

CITY OF DORAVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2005

Present: Mayor, Ray Jenkins
Council, Marlene Hadden
Jason Anavitarte
Donna Pittman
Ed Lowe

City Attorney, Rick Powell

Mayor Pro-Tem Lang and Council Member Weese were not present.

Mayor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve the November 7, 2005 minutes as written and the minutes from the executive session held on November 7, 2005. Council Member Pittman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins stated that the City had always given the employees a \$50.00 net Christmas Bonus. Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve the \$50.00 net Christmas Bonus. Council Member Pittman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins asked the Council to approve a Business Retention and Expansion Resolution. The City Attorney read the Resolution. Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve the Resolution. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins announced that the General Motors Plant in Doraville was going to close. GM will fulfill all of its current contracts at the Doraville Plant before it closes. It could take until 2008 to fulfill the contracts. Mayor Jenkins stated that the City had enough money saved to see the City through the GM closing and until the property could be redeveloped. Mayor Jenkins asked everyone to pray for those workers who would be losing their jobs.

Council Member Anavitarte stated that he had already made arrangements for an environmental study to be done on the GM property. Council Member Anavitarte stated that the GM property would be included in the LIC Study for future development. This might be an opportunity for the City of Doraville to be a model for the State of Georgia and learn from the mistakes of other cities where development is concerned.

Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to approve the Police Chief contacting the County to get State Prisoners to clean up Buford Highway at 285 and Peachtree Industrial Blvd. Council Member Anavitarte also made a motion to contact DOT for routine maintenance at the Buford Highway and 285 exits and contact local business owners for financial support to maintain the landscape areas of Buford Highway and 285 exits. Council Member Hadden seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney stated that this was the first reading of an amendment to the Employee Handbook to allow the Mayor to approve training and travel expenses for Department Heads. Mayoral and Council training and travel expenses would be approved by the Council with the exception of 6 classes per year within the State of Georgia. The second reading will be held on December 5, 2005.

The City Attorney stated that this was the second reading of amendments to the Alcohol Ordinance to define malt beverages and wine as alcoholic beverages and would be subject to the 3% excise tax. The Ordinance would be effective January 1, 2006.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve the amendments to the Alcohol Ordinance. Council Member Pittman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney stated that this was the second reading of amendments to Sections 19-65a and 19-108c referencing gravel and parking. Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to approve the amendments to Sections 19-65a and 19-108c. Council Member Pittman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney stated that this was the second reading for amendments of two sections of the City Zoning Ordinance, Screening and Parking of Recreational Vehicles. The Screening Ordinance would provide for the screening of outdoor storage and junk. The Recreational Vehicle Ordinance would provide for the parking of recreational vehicles on paved surfaces and disallow the parking of a recreational vehicle on any area for 24 hours. The City Attorney commended Sgt. Lowe for his input into these Ordinances and the ability to enforce the Ordinances. Council Member Lowe made a motion to approve the Screening Ordinance and the Parking of Recreational Vehicles Ordinance. Council Member Hadden seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Attorney stated that this was the first reading for an Ordinance to exempt Accessory Structures from the variance fee and the hearing procedure. The Ordinance would give the Council the power to grant an administrative variance. The second reading of this Ordinance will be held on December 5, 2005.

There was no committee report.

Acting Chief McElroy had nothing to report.

Council Member Anavitarte stated that a metal fence would be placed around the backside of English Oak Park as soon as possible. Council Member Anavitarte also stated that a metal fence would be placed around the sink hole on Raymond Drive.

John Maloney asked about the signs, announcing the Star Tower Project behind the Waffle House. Mr. Maloney stated that the project had not been approved by the City but for sale signs were already up and a sales office had been installed on the property. Mr. Maloney stated that perhaps the Sign Ordinance should be amended to disallow signs from being erected before the project was even permitted.

Council Member Hadden stated that Mr. Maloney's suggestion on changing the Sign Ordinance was a good idea. Council Member Hadden agreed that the City had not received any plans from the Star Tower Project.

Ben Crawford stated that perhaps the Planning Commission could help with holding public hearings on the Tower Project.

The City Attorney will look into the sign problem and the sales office.

A gentleman stated that the traffic light at the Marta Station was set to turn green if a vehicle pulled up and tripped the light. People were pulling up and unloading their vehicles and the traffic on New Peachtree was backing up because of this one vehicle. The gentleman asked if there was anything the City could do about this.

A gentleman asked if there was going to be a height limitation on the Tower Project.

Mayor Jenkins adjourned the meeting.

_____Ray Jenkins, Mayor

Attest; _____
City Clerk