feet, but only had 8 feet 9 inches. He was informed by the Council he would need to obtain letters from the adjoining neighbors and/or the property owners giving their consent to allow variance needed. Further review by the City Inspector and Attorney will be done to determine the procedure needed for re-zoning.

Mr. Hung Dam of the Stewart Road Property came regarding rezoning from R-1 to R-CH. Discussion with the Mayor and Council regarding the tree report was held. Mr. Dam will give this problem more attention and will work with the concerned parties, in particular Mr. Mimms. Other issues involved privacy fence installation, wooded plant buffer, and tree debris removal. The developers asked due to the prohibitive cost, that the rear elevations of the homes be permitted to not be brick, stucco, or stone, but rather hadri-plank type material. Discussion was held on the rear elevations and considered to be current typical construction design and allow for the rear exteriors of homes to be constructed in such fashion.

The variance of zoning has been advertised and the required public readings held to establish the rezoning from R-1 to R-CH.

Motion made Councilwoman Hadden to rezone the Creel/Stewart Road Property from R-1 to R-CH classification.

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lang.

The motion carried unanimously.

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A representative from Sim's Limousine came before the council to discuss the use of an unidentified passenger car as a limousine in Doraville. Caption McElroy read the State of Georgia code and definition of a limousine. It did not appear Sim's Limousine met the criteria to operate in the City of Doraville. Complaints had been received by the Police Department regarding Sim's Limousine Company soliciting business

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hadden the issue be tabled until June 21, 2004.
Seconded by Councilman Roach
The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Hadden reported on the progress of the Financial Policies and Procedures Committee in the development of the policies. Councilwoman Hadden thanked each of the Committee Members for their input into the project and believed the final product would be ready for presentation at the June 21st council meeting.

Mayor Jenkins discussed the insurance increase. The employee insurance could be paid up to the amount of the cost for the HMO family amount. The week of holdback pay or what is referred to as bonus pay will be paid by the City and not given to the employee if the employee leaves prior to a 12 month period of time. Additionally, effective January 2005 a merit review raise system will be instituted. The merit system policies should be in place as written policy to be incorporated into the handbook by September 1, 2004. The merit system policy would be effective for the fiscal year of 2005-2006 to receive a merit increase of pay.

Motion was made by Councilman Roach to accept the following policy as read by Attorney Powell be accepted.

Attorney Powell read the following: I move that beginning July 1, 2004 the City pay the entire insurance premium of the employees and the family coverage of the married employees up to the cost of HMO coverage. Further, that in lieu of a raise for fiscal year 2004-2005 the City would pay a bonus to the employees of one (1) week's pay which will be paid during the week in which the holdback occurs, but will be earned at the expiration of 12 months term. Further, beginning January 2005 the City will put into place a merit raise system and have in place the polices and job descriptions, which incorporates salary ranges, on which that system will be based in place on or before September 1, 2004.

Seconded by Councilman Anavitarte.
Passed by majority, with abstention by Councilman Lowe.

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Mayor Jenkins brought up the Hightower School expense. Councilwoman Hadden said she felt it was unfair to give to one school and not the other schools. Discussion was held regarding the legalities of the contributing to the schools. Rick Powell reported donations by the City to schools were not considered to be an illegal to be made by the City.

Councilman Anavitarte wanted to add other schools to the recipient list to receive a donation. A motion was tabled until Councilwoman Hadden gathers additional facts from the various elementary schools.

Councilman Anavitarte reported the City Planner request for proposal was advertised in the Champion Newsletter. Anticipation of the forthcoming proposals is the next step in the plan to obtain a suitable city planner for the City. As the process progresses updates will be given.

Councilman Anavitarte discussed the property located at 3310 Shady Oak Drive and the owner of record Mary Francis Cleveland and asked the council to proceed with getting the yard cleaned up. The neighbors cut the front yard, but it was stated it was unfair to expect the neighbors to continue to cut the grass.

Councilman Anavitarte reported he would be working with DeKalb County and D.O.T. to get the Buford Highway/I-285 area cleaned up.

Mayor Jenkins asked for a motion to continue the \$700 GMA convention expense advance for each person attending the conference. An expense report would be filed upon return from the convention.

Motion was made by Councilman Roach to continue the \$700 advance.

Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lang.

The motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Powell had several ordinances for second readings. Ordinance 04-11 relating to regulating non-storm water run-off; Ordinance 04-12 relating to protecting greenspace; Ordinance 04-14 relating to the budget approval date; and Ordinance 04-16 relating to illegal parking with fine amounts and leaving ticket/payment envelop on vehicle.

Councilman Anavitarte made the motion to pass Ordinance 04-11.

Seconded by Councilwoman Hadden.

The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Hadden made the motion to pass Ordinance 04-12.

Seconded by Councilman Anavitarte.

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The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Hadden made the motion to pass Ordinance 04-14.

Seconded by Councilman Anavitarte.

The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Hadden made the motion to pass Ordinance 04-16.

Seconded by Councilman Anavitarte.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins asked Priscilla Murphy to have the 2004-2005 fiscal year budget ready to give to the council for review by June 14th. The advertised public meeting is scheduled for 7:00am Monday, June 21, 2004.

Motion made by Councilman Roach to approve the payment of the bills.

Seconded by Councilman Anavitarte.

Passed by majority vote, with a no vote from Councilwoman Hadden.

Resident's time: Brain Bates asked if there was an ordinance regarding paint color for commercial buildings. Mr. Fite said the maximum height of a newly construction structure could only be 35 feet. Mr. Fite was concerned the new house being built as Tilly Mill and Valley Stream might be too high. Inspector Entsminger will verify the house is not over the construction limit. Susan Crawford asked about the formation of citizen review panels. Mrs. Jett thanked the Mayor and City Council members for all the hard work and encouraged everyone to work together for the common good of all. Mention was made of traffic light camera installation. The cameras will be purchased and installed after the new fiscal year budget is approved. Mrs. Allison invited the Mayor and Council to the maintenance appreciation luncheon. Mr. Lang commented on citizen review panels and told of some of the problems associated with the planning boards in the past. He also said we are in the process of hiring a professional planner to assist the City in reviews and advisement as to the best direction for the City to move toward reaching goals for the good of all. Ms. Avers said we need to get in front of the actions that effect change, if the City does not move in that direction, the City could get run over and not accomplish what the most possible. Another resident said we should be progressive and work together. Mr. Fite said he thought the Mayor and Council were doing a great job.

There be no further business the meeting was adjourned.