MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 9, 2019

Mayor

6:00 P.M.

The Mayor and Council met for their regular meeting.

Those Present:

John Howard
Wayne Adcock
Lee Malcom
Myoshia Crawford
Larry Bradley
Norman Garrett
Nathan Little
David Dickinson
Logan Propes
Debbie Kirk

Vice-Mayor Council Member Council Member Council Member Council Member Council Member Council Member City Administrator

Debbie Kirk City Clerk
Russell Preston City Attorney
Paul Rosenthal City Attorney
Jesse Couch City Attorney

Absent:

Ross Bradley

Council Member

Staff Present:

Danny Smith, Jeremiah Still, R.V. Watts, Bill Owens, Beth Thompson, Rodney Middlebrooks, Darrell Stone, Chris Bailey, Beverly Harrison, Sadie

Krawczyk

Visitors:

Andrew Kenneson, Harold Patterson, Von Sieber, Tom Tittle, Pat Kamienski, Nancy Burgess, Lauren Gregory, Tyler Gregory, Julie McMunn, John Hopkins Jr, Bryan Harris, Joanne Harris, Stephen Butler, Michael Reese, Gloria Reese, B. Russell, Whit Holder, Fred Skinner, Kathy Bourgue, Lawrence Quammen, George Baker III, Walter Cox Jr, Suzanne Roberts,

Betty Skinner, George Baker Jr, Jennifer Daniel

I. CALL TO ORDER – JOHN HOWARD

1. Invocation

Pastor Stephen Butler with Bible Baptist Church gave the invocation.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Howard noted that Council Member Ross Bradley was absent. There was a quorum.

3. Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Malcom, seconded by Adcock. Passed Unanimously

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. March 5, 2019 Council Minutes
- b. March 12, 2019 Council Minutes
- c. March 19, 2019 Planning Commission Minutes

To approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion by Dickinson, seconded by Little. Passed Unanimously

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II. PUBLIC PRESENTATION

1. Proclamation - Child Abuse Prevention Month

Ms. Lauren Gregory, with A Child's Voice Child Advocacy Center, stated they are located in Social Circle and serve both Walton and Newton County. Their model is designed to reduce trauma for children from sexual abuse, physical abuse, and witness to abuse and homicide. A Child's Voice also exists to facilitate and support organizations and individuals whose efforts are directed toward abuse and prevention. She explained they are a nationally accredited non-profit organization funded by the generosity of public and private donors.

Mayor John Howard presented the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

No Action.

III. PUBLIC FORUM

1. Public Comments

Mr. Harold Patterson, of 957 Masters Drive, stated that the Walton County Veterans Memorial Park needs some signs now that it has been dedicated. He feels it would be in everyone's interest if there were signs identifying how to get to the park, and questioned how to get that started. He also questioned the status of the new chain grocery store and development.

Mr. Tom Tittle, with the United States Pickleball Association, discussed the benefits that pickleball would provide to the City. He presented proposals for converting the tennis courts at Hammond Park into pickleball courts. He explained the sport started on the West Coast, but is now played worldwide. It can be played by everyone from retirees to baby boomers. Their club started with four people about a year and a half ago, and they now have 75 players. He requested Council to keep their club in the recreational department plans. They are currently using the Boys and Girls Club to play. Mr. Tittle discussed the money their club has raised. They have \$10,000 in an escrow account to go towards the cost of converting the courts for pickleball. He explained they applied to the Walton County Health Foundation for a grant, but were denied. They plan to resubmit the grant application each year.

Mr. Pat Kamienski, of 824 Fairway Drive, stated his support of the pickleball courts. He discussed the benefits of the game and explained it is a game for all ages. He is almost 72 and has been playing for over a year, and his granddaughter started playing at 12. It would be wonderful to have it outside at Hammond Park where they would have flexibility, instead of having to play at a designated time.

2. Public Hearing

a. Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #7

Mr. Darrell Stone explained the Zoning Ordinance text amendments for the Infill Overlay District (IOD) and other affected zoning sections. The amendments will provide for and encourage infill development, which will incentivize building high-quality homes at higher densities in parcels in and around the City Center. This will allow aesthetic controls to ensure the desired development pattern and quality, while allowing for affordability and sustainable development. He explained there are other updates to the R1, R1A, R2, and MH zoning ordinance sections as well, that amend setbacks, square footages, materials, and other design and site specifications.

Council Member Larry Bradley requested Mr. Stone to summarize what these amendments will accomplish.

Mr. Stone stated the amendments are applicable to the current zonings of R1, R1A, R2, and MH. Parcels zoned R1A that are three acres or less will be able to do the infill, which will allow up to 10 units per acre. It is designed for areas close to the Central Business District Downtown to encourage in-town living and walkability. The IOD will be extended to the R2 and MH Zonings. He explained the goal is to provide quality housing for everyone.

The Mayor declared the meeting open for the purpose of public input.

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Mr. Vonn Sieber, of 2362 Hillside Trace, questioned 10 homes being allowed on one acre. He also questioned how much quality could be put into a 1,300 square foot home. It seems like it would be a whole lot of congestion and seems excessive.

Mr. Stone explained 10 homes would be the ultimate amount if all of the geometry lined up, essentially a 4,000 square foot lot. He referred to the houses next to the NAPA Auto Parts as an example. The minimum square footage would be 1,300, but the market will dictate the house size. He explained that sustainable quality references the materials used, such as hardy plank siding, brick, and stone.

Council Member Lee Malcom stated the quantity would depend on the topography of the land and the frontage. There are lots of different things which must be considered.

City Administrator Logan Propes clarified that it is an Overlay District, which would not apply to the entire City. It would be up to the Planning & Zoning Commission and Council to make recommendations on the applicability for certain sections of the City.

Council Member Norman Garrett questioned the fact of Council being allowed to pick and choose who gets approved. He also questioned houses being 1,300 square feet and apartments being 1,200 square feet.

Mr. Propes explained that is how a rezoning generally works if it applies and meets the parameters of the text amendments.

Mr. Stone stated 1,300 is the minimum square footage allowed.

Mayor, Council, and staff further discussed setbacks, minimum and maximum square footages for different zoning classifications, the steps taken in rewriting the ordinance, and the team involved with the process.

There were no other public comments; Mayor Howard declared that portion of the meeting closed.

No Action.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment - Library Board

To appoint Hope Reese to fill the unexpired term of Carolyn Yates and for the upcoming six (6) year term to expire July 1, 2025.

Motion by Dickinson, seconded by Adcock. Passed Unanimously.

2. Appointment – Historic Preservation Commission

To reappoint Mitch Alligood to a three (3) year term to expire May 1, 2022.

Motion by L. Bradley, seconded by Little. Passed Unanimously.

3. 2nd Reading – Speed Zone Ordinance Amendment

City Attorney Jesse Couch gave the second reading of the ordinance to amend the speed zone ordinance.

To adopt the ordinance as presented.

Motion by Adcock, seconded by Malcom. Passed Unanimously.

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4. 2nd Reading - Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #7

City Attorney Jesse Couch gave the second reading of the ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Ordinance with Amendment #7 by implementing text amendments and changes identified in Exhibit A. The following Sections are hereby amended by deleting said Sections in their entirety and substituting the following in lieu thereof:

Section 300, Table 1-Districts; Section 610.3 Residential Land Use Regulations; Section 640 Overlay Districts; Section 643.3 Boundaries of the Corridor; Section 645 Infill Overlay District; Section 645.1 Intent and Purpose; Section 645.2 Applicability; Section 645.3 Permitted Uses; Section 645.4 Density; Open Space; Set Back; Parking Requirements; Table 9-Infill Overlay District Dimensional Requirements; Section 645.5 Dwelling Unit Size; Dwelling Unit Design; Site Design Elements; Section 645.6 Design Specifications; Section 645.7 Roads and Streets Connectivity; Section 645.8 Homeowner Association; Section 700.1 R1, R1A, R2, MH Dimensional Requirements, Section 700.1: Table 11-Residential Zoning District Dimensional Requirements; Notes for Table 11, Section 700.1; Article IX: Building Design; Section 900 General; Section 910 Residential Building Design Standards; Section 910.1 Single and Two Family Dwellings; and, Section 910.2 Multi Family Dwellings.

To adopt the Zoning Ordinance Code Text Amendment #7 as presented.

Motion by Dickinson, seconded by L. Bradley. Voting no Garrett. Passed 6-1.

V. ADJOURN

Motion by Malcom, seconded by Adcock. Passed Unanimously.

MAYOR SHEYL

CITY CLERK