

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Conyers, Georgia, City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on September 7, 2011, in the City Council Chambers at 1194 Scott Street, Conyers, GA.

**Roll Call** – Present: Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans; Council Members Chris Bowen, Gerald Hinesley, Marty Jones and Cleveland Stroud.

**Invocation** – The invocation was given by Council Member Gerald Hinesley.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Mayor's Communication** – Mayor Pro Tem Evans welcomed everyone.

**Citizens' Communication** – Don Williamson of Conyers addressed the Council and presented an ordinance that was passed by the City of Hampton, Georgia, regarding “disorderly conduct” – i.e., wearing pants, shorts, or skirts more than three inches below the hips exposing the skin, undergarments, or underwear. Mr. Williamson asked the Council to consider adopting a similar ordinance for the City of Conyers.

Cynthia Welch, Supervisor of Elections – Rockdale County Board of Elections, addressed the Council and presented the City of Conyers redistricting results.

Linda Duverna, a resident of Pinedale Circle, addressed the Council and asked the Council to clean up/cut high grass on property in the Pinedale community.

A concerned Pinedale community resident also addressed the Council regarding the dangers of impaired visibility because of the high grass.

**Agenda Revisions** – There were no agenda revisions.

**Minutes** – Council Member Marty Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2011, regularly scheduled Council meeting. Council Member Gerald Hinesley seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Bowen, Hinesley, Jones and Stroud voted aye. Mayor Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Evans declared the motion carried.

**Recognitions:**

1. The following employees were recognized for their years of service to the City, and each was congratulated by the Mayor and Council:

Pierce Piper	Police Department	20 years
Georgia Duren	Public Works & Transportation	35 years

**New Business:**

1. **Request approval of an Agreement by and between the City of Conyers and Have An Ice Day Productions, LLC (HAID) for the operation of an ice skating rink in the Olde Town Pavilion located at 949 South Main Street for the 2011-2012 season.** Director of Public Relations and Tourism Jennifer Edwards presented the Agreement to the Council and asked for Council's approval. She stated that HAID will provide a private security guard and pay an off-duty Conyers Police officer on Friday and Saturday nights. She also stated that, in order to protect the ice skating rink throughout the season, HAID will erect a fence that meets the city's approval.

Council Member Marty Jones made a motion to approve an Agreement by and between the City of Conyers and Have An Ice Day Productions, LLC (HAID) for the operation of an ice skating rink in the Olde Town Pavilion located at 949 South Main Street for the 2011-2012 season. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Bowen, Hinesley, Jones, and Stroud voted aye. Mayor Randy Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans declared the motion carried.

2. **Request approval of Ordinance No. 848 calling for a special election to hold a referendum for the determination of whether Sunday package sales by retailers of all alcoholic beverages, including malt beverages, wine and distilled spirits, should be allowed; to provide for an effective date; and for other purposes.** City Manager Tony Lucas presented Ordinance No. 848 to the Council. He stated that since the candidates for Council Members were unopposed the only thing that would be on the ballot would be the question of Sunday alcohol sales. He further stated that the City would save approximately \$7,000 if this were put on the ballot for the 2012 Primary Presidential Election.

Council Member Marty Jones made a motion to decline Ordinance No. 848. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Bowen, Hinesley, Jones, and Stroud voted aye. Mayor Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans declared the motion carried.

3. **Request approval of Resolution No. 599 authorizing the City of Conyers to borrow \$1,000,000 from United Community Bank of Conyers, Georgia, at an interest rate of 3.25% that shall be repaid in full on or before December 31, 2011; and for other purposes.** Chief Financial Officer Isabel Rogers presented Resolution No. 599 to the Council and stated that this is a temporary loan and shall be repaid in full on or before December 31, 2011. CFO Rogers asked for Council's approval of Resolution No. 599. Council Member Marty Jones made a motion to approve Resolution No. 599 authorizing the City of Conyers to borrow \$1,000,000 from United Community Bank of Conyers, Georgia, at an interest rate of 3.25% that shall be repaid in full on or before December 31, 2011; and for other purposes. Council Member Gerald Hinesley seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Bowen, Hinesley, Jones, and Stroud voted aye. Mayor Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Evans declared the motion carried.

4. **Request approval of Resolution No. 598 to establish ad valorem tax rates for the City of Conyers for the tax year 2011; to repeal conflicting provisions; to provide an effective date and for other purposes.** City Manager Tony Lucas presented Resolution No. 598 to the Council to establish ad valorem tax rates for the City of Conyers for the tax year 2011.

Council Member Marty Jones made a motion to approve Resolution No. 598 for an ad valorem tax rate for the City of Conyers for the tax year 2011 at 9.41 mills. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. After discussion among the Council, Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Jones and Bowen voted aye. Council Members Hinesley, Stroud, and Mayor Pro Tem Evans voted nay. Mayor Randy Mills was absent. There was no action taken.

Council Member Gerald Hinesley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 598 for an ad valorem tax rate for the City of Conyers for the tax year 2011 at 9.9 mills. Council Member Cleveland Stroud seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Hinesley, Stroud, and Mayor Pro Tem Evans voted aye. Council Members Jones and Bowen voted nay. Mayor Randy Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans declared the motion carried.


#### **Committee Reports:**

- Council Member Gerald Hinesley, Chairman of the *Finance Oversight Committee* and Co-Chairman of the *Arts Committee*, reminded everyone of the Conyers-Rockdale Council for the Arts 5-K Arts in Motion race on October 1, 2011.
- Council Member Chris Bowen, Chairman of the *Utilities/Stormwater/Big Haynes Creek Nature Center Committee*, reported that the Eagle Scout bridge project has been completed and that interpretive signage has been installed at the Nature Center. Council Member Bowen asked Director of the GIHP Jennifer Bexley to give a report on the Big Haynes Creek 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wildlife Festival which was held at the GIHP August 27 and 28, 2011. Ms. Bexley stated that the Festival was a great success and that there were about 6,000 who attended.
- Council Member Cleveland Stroud, Chairman of the *Public Safety Committee*, stated that he did not have anything to report at this time.
- Council Member Marty Jones, Chairman of the *Economic Development Committee* and Co-Chairman of the *Finance Oversight Committee*, stated that the "Sounds of September" will be in Olde Town on Friday nights – September 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. until midnight. He also stated that the Main Street Program Sponsorship Drive will be coming up soon.
- Council Member Vince Evans, Chairman of the *Transportation Committee*, stated that he did not have anything to report at this time.

**City Manager's Update** – City Manager Tony Lucas addressed the Council and commended and thanked Cynthia Welch, Supervisor of Elections - Rockdale County Board of Elections, for the great job she and her staff did in the City of Conyers redistricting process. He also reported that the "100 Black Men of DeKalb" concert that was recently held at the Horse Park was a big success.

**Executive Session** –Council Member Marty Jones stated that an executive session was needed to discuss personnel matters. Council Member Jones made a motion to go executive session to discuss personnel matters and to include the City Attorney and City Manager. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Evans called for a vote of the Council. Council Members Bowen, Hinesley, Jones, and Stroud voted aye. Mayor Mills was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Vince Evans declared the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

  
Guy Vircent Evans, Jr., Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:

  
~~Patricia I. Smith, City Clerk~~

Jennifer Edwards, Deputy City Clerk