

CITY OF DORAVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 4, 2006

Present: Mayor, Ray Jenkins  
Council, Marlene Hadden  
Jason Anavitarte  
Donna Pittman  
Ed Lowe  
Bob Spangler  
Tom Hart

City Attorney, Rick Powell

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

Council Member Hadden made a motion that approving the minutes from the November 6, 2006 Council meeting be tabled so that corrections could be made to the minutes. Council Member Hadden had submitted changes but the City Clerk did not have time to make those changes. John Noonan had changes to the minutes that have not been submitted and the Coopers have not had time to review the minutes to see if they were quoted correctly. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to approve the minutes from the Called Council meeting held on November 6, 2006. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Clerk read the names of the Companies that had submitted RFP's for the Public Relation project. The City Clerk also stated the prices listed from each proposal.

Council Member Lowe made a motion to award the Public Relation project to ASADI Design at a contract price of \$56,900.00. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins asked Chief King to give a brief report on the COPS Unit. Chief King stated that he had been working with the Mayor in planning Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Patrol for the proposed annexation area. Chief King stated the City needed to be prepared to address these issues in the event of the annexation.

Mayor Jenkins stated that he and Chief King would have more to report on the COPS Unit in the near future.

Mayor Jenkins stated that he had gotten Georgia Power to do an efficiency study on the City owned buildings. The lighting at the Library is very old and needs to be replaced

with more energy efficient lighting fixtures. This is an issue that the Mayor will bring up at budget time.

Mayor Jenkins stated that the residents on Stewart Ct. had requested 2 street lights. Stewart Ct. has underground lines so poles will have to be added to house the street lights. One light is to be placed at the entrance and the other one in the cul-de-sac.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve \$831.72 to install poles and lights on Stewart Ct. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Jenkins asked the Council to amend the agenda to add an item to open bids for a replacement bucket for the bob cat. Council Member Lowe made a motion to amend the agenda to add opening bids for a replacement bucket for the bob cat. Council Member Hart seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The City Clerk opened the bids and passed [them](#) to the Council Members. Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to approve the bid from Atlanta Equipment Repair in the amount of \$2,700.00 for a 73" industrial grapple bucket contingent upon the Maintenance Department Head approval. Council Member Hart seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to approve a \$150.00 net Christmas bonus for each of the City employees. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Emerald Bui was not present.

Jorge Bacvilma was not present.

Mayor Jenkins stated that Clint Howard's daughter had been involved in an auto accident and that Mr. Howard would not be present tonight and ask that this item be placed on the December 18, 2006 work session.

Chief King translated for Angelina Canelas. Ms. Canelas stated that the freestanding carport was there when she bought the house in 1997. Ms. Canelas has been cited and is due in court in December. Ms. Canelas asked the Council to let her keep her freestanding structure as it is.

Mayor Jenkins stated that there were numerous structures like this one throughout the City.

Council Member Anavitarte asked that this item be tabled and placed on the December 18, 2006 work session agenda.

Mayor Jenkins read a letter written by Barry Levin concerning a sign on Winters Chapel Rd. at Las Gatitas. Mr. Levin owns property near Las Gatitas and some of his tenants found the sign offensive. Council Member Pittman was instrumental in getting the sign taken down. Mr. Levin commended Council Member Pittman for getting the sign taken down.

Mr. Levin also stated that he was in favor of the proposed annexation and looked forward to being a part of the City of Doraville.

JWB Realty was not present.

Council Member Pittman asked Jackie Beyer to give an update on the tree lighting and the 135 year anniversary celebration. Ms. Beyer stated that an open house would be held on December 15, 2006, with a reception from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Heavy Hors d'oeuvres will be served at the reception. Most of the food is being donated by local business owners. The tree lighting will start at 6:30 p.m. with the trimming of the tree followed by hot chocolate and cookies.

Item # 13 was taken care of at the work session.

Item # 14 was taken care of at the work session.

Item # 15 was taken care of at the work session.

Council Member Lowe made a motion that the agenda item "citizen's comments" should be changed to "Doraville citizen's comments". Anyone who is not a citizen will have to [fill out a request form to be placed on the agenda](#). Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Hadden stated that increasing the minimum fine for boarding houses was one of the objectives of Operation Turning Point. Most of the people who were renting out rooms charge so much for the rooms that a fine that they received did not compare with the rental income. Increasing the minimum fine to \$1,000.00 will matter.

The City Attorney stated that this was the 1st reading but the Council could waive the first reading if they so choose.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to waive the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an Ordinance that would increase the minimum fine for boarding house to \$1,000.00. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Hart made a motion to approve the Ordinance that would increase the minimum fine for boarding house to \$1,000.00. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Hadden stated that Council Member Hart had advised the Council several months ago that the City needed a flow chart that would tell residents and developers what the steps were and what they would need in order to obtain a building permit.

Council Member Hart stated that CMH2Hill was going to develop the flow chart but there would be a charge for it. Council Member Hart stated that he had his own flow chart.

Council Member Hadden stated that the Council would like to see Council Member Hart's flow chart. Perhaps Council Member Hart could present his flow chart at the next work session.

Council Member Hadden thanked Charlene Fang for her participation in Operation Turning Point. Ms. Fang had translated the Good Neighbor Flier in Chinese. Council Member Hadden stated that the flier had already been translated into Spanish.

Council Member Hadden read the Good Neighbor Flier and stated that the flier was not intended to be offensive but was instructive on what the codes were and asked residents to comply with the codes.

Council Member Hadden stated that Susan Fraysee was not present tonight. Ms. Fraysee has been keeping the data base. There are 59 properties reported to be out of compliance. 39 of these properties have been reported since November 6, 2006.

Council Member Anavitarte stated all the issues were important and were being addressed. Boarding houses was an important issue but there were many others and Operation Turning Point's objective was to educate the public as to what the codes are.

Council Member Anavitarte thanked Council Member Hadden and the committee who were working with them on Operation Turning Point.

Council Member Hadden thanked Sgt. Lowe and all of the Code Enforcement Officers who were working on Operation Turning Point.

Council Member Anavitarte stated that hopefully the new Zoning Ordinance would address the issue of trucks parking overnight and on weekends in shopping centers.

The City Attorney stated that it would make it easier for the City if the owners of the shopping center would put up signs that would not allow for overnight parking.

A lady stated that she had written a letter to the owners of K-Mart concerning the overnight and weekend parking of trucks in their parking lot.

Council Member Hadden asked the lady for the address for the owner of K-Mart so she could also write a letter.

Mayor Jenkins stated that the survey of English Oak Park was finished and in his office if anyone wanted to review it.

Council Member Hadden stated that there was a dead basket ball goal at Brook Park. Council Member Hadden asked the Mayor to get it removed because it was grown over with vines and other vegetation.

Mayor Jenkins stated that he would get the Maintenance Department to take care of it.

The City Attorney stated that this would be the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of an Ordinance to raise the homestead exemption from \$50,000.00 to \$65,000.00.

Council Member Hart stated that he had brought up raising the homestead exemption months ago and was told that the charter would have to be changed and this would not be possible until March of 2007. Now it can be changed with an Ordinance. Council Member Hart wanted to know why he was told that the charter would have to be changed. The City Attorney stated that after further research he had found out that it could be done with an Ordinance.

Council Member Hart made a motion to accept the first reading of an Ordinance that would increase the homestead exemption to \$65,000.00. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Anavitarte stated that 2 streetlights were needed in Oakcliff:  
3199 Pin Oak Way  
The entrance of Oakcliff and Pin Oak at the street sign.

Council Member Hart stated that 2 street lights needed to be added along the sidewalk on Chestnut. One pole would have to be installed.

Council Member Hart made a motion to approve the 4 street lights. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Spangler thanked Bobby Pittman and the Maintenance Department for the professional job that they did to install a back entrance to Honeysuckle Park. The Maintenance Department did an excellent job.

Council Member Spangler stated that Chief King was working on a way for pedestrians to cross Buford Highway safely. Perhaps putting up no-right-turn-on red signs would help the problem. Several pedestrians have been killed recently.

Council Member Spangler stated that the City did have an Ordinance that requires [addresses](#) to be placed on mail boxes or on houses in case of emergency. Chief King is working to enforce this Ordinance.

Council Member Spangler made a motion to change the Council meeting to twice a month and eliminate the work sessions. Motion [died for lack of second](#).

Council Member Pittman made a motion to have 2 Council meetings per month with work sessions before the Council meetings. The work sessions would start according to the number of items on the agenda. Council Member Hart seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Members Anavitarte and Spangler voting no.

Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to reconsider the motion that was just passed. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Members Pittman, Hart and Lowe voting no. Mayor Jenkins broke the tie by voting yes.

Council Member Anavitarte made a motion to leave the Council meeting schedule the way that it was with 1 Council meeting per month and 1 work session per month. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Member Hadden voting no.

Council Member Hart stated that he had brought up the subject of changing the Council meetings to 2 per month because the City had so many items to address. Council Member Hart wanted to know why no one would vote on his suggestion. Was it just because he had brought it up?

Council Member Hart stated that he had checked with Advanced Disposal about the cost of recycling. Curb-side recycling would cost each resident an additional \$2.85 per month.

After discussion none of the Council wanted to burden the citizens with additional cost.

Council Member Hart made a motion to send out an RFP for recycling services. The City Maintenance Department could submit a bid to see what it would cost for the City to do the recycling itself. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Hart stated that Mayor Jenkins could remove the rest of his agenda items from the agenda.

The City Attorney stated that this would be the 1st reading of an amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance. The City Attorney read the changes.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to waive the first reading of an amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Hadden made a motion to approve the amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried with Council Member Anavitarte voting no.

The City Attorney stated that this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an Ordinance that would amend the No- Parking Ordinance. The City Attorney read the changes to the Ordinance.

Council Member Hart made a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of an Ordinance that would amend the No-Parking Ordinance. Council Member Spangler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

After much discussion it was decided to table the Litter Ordinance until the Jan. 2, 2007 Council meeting.

Council Member Hart made a motion to approve a Resolution that would add additional duties to the Planning Commission. The City Attorney read the Resolution. Motion died from lack of second.

Council Member Lowe made a motion to table the Resolution to add additional duties to the Planning Commission until the Jan. 2, 2007 Council meeting. Council Member Anavitarte seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Stuart Anderson stated that all but one member of the Planning Commission had finished the Planning Commission training.

Mr. Anderson stated that he had been helping work on the re-design of the Parks.

Mr. Anderson asked about the woman that had been missing from the Oakcliff area.

Chief King stated that his investigator had immediately called all of the local hospitals. A John Doe fitting the description of the woman was located at Gwinnett Medical. It was revealed that an officer had found the woman on Sugar Loaf Parkway and had transported her to Gwinnett Medical. The woman suffered from exposure but is in good condition.

Mayor Jenkins thanked the Police Department and all of the residents who had joined in to help search for the woman.

Stuart Anderson stated that even the Atlanta Regional Commission recommended that the Planning Commission perform the duties listed in the Resolution that was tabled tonight. Mr. Anderson asked the Council to consider adding the additional duties to the Planning Commission.

Chief King thanked all of the people who helped in the search of the missing woman.

Chief King presented the Mayor with the State Certification Plaque for the Police Department. Mayor Jenkins stated that he would be proud to hang it at City Hall.

Doraville Citizens comments: Rochelle Valsant, President of Growthspert, stated that she was a resident of Doraville and had submitted a proposal for the Public Relation RFP. The Council made a decision to award the Public Relations bid to a company tonight with a much higher price than the proposal that she had submitted. Ms. Valsant stated that she would hold the Council accountable for making sure all of the components of the RFP were fulfilled. She wants to make sure that the comprehensive plan is fulfilled.

Susan Crawford announced that 2 of the Neighborhood [Associations](#) would be having a joint Holiday party at the Civic Center and stated that everyone was invited to the party on December 11, 2006. This is a covered dish affair. The main course will be provided by the Neighborhood Associations.

Susan Crawford stated that she had provided the Council with information on a vacant house beside English Oak Park. She had asked the Council to consider purchasing the house for a Community Center. Mrs. Crawford asked the Council if they had given any consideration to purchasing this house.

John Noonan stated that the Council should pass the Litter Ordinance. The reason for landscaping and maintaining landscaping is to prevent a rodent population from becoming a problem in the City. Rodents and snakes thrive in a natural area.

John Noonan stated that he would like to see the American Flag back in its proper place.

Council Member Anavitarte announced that on December 8, 2006, Georgia Tech would be presenting their Study of the closing of the GM Plant. Everyone is invited to attend.

Mayor Jenkins adjourned the meeting.

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Ray Jenkins, Mayor

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City Clerk