

# Pre-Council Meeting – Final MAYOR AND COUNCIL



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)  
Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr. (Ward 7)

A. Max Bacon City Hall  
Administration Conference Room  
2800 King Street  
Smyrna, GA 30080

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

**April 08, 2024  
6:30 PM**

## 1. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 – Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Latonia P. Hines, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, and Councilmember Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr.

**Absent:** 1 – Mayor Derek Norton

**Also Present:** 1 – Scott Cochran

**Staff:** 4 – Joe Bennett, Jill Head, Russell Martin, and Joey Staubes

## 2. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould called to order the April 8, 2024 Pre-Council Meeting held at A. Max Bacon City Hall in the Administration Conference Room at 6:30 PM.

## 3. Review of Current M&C Agenda

### A. PRE2024-007 Review of the April 8, 2024 Mayor and Council Meeting Agenda

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould reviewed the Mayor and Council agenda.

Councilmember Wilkinson mentioned for all three Community Development items, she drove past them two days in a row, and the notice signs were not there. It was suggested that they could have been blown down or moved by lawn maintenance workers, but Russell Martin, Community Development Director, explained that the signs were placed as required by code, the signs are supposed to be maintained by the property owner, they have pictures from when they were placed, and they were all advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal.

For item Z24-005, Councilmember Wilkinson asked if this could be any other zoning category. Mr. Martin stated it could be GC, but the neighborhood wanted them to go with OI. She expressed concern that they could make it a 5-story building, but Mr. Martin stated there would not be enough room, and that has not been broached.

Councilmember Wilkinson asked about the funding for item RES2024-006. Joe Bennett, City Administrator, explained that the Atlanta Regional Commission is petitioning the federal government for funding. The City is not responsible for funding it.

Scott Cochran, City Attorney, explained for item RES2024-007 that Cobb County extended the existing agreement in the past. The cities and county are required to renegotiate by this fall. They are now at an impasse. Code specifies when reaching an impasse, there is a process to follow – formal mediation, legal action, go before a judge. In following this process, the cities can show proof to DCA that everything has been done so that sanctions are not placed on the cities. All of the other cities have done this.

#### **4. Other Business / Staff Comment**

Councilmember Oglesby stated that he will distributing his first Ward 7 newsletter this week. He also mentioned that he attended Argyle Elementary's Career Day.

Councilmember Hines announced the pop-up legal clinic that she and Councilmember Lindley partnered on to bring Chief Judge Murphy to Smyrna. Pastor Porter graciously allowed use of First United Methodist Church to host.

Councilmember Wilkinson stated she attended the eclipse party in downtown earlier that day. It was well-attended and a lot of fun. Ms. Wilkinson spoke about department head reports that used to take place, and she would like to see those resume. Other council members did not agree as they believe those reports caused the meetings to run quite long.

Mayor Pro Tem Gould mentioned the joint ward 1, 3, & 6 meeting held on Sunday. Around 40 people attended, and Andrea Worthy (Econ. Development Dir.) and Jost Staubes (Planner II) were in attendance to present information. It was well-received and informational.

Councilmember Welch mentioned two issues:

1. He would like to see an evaluation of the bidding process. It seems with every project there is a cost increase. Unless the city changes the scope of the project, the price should not change.
2. He would like to see fewer proclamations. He feels the council is there to make laws and govern.

#### **5. Executive Session (As Needed)**

#### **6. Adjournment**

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould adjourned the April 8, 2024 Pre-Council Meeting at 6:51 PM.

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

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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](http://www.smyrnaga.gov)  
City Hall, 2800 King Street SE, Notice Boards