

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Conyers, Georgia, City Council was held at 7:02 p.m. on March 20, 2013, in the City Council Chambers at 1194 Scott Street, Conyers, GA.

Roll Call – Present: Mayor Randy Mills, Council Members Chris Bowen, Vince Evans, John Fountain, Gerald Hinesley and Cleveland Stroud.

Invocation – The invocation was given by Council Member John Fountain.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Randy Mills led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor's Communication – Mayor Mills welcomed everyone.

Citizens' Communication – No one addressed the Council.

Agenda Revisions: City Manager Tony Lucas addressed the Council and requested that a consulting services agreement between the City of Conyers and Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC be added to the agenda as Item No. 10. Council Member Vince Evans made a motion to add the consulting services agreement between the City of Conyers and Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC to the agenda as Item No. 10. Council Member Gerald Hinesley seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

Minutes – Council Member Chris Bowen made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2013 regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Council Member Cleveland Stroud seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

Presentation – Rockdale County Director of Water Resources Dwight Wicks gave a presentation to the City Council on a potential water rate increase.

Recognitions:

1. **Years of Service:** Vance Strawn of the Conyers Police Department was recognized for 10 years of service to the City. Rebecca Hill of the Georgia International Horse Park was recognized for 10 years of service to the City. Susan Thomas of the Georgia International Horse Park was recognized for 10 years of service to the City.
2. **Festival Recognition:** Director of the Georgia International Horse Park Jennifer Bexley introduced Event Manager Rebecca Hill who presented four awards the Horse Park received at the 2013 Southeast Festivals and Events Association (SFEA) Conference held recently in Auburn, Alabama. The 2012 Big Haynes Creek Wildlife Festival was awarded a bronze Kaleidoscope Award for Best Festival in the Southeast within its budget category and a gold Kaleidoscope Award for Best Marketing Campaign, "We Give a Hoot." The 2012 Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival received the silver Kaleidoscope Award for Best Festival in the Southeast within its budget category and JRM Management Company, a vendor of the festival, received a gold Kaleidoscope Award for the Best Vendor in the Southeast.

New Business:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING. Request to approve Ordinance No. 918 (Zoning Case No. 2013-02), an ordinance requesting a special use permit to allow Motor Vehicle Sales as an additional permitted use in the BG, General Business zoning district – (Tower Financial Services Incorporated – 1256 Green Street, S.W.).** Council Member John Fountain asked Mayor Mills to open a public hearing on Ordinance No. 918, requesting a special use permit to allow motor vehicle sales as an additional permitted use in the BG zoning district at 1256 Green Street, S.W.

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 7:28 p.m.

There was no one in attendance wishing to address the Council.

Mayor Mills closed the public hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Council Member John Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 918 and waive the second reading. Council Member Cleveland Stroud seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING. Request to approve Ordinance No. 919 (Zoning Case No. 2013-03), an ordinance requesting: (1) to amend the Comprehensive Land Use Plan designation from Light-Industrial to Public-Institutional; (2) to rezone 1.15 acres from the I-D, Industrial Distribution zoning district to O-I, Office-Institutional zoning district; and (3) a special use permit to allow a Banquet Hall as an additional

permitted use in the O-I, Office-Institutional zoning district – (Juan J. Garcia – 2147 East View Parkway, N.E.). Council Member John Fountain asked Mayor Mills to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 919, requesting to amend the Comprehensive Land Use Plan designation from Light-Industrial to Public-Institutional; to rezone the acreage from I-D to O-I; and to grant a special use permit allowing a banquet hall as an additional permitted use in the O-I zoning district.

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

There were three people that addressed the Council. Mr. Walter Collins addressed the Council in favor of Ordinance No. 919. Mr. David Luther addressed the Council and stated he was against Ordinance No. 919. Mr. Daniel Holzer also addressed the Council and stated he was against Ordinance No. 919.

Mayor Mills closed the public hearing at 7:56 p.m.

Council Member John Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 919 and waive the second reading. Council Member Cleveland Stroud seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING. Request to approve Ordinance No. 914, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Conyers, Chapter 7 of Title 8 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Conyers, Georgia, so as to amend Section 8-7-39 (MXD – Mixed-use Development District) by deleting the text of said section and to insert in lieu thereof, new regulations for said MXD District that will regulate architecture, signs, landscaping, site design, parking, landscaping and uses of property; to repeal conflicting ordinances; to provide for an effective date; and for other purposes.** Council Member John Fountain asked Mayor Mills to open the public hearing on Ordinance No. 914, to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow for new regulations for the MXD District and repeal conflicting ordinances.

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 8:01 p.m.

There was no one in attendance wishing to address the Council.

Mayor Mills closed the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Council Member John Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 914 and waive the second reading. Council Member Vince Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING. Request to approve Ordinance No. 916, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Conyers, Chapter 7 of Title 8 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Conyers, Georgia, so as to amend section 8-7-90, Permitted and Special Uses to add Motion Picture and Video Production as a permitted principal use within the I-D, Industrial Distribution District.** Council Member John Fountain asked Mayor Mills to open the public hearing on Ordinance 916, to amend the Zoning Ordinance to add Motion Picture and Video Production as a permitted principal use within the I-D District.

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

There was no one in attendance wishing to address the Council.

Mayor Mills closed the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

Council Member John Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 916 and waive the second reading. Council Member Cleveland Stroud seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

4. **Request to approve Ordinance No. 920 to amend Title 8, Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Conyers to establish fees for construction permits.** Council Member John Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 920 to amend Title 8, Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Conyers to establish fees for construction permits and waive the second reading. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

5. **Request approval of a contract agreement between Pittman Construction and the City of Conyers for the intersection improvement of Sigman Road at East Park/Sarasota Parkway. These improvements include intersection realignment and signalization. The low bid and cost for the project is \$912,265.55.** Council Member Gerald Hinesley made a motion to approve the contract agreement between Pittman Construction and the City of Conyers for \$912,265.55. Council Member Vince Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

6. **Request approval of a Project Framework Agreement (PFA) between the City of Conyers and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). The PFA is a requirement for federal funds associated with the Hardin and O’Kelly Streets project.** Council Member Gerald Hinesley made a motion to approve the PFA between the City of Conyers and the Georgia Department of Transportation for federal funds associated with the Hardin and O’Kelly Streets project. Council Member Vince Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

7. **Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Conyers Police Department and the Rockdale County Sheriff’s Office for use of the Sheriff’s office firearms range.** Chief of Police Gene Wilson presented the Memorandum of Understanding to the Mayor and Council and thanked Sheriff Eric Levett and Chief Deputy Scott Freeman for their cooperation. Council Member Cleveland Stroud made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Conyers Police Department and the Rockdale County Sheriff’s Office for use of the Sheriff’s office firearms range. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

8. **Request approval of Resolution No. 611 authorizing the City of Conyers to impose a surcharge upon persons making payments by credit cards to the City of Conyers, to offset the amount of administrative fees being charged to the City of Conyers.** City Manager Tony Lucas presented Resolution No. 611 and explained that the surcharge of 4.75% would be imposed on those paying by credit card for city bills and services, but would exclude payments made by credit card at Cherokee Run Golf Club.

Council Member Gerald Hinesley made a motion to approve Resolution No. 611 authorizing the City of Conyers to impose a surcharge upon persons making payments by credit cards to the City of Conyers and to offset the amount of administrative fees being charged to the City of Conyers. Council Member Vince Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

9. **Request approval of a consulting agreement between the City of Conyers and Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC.** Chief Operating Officer David Spann presented the consulting agreement between the City of Conyers and Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC for an evaluation that would lead to an eventual upgrade of the Conyers Police Department’s radio system. Council Member Cleveland Stroud made a motion to approve the consulting agreement between the City of Conyers and Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC. Council Member Chris Bowen seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- Council Member John Fountain, Chairman of the *Community Development Committee*, reported that the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority had approved the transportation plan for 4A International.
- Council Member Vince Evans, Chairman of the *Economic Development Committee*, stated that the Conyers-Rockdale Economic Development Council Board of Directors is still in the process of searching for a new economic development director and hoped to provide more information soon.
- Council Member Cleveland Stroud, Chairman of the *Public Safety Committee*, stated that the Conyers Police Department’s Citizen Service Satisfaction Survey had 129 responses to date and the online survey would be available for the public to complete through March 31, 2013. He also commended Chief Wilson and the Conyers Police Department for taking part in a commercial vehicle theft seminar with members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

- Council Member Chris Bowen, Chairman of the *GHHP, Cherokee Run, BHCNC, and Cemetery Committee* reported that the Spartan Race recently held at the Georgia International Horse Park was host to 5,500 runners participating in a military-like obstacle course. He also said that the Atlanta Spring Classic I and II Horse Shows would be taking place at the GHHP in the next two weeks along with the Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival this coming weekend.

- Council Member Gerald Hinesley, Co-Chairman of the *Finance Oversight Committee* and Chairman of the *Transportation and Stormwater Committee*, stated that he had nothing new to report.

City Manager's Update – City Manager Tony Lucas thanked those that took part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Olde Town Conyers the previous week and echoed Council Member Bowen's comments about the amount of activity taking place at the Horse Park in the coming weeks with the Conyers Cherry Blossom Festival and the Atlanta Spring Classic shows. He also reported that Cherokee Run is reporting good numbers as far as the number of rounds played at the course.

Executive Session – City Manager Tony Lucas stated there was a need for an executive session regarding personnel matters. Council Member Chris Bowen made a motion for executive session regarding personnel matters. Council Member Vince Evans seconded the motion. Mayor Mills called for a vote of the Council. All members voted aye. Mayor Mills declared the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.



Randall S. Mills, Mayor
Gary Vincent Evans
Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:


Jennifer Edwards, Deputy City Clerk