

City Council Meeting Minutes - Final MAYOR AND COUNCIL



Smyrna Community Center
Magnolia Room
200 Village Green Circle
Smyrna, GA 30080

Derek Norton, Mayor
Tim Gould, Mayor Pro Tem (Ward 6)
Glenn Pickens (Ward 1)
Latonia P. Hines (Ward 2)
Travis Lindley (Ward 3)
Charles "Corkey" Welch (Ward 4)
Susan Wilkinson (Ward 5)
Kathy Young (Ward 7)

City Attorney Scott Cochran
City Administrator Joseph Bennett
City Clerk Heather K. Peacon-Corn

**November 20, 2023
7:00 PM**

I. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

1. Roll Call

Present: 8 – Mayor Derek Norton, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Latonia P. Hines, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Tim Gould, Councilmember Kathy Young

Also Present: 1 – Scott Cochran

Staff: 7 – Joe Bennett, Richard Garland, Jill Head, Dat Luu, Russell Martin, Heather Peacon-Corn, and Joey Staubes

2. Call to Order

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

A. Rev. Joel E. Smit, Smyrna Presbyterian Church (3130 Atlanta Road)

4. Agenda Changes

5. Mayoral Report

Mayor Derek Norton mentioned the following:

- The Veterans Day ceremony was great despite the rain
- November 28 is the Home for the Holidays from 5:00 – 9:00
- December 2 is the next College Football Saturday – SEC Championship
- Park next to the Community Center should be completed by the middle of next month
- Welcomed incoming Councilmember Rickey Oglesby who was present

II. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

*Public comment during this portion of the Agenda must be limited to matters on the Agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, please sign up with the City Clerk, come to the podium when called by the Mayor, state your name and address for the record and make your remarks. The time allotted for each speaker is as follows: **Public Hearing - Five (5) Minutes***

6. Proclamations and Presentations

A. **PRC2023-026** Proclamation in recognition of Small Business Saturday, November 25, 2023 **Citywide**

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould read and presented the following proclamation:

A PROCLAMATION
BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SMYRNA
In Recognition of Small Business Saturday November 25, 2023

Whereas: the government of Smyrna, Georgia celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and
Whereas: according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 33 million small businesses in the United States. Small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees; small businesses are responsible for 62.7% of net new jobs created since 1995; and small businesses employ 46.4% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and
Whereas: 68 cents of every dollar spent at a small business in the United States stays in the local community, and every dollar spent at small businesses creates an additional 48 cents in local business activity as a result of employees and local businesses purchasing local goods and services; and
Whereas: 72% of consumers reported that Small Business Saturday 2022 made them want to shop and dine at small, independently owned retailers and restaurants all year long; and
Whereas: Smyrna, Georgia supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and
Whereas: advocacy groups, as well as public & private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday;
NOW
Therefore: I, Derek Norton, Mayor of the City of Smyrna, Georgia do hereby proclaim November 25, 2023, as Small Business Saturday and urge the residents of our community and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

Representatives from the Smyrna Business Association (SBA) in attendance to accept the Proclamation:

Paul Powers
Christy Hiatt
Burke Scott
Denise Czarnik

Denise Czarnik spoke about the Shop with a Hero event that will take place on December 15, 2023 at 9:00 AM. It will be at the Austell Walmart. Donations can be accepted at the following website: www.smyrnapsf.org

7. Community Development Items

- A. **Z23-007** Public Hearing - Zoning Request - Z23-007 - Allow rezoning from LI to OD-Conditional for use as a climate controlled self-storage facility - Land Lot 668 - 1.88 acres - 3265 Atlanta Road - Atlantic Development Partners LLC.
Ward 1 Councilmember - Glenn Pickens

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following brief background:

Atlantic Development Partners LLC is requesting a rezoning from LI (Light Industrial) to OD (Office-Distribution) for the ability to construct a climate controlled self-storage facility. The subject property is zoned LI and has been used for an industrial purpose as a business to move machinery. The existing building will be demolished for the construction of a new climate controlled self-storage building. The proposed building will be 113,596 sq. ft. The building will be three stories with a basement with a maximum height of 40 feet.

Russell Martin, Community Development Director, provided the following information:

Atlantic Development Partners LLC is requesting a rezoning from LI (Light Industrial) to OD (Office-Distribution) for the ability to construct a climate controlled self-storage facility. Planning and Zoning Commission approved this by a vote of 5-0. The subject property is zoned LI and has been used for an industrial purpose as a business to move machinery. The existing building will be demolished for the construction of a new climate controlled self-storage building. The proposed building will be 113,596 sq. ft. The building will be three stories with a basement with a maximum height of 40 feet. The elevation visible from Atlanta Road will be three stories and the building will follow the contour of the property to have a basement level at the rear of the property adjacent to CSX rail right-of-way. The project consists of a 20 ft. landscape buffer along the sides of the property adjacent to residential.

The proposed building will utilize stone, EIFS, and metal paneling for the front façade. The applicant has provided architectural renders with the zoning application for reference.

The applicant is providing 11 parking spaces which meets the minimum parking requirement.

The City Engineer has reviewed the proposed rezoning with respect to transportation, stormwater management and stream buffer issues. The City Engineer will require a portion of the access drive be improved to meet city standards. Also, the access drive will require striping and utility easement from the Atlanta Road entrance to the property, and curb and gutter within the subject property. There are no stream buffers affecting the property. The development will utilize a detention pond for stormwater management.

The Fire Marshal's office has reviewed the current proposal and in general believes that it meets the Fire Code requirements for fire truck access. A fire hydrant will be required on the subject property. The building will require an automatic fire suppression system.

Community Development has reviewed the zoning proposal against the city's 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Plan. The zoning proposal to Office-Distribution is consistent with the Industrial Mixed Use land use designation on the Future Land Use Map.

The rezoning will require the following variance:

- 1) Allow side setback variance from 50' to 20' (Staff Supports)

The subject property is allowed to have a 0' rear setback because the rear property line abuts railroad right-of-way.

Community Development has reviewed the proposed development against the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance with respect to the use as a self-storage facility. The proposed development meets the zoning requirements for a self-storage facility.

Community Development staff is supportive of the change in zoning from LI to OD-Conditional as it will be a downzoning from an industrial use. The rezoning to OD will be more compatible with the surrounding residential uses than the uses allowed in LI.

Community Development recommends approval of the rezoning from LI to OD-Conditional on 1.88 acres for a self-storage facility with the following conditions:

Standard Conditions

Requirements # 2, 3, 4, 8, 16 and 17 from Section 1201 of the Zoning Code are not applicable. The following requirements remain applicable.

1. The composition of the building shall include a mixture of elements including; but not limited to: brick, stone, shake, hardy plank and stucco. No elevation shall be comprised of 100 percent hardy plank siding.
2. The retention pond shall be placed and screened appropriately to be unobtrusive to homes inside and outside the development. The storm water detention plan shall be designed to create at least a ten percent reduction in a 100-year storm event. The city engineer shall approve all plans.
3. All utilities within the development shall be underground.
4. The developer shall be responsible for any traffic improvements (including additional right-of-way dedications) deemed necessary by either the City or the County during construction plan review. Sidewalks shall be provided by the developer inside the subdivision and outside the subdivision adjacent to any public right-of-way consistent with City's requirements for the extent of the development. A grass buffer with a minimum width of 2' shall be provided between the back of curb and sidewalk.
5. No debris may be buried on any lot or common area.
6. The developer will install decorative streetlights within the development, subject to approval by the city engineer. Utilization of low intensity, environmental type lighting, the illumination of which shall be confined within the perimeter of the subject property through the use of "full-cutoff lighting".
7. The developer will comply with the City's current tree ordinance. All required tree protection measures shall be adhered to by the developer during construction.
8. All landscape plans must be prepared, stamped, and signed by a Georgia Registered Landscape Architect for any common areas or entrances.
9. All yards and common areas are to be sodded, and landscaped. Irrigate as appropriate.

Special Conditions

10. The development shall maintain the following minimum building setbacks:

Front – 50'

Side – 20'

Rear – 0'

11. The developer shall meet all fire access requirements deemed necessary by the Fire Marshal during construction plan review.

12. The developer shall be responsible for any water and sewer improvements deemed necessary by the Public Works Director during construction plan review.
13. The developer shall be responsible for any stormwater improvements deemed necessary by the City Engineer.
14. The developer shall improve the access drive to meet city standards set forth in Appendix D.
15. The access drive will require an ingress and egress easement as well as a utility easement.
16. The access drive shall be stripped from the subject property and aligned with the emissions station driveway apron.
17. A 20' landscape buffer shall be planted between the development and adjacent residential properties.
18. The development will require a fire hydrant within the subject property.
19. Dumpsters shall be positioned so as to prevent visual intrusion from streets, connection points to community spaces and wherever possible with screening by landscaping, walls and/or vegetation. Dumpsters shall have rubber lids and bumpers to minimize noise during emptying. At grade trash compaction shall also be allowed and screened as appropriate in accordance with the City's regulations.
20. The dumpster will require a hose bibb for washdown within 50 of the pad and the pad shall have a drain that connects to sanitary sewer.
21. Allow building height of up to 55 feet.
22. Approval of the subject property for the OD-Conditional zoning district shall be conditioned upon the development of the property in substantial compliance with the site plan submitted August 4, 2023 and created by Paradigm Engineering Services, Inc. and all zoning stipulations above.
23. The applicant shall be bound to the elevations submitted on July 13, 2023. Approval of any change to the elevations must be obtained from the Director of Community Development.

Councilmember Pickens asked what the current size and height of the building is. Mr. Martin answered that it is a 20,000 sq. ft. metal building around 20-25 feet high. The new structure on the front side would be around 40 feet. Measurements are from the aggregate on all four sides to the midpoint of the sloped roof.

Councilmember Wilkinson asked what the current ordinance says about the height of buildings. Mr. Martin answered it states 55 feet.

Kevin Moore, attorney for applicant, Atlantic Development (Shamrock Building Systems) came forward. Mr. Moore stated that LI does not belong in this area. It is a legacy zoning which was how the area used to be but is now no longer appropriate. The applicants are committed to building a \$15-16M project. It will be a climate-controlled self-storage facility which can carry with it a negative stigma. But these businesses are used by the community. It is a low impact use from public service, traffic, noise, etc. standpoints. It is consistent and compatible with land use and zoning standpoints.

Councilmember Young asked if the variance request was not considered. Mr. Moore stated that there was consideration, but because of the constraints of the topography, the variance request seemed appropriate.

Mayor Pro Tem Gould asked about fencing and security. The applicant stated that there will be fencing and key code access. They will have office hours between 9:30 AM – 5:30 PM.

A public hearing was called, and no one came forward in favor of or in opposition to this item.

Councilmember Glenn Pickens made a motion to deny item Z23-007, a public hearing and zoning request (Z23-007) to allow rezoning from LI to OD-Conditional for use as a climate controlled self-storage facility by land lot 668 on 1.88 acres located at 3265 Atlanta Road by applicant Atlantic Development Partners LLC; seconded by Councilmember Charles Welch.

The motion to deny carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- B. ATH2023-49** Apartment Complex Name Change Request – A request was made to change the name of Beckett Park, 810 Windy Hill Road SE, to Bella 810. The applicant is Amanda Momperousse.
Ward 5 Councilmember - Susan Wilkinson

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson made a motion to approve item ATH2023-49, and apartment complex name change request to change from Beckett Park, 810 Windy Hill Road SE, to Bella 810 by applicant Amanda Momperousse; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- C. ATH2023-50** Apartment Complex Name Change Request – A request was made to change the name of Stonebrook Apartments, 790 Windy Hill Road SE, to 790 Windy Hill Apartments. The applicant is Amanda Momperousse.
Ward 5 Councilmember - Susan Wilkinson

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson made a motion to approve item ATH2023-50, an apartment complex name change request to change from Stonebrook Apartments, 790 Windy Hill Road Se, to 790 Windy Hill Apartments by applicant Amanda Momperousse; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None

Recuse: 0 – None

8. Privilege License and Show Cause Hearing

9. Formal Business

- A. ATH2023-43** Approval of the 2024 Meeting Dates to include Committee of the Whole, Pre-Council and Mayor and Council.
Citywide

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to approve item ATH2023-43, the 2024 meeting dates to include Committee of the Whole, Pre-Council, and Mayor and Council; seconded by Councilmember Latonia P. Hines.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- B. ATH2023-51** Approval of an Amended and Restated Galleria Convention Funding Agreement between the City of Smyrna and the Cobb-Marietta Coliseum & Exhibit Hall Authority and authorize the Mayor to execute all related documents.
Citywide

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The Cobb-Marietta Coliseum and Exhibit Hall Authority (CMCEHA) has requested the City to amend and restate the existing Funding Agreement between CMCEHA and the City of Smyrna. The renewal would extend the agreement term until no later than October 1, 2053. The requested extension is to enable the Authority to have a funding source for revenue bonds that will be issued for planned infrastructure improvements, capital projects and upgrades to existing facilities. The funding formulas in the new agreement remain the same. Sixty-two and a half percent (62.5%) of Hotel-Motel Tax revenue collected within city limits will be dispensed to CMCEHA to fund its operations. Forty (40%) of Hotel-Motel Tax collected is returned to the city. However, the agreement changes so that collection fees are paid to the city monthly rather than annually. Also, the city shares in annual excess tax payment distributions as well as excess fund cap distributions.

CMCEHA owns and operates the Cobb Galleria Centre, Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, and Galleria Specialty Shops. Staff recommends approval.

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to approve item ATH2023-51, an amended and restated Galleria Convention Funding Agreement between the City of Smyrna and the Cobb-Marietta Coliseum & Exhibit Hall Authority and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Latonia P. Hines.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- C. CON2023-013** Approval of an Independent Contractor Service Delivery Strategy Agreement with the Cities of Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, Austell, Kennesaw and Acworth (collectively, the “Cities”) and Balli Law, LLC (800 Battery Avenue, Suite 100, Atlanta, Georgia 30339) effective November 1, 2023 and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.
Citywide

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

BALLI LAW has extensive experience in the field of government consulting services, with significant past experience and involvement with previously adopted Service Delivery Strategy Agreements by the COUNTY and the CITIES. After many conversations with the County and other cities, staff recommends approval.

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to approve item CON2023-013, an Independent Contractor Service Delivery Strategy Agreement with the cities of Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, Austell, Kennesaw, and Acworth (collectively the “Cities”) and Balli Law, LLC (800 Battery Avenue, Suite 100, Atlanta, Georgia 30339) effective November 1, 2023 and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- D. ATH2023-52** Authorization for the scheduled Streets Department Ford F150 vehicle replacement from the FY24 Vehicle Replacement Fund in the amount of \$51,007.00 from Allan Vigil Ford-Lincoln Government Sales (6790 Mt. Zion Blvd., Morrow, Ga 30260) and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.
Citywide

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines made a motion to approve item ATH2023-52, the scheduled Streets Department Ford F-150 vehicle replacement from the FY24 Vehicle Replacement Fund in the amount of \$51,007.00 from Allan Vigil Ford-Lincoln Government Sale (6790 Mt. Zion Blvd., Morrow, GA 30260) and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- E. ATH2023-53** Authorization for the River Valley drainage project to be completed by Ardito Construction Company, Inc. (1290 Austell Road, SE, Marietta, Ga 30008) in the amount of \$400,009.59 from 23/24 Storm Water CIP and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.
Ward 4 Councilmember - Charles

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

River Valley drainage project for 2 affected homeowners of 5015 & 5025 River Valley Drive. These homeowners have been dealing with significant runoff issues through their back yards. This project is to be funded out of 23/24 storm water CIP at the cost of \$400,009.59. Public Works staff recommend approval.

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to approve item ATH2023-53, the River Valley drainage project to be completed by Ardito Construction Company, Inc. (1290 Austell Road SE, Marietta, GA 30008) in the amount of \$400,009.59 from 23/24 Storm Water CIP and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- F. RFP24-015** Authorization to award RFP 24-015 Turf Field Conversion at River Line Park and Jonquil Park to Deluxe Athletics in the (80 Scott Dr SE, Marietta, GA 30067) amount of \$3,070,950.00 to be paid from the General Fund and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.
Ward 7 Councilmember - Kathy Young

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The City of Smyrna requested proposals to convert one of the existing fields at River Line Park and Jonquil Park to artificial turf. Five proposals were received and evaluated by Parks & Recreation staff and CROY Engineering based on Company Background/Financial Stability, Qualifications/Experience/Methodology, Previous Performance/References and Cost. Deluxe Athletics was determined to be the superior choice. Parks & Recreation and Purchasing recommend approval.

Councilmember Lindley stated that he would like to include the following list of stipulations for this project:

- Limit contract to two seasons or eight (8) months total (not 12 months)
- Registrants shall comprise at least 55% Smyrna residents
- Contracts shall come before Mayor and Council for approval
- No further field turf discussions until the next SPLOST

Mayor Norton explained that the turf fields are available for rent. Neighboring cities have turf fields, and because Smyrna had no turf fields, Smyrna has lost around 100 families because of it.

Councilmember Welch expressed that he has had several concerns, but the stipulations and the forthcoming contract have addressed most of those concerns.

Mayor Pro Tem Gould stated that the groups using the fields are only growing.

Discussion took place about Smyrna residents getting first priority and discounts, how this is a valuable investment for the city as a whole and more specifically for Ward 7, and how the contract will need to be reassessed in order to restructure fees.

Councilmember Kathy Young made a motion to approve item RFP24-015 to award RFP24-015 Turf Field Conversion at River Line Park and Jonquil Park to Deluxe Athletics (80 Scott Dr. SE, Marietta, GA 30067) in the amount of \$3,070,950.00 to be paid from the General Fund and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young

Nay: 0 – None

Recuse: 0 – None

- G. 2023-223** Authorization for the replacement of The Wolfe Recreation Center PoolPak by Stephens & McRae Mechanical, LLC. (125 Fishers Mill Dr., McDonough, GA. 30252) in the amount of \$637,125.00 to be paid from the General Fund and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Citywide

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The City of Smyrna sought a quote to replace the current PoolPak at The Wolfe Adult Recreation Center due to consistent failure of the system, due to age and use. Stephens & McRae recommend a new unit in order to continue service to the pool. Stephens & McRae will provide labor and material to replace PoolPak after demo of existing PoolPak and pool water boiler.

Councilmember Welch asked if this had been bid out. Richard Garland, Parks & Recreations Director, stated it had not been bid out because the vendor is the current and authorized vendor with the service agreement.

City Attorney Scott Cochran recommended this item be tabled for review.

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to table to the December 4, 2023 Mayor and Council meeting item 2023-223, authorization for the replacement of The Wolfe Recreation Center PoolPak by Stephens & McRae Mechanical, LLC (125 Fishers Mill Dr., McDonough, GA 30252) in the amount of \$637,125.00 to be paid from the General Fund and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Latonia P. Hines.

The motion to table carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

10. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Glenn Pickens.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 7 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Young
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

**A. MIN2023-116 Approval of the November 1, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
*Citywide***

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

**B. MIN2023-117 Approval of the November 6, 2023 Pre-Council Meeting Minutes
*Citywide***

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

**C. MIN2023-118 Approval of the November 6, 2023 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
*Citywide***

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

11. Ward and Staff Reports

Councilmember Kathy Young – She and Councilmember Wilkinson attended the Rebuilding Together Atlanta project this past Friday. Two staff members were commended for their help: Timothy Freeman in Code Enforcement and Adriane Grey in Probation.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson – She also mentioned Rebuilding Together Atlanta and how helpful a program it is for residents who need assistance with aging in place modifications.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould – Residents reached out to him about the ongoing conflict in Israel. He read a statement aloud which is summarized here: Even though this is happening a world away, it affects many close to home. As the first and only city in Cobb to pass a non-discrimination ordinance, it is important to remember those who are being affected by the conflict.

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines – She concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Gould's statement. She also mentioned Must Ministries and encouraged any who would like to give back that this is the season of Thanksgiving. Mayor Norton stated that if anybody knows of anybody in need of resources, Support Smyrna is available to help.

Councilmember Glenn Pickens and Councilmember Travis Lindley wished all a happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Charles Welch – He reminded all of the Home for the Holidays event taking place on November 28 from 5:00 – 9:00.

Richard Garland – He mentioned the Kris Kringle Market which will include many vendors and food vendors. He also stated that there will be 28 different school groups performing at the Home for the Holidays event. And he specifically mentioned the outstanding Osborne High Show Choir who will be singing before the lighting at the tree.

III. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

*Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the City Council. No subject may be acted upon by the City Council unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, please sign up with the City Clerk, come to the podium when called by the Mayor, state your name and address for the record and make your remarks. The time allotted for each speaker is as follows: **Public Comment - Three Minutes***

12. Public Comment

13. Adjournment

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the November 20, 2023 Mayor and Council meeting at 8:01 PM.

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for convenience of persons with disabilities.

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN O.C.G.A. 50-14-3:
The City of Smyrna website – www.smyrnaga.gov / City Hall, 2800 King Street SE, Notice Boards