

City Council Meeting Minutes - 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)
VACANT (Ward 7)

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

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

**May 15, 2023
7:00 PM**

I. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

1. Roll Call

Present: 5 – Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Charles Welch, and Councilmember Susan Wilkinson

Also Present: 1 – Scott Cochran

Absent: 2 – Mayor Derek Norton and Councilmember Latonia P. Hines

Staff: 8 – Joe Bennett, Carson Early, Jill Head, Dat Luu, Russell Martin, Landon O'Neal, Heather Peacon-Corn, and Kristin Robinson

2. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould called to order the May 15, 2023, Mayor and Council Meeting held at the Smyrna Community Center in the Magnolia Room at 7:05 PM.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

4. Agenda Changes

5. Mayoral Report

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould mentioned the success of Campbell High School's successful sports seasons this year and stated there is a lot to be proud of. He also reminded all that on May 29, 2023, there will be a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park at 9:30 AM.

6. Proclamations and Presentations

A. PRS2023-01 Citizen Academy Graduation Presentation *Citywide*

Carson Early, Administrative Coordinator, presented certificates to the Citizen Academy Graduation participants:

Samantha Ahlmann
Cleo Anderson
Shaun Black
Dawn Boring
Megan Carswell
Amanda Cox
Paul Cox
Valerie Dixon
Karen Douglas
Keith Douglas
Maura Gaudio
Telleen Gegner
Jeremy Gray
Ken Hymes
Ben Hodges
Amber Jervis
Carolyn (Carrie) Kelleher
Gina Martin
Craig Miller
Paula Moon
John (Jack) Norton
Chuck Patel
Tabith Pazmino
Susan Ramsay
Nancy Ross
Ruby Rubio
Courtney Spiess

B. **PRS2023 - 02** Public Hearing-Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget
Citywide

Landon O'Neal, Budget Officer, and Kristin Robinson, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director, presented the following information:

FY 2024 Budget Presentation

- Overview
- General Fund
- E-911 Fund
- Hotel/Motel Fund
- Water/Sewer Fund
- Personnel Recommendations
- Fee Changes
- Debt Obligations
- Capital Projects

FY 2024 Total Proposed Budget

Fund	FY2 3 Revised	FY2 4 Proposed	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
General Fund	59,809,951	62,033,000	2,223,049	3.7%
Special Revenue Funds	9,630,457	9,519,774	(110,683)	(1.1%)
Capital Project Funds	31,406,549	800,000	(30,606,549)	(97.5%)
Internal Service Funds	1,164,937	1,557,000	392,063	33.7%
Enterprise Funds	24,074,314	26,348,172	2,273,858	9.4%
Total Budget	126,086,208	100,257,946	(25,828,262)	(20.5%)

Revenues vs. Expenditures

Fund	Revenues	Expenditures	Transfer To/(From) Cash Reserves
General Fund	62,033,000	62,033,000	-
Special Revenue Funds	8,036,774	9,519,774	(1,483,000)
Capital Project Funds	800,000	800,000	-
Internal Service Funds	1,718,000	1,557,000	161,000
Enterprise Funds	27,052,850	26,348,172	704,678
Total Budget	99,640,624	100,257,946	(617,322)

General Fund Revenues

- Property Taxes: \$39,695,000
- Charges for Services: \$7,729,500
- Other Taxes: \$5,711,000
- Interfund Transfers: \$2,803,850
- Licenses & Permits: \$2,701,250
- Intergovernmental: \$1,660,000
- Fines & Forfeitures: \$1,317,500
- Miscellaneous: \$414,900
- TOTAL: \$62,033,000**

General Fund Expenditures

- Public Safety: \$18,052,131
- General Government: \$15,297,561
- Public Works: \$10,320,093
- Insurance & Other Benefits: \$10,272,830
- Debt: \$5,753,385
- CIP & Vehicle Replacement: \$2,337,000
- TOTAL: \$62,033,000**
- Insurance & Benefits (90% absorbed by GF)
 - 108 decrease overall (1%)
 - 75K decrease (10%) to prescriptions
 - 190K increase (22%) to liability insurance
 - Retirement Contribution: 2.3M
- 200K for city branding update
- 1.2M contingency
 - 290K merit raises
 - 529K COLA
 - 401K unallocated
- 75K for Atlanta Road ARTery
- 245K for signage replacement
- 30K for “Music in the Park” event series
- 32K for traffic calming

E-911 Fund

Revenues	Amount
E-911 Fees from Phone Companies	1,600,000
Transfer from General Fund	554,082
Intergovernmental Revenue	45,000
Miscellaneous	3,000
Total	2,202,082

Expenditures	Amount
Salaries & Benefits	1,772,679
Other Operating	429,403
Total	2,202,082

Hotel/Motel Fund

Revenues	Amount
Hotel/Motel Taxes	1,610,000
Use of Hotel/Motel Reserves	434,556

Transfer from Auto Rental	190,000
Miscellaneous	29,123
Total	2,263,679

Expenditures	Amount
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Payments to Cobb Galleria	609,071
Transfer to General Fund	600,000
Other Operating Costs	790,682
Salaries & Benefits	263,926
Total	2,263,679

Water/Sewer Fund

Revenues	Amount
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Water/Sewer Base Rate & Usage	20,897,000
Miscellaneous	549,850
Total	21,446,850

Expenses	Amount
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Wholesale Purchase of Water	11,181,000
Transfer to Water/Sewer CIP	4,061,000
Salaries & Benefits	2,132,680
Transfer to General Fund	2,024,100
Other Operating Costs	1,343,392
TOTAL	20,742,172

Proposed Fee Changes

Departments proposing fee changes:

- Fire
- Library
- Parks & Recreation
- Water/Sewer Utility
- Storm Water Utility
- Water Distribution

New Personnel Requests Recommended

- Environmental Services Dept.: PT Program Assistant, \$19,377.00

Reclassification Requests Recommended

Dept	Old Title	Old Grade	New Title	New Grade	Budget Impact
Comm Dev	Chief Building Official	GOVT-14	Asst. Comm Development Director	GOVT-14	5,685
Fire Prevention	Fire Div Chief - Fire Marshall	FD-7	Deputy Fire Chief	FD-8	5,516
Parks Maint	Park Maintenance Supervisor	GOVT-9	Parks Maintenance Supervisor	GOVT-10	6,276
Recycling	Sanitation Truck Driver	GOVT-4	Equipment Operator III	GOVT-6	3,068
Sanitation	Sanitation Truck Driver	GOVT-4	Equipment Operator III	GOVT-6	2,679
Water Admin	Utility Services Manager	GOVT-13	Utility Services Supervisor	GOVT-10	-
Water Dist	Capital Projects Manager	GOVT-13	Water Sewer Field Oper Manager	GOVT-12	(3,557)
Water Dist	Asst Public Works Director	GOVT-14	Water, Sewer, & Utility Director	MGMT-2	6,412
Water Dist	Water Sewer Manager	GOVT-12	Asst. Director of Water, Sewer, & Utility	GOVT-14	10,478
Total					36,557

Debt Obligations

- **\$57,811,467** total outstanding bond debt
- **\$8,314,327** scheduled for FY24
 - 389,810 from TAD Fund
 - 5,651,385 from the General Fund
 - 100,000 from previously committed funds
 - 2,173,132 from SPLOST

General Fund CIP

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
General Fund CIP	2,115,000	4,420,500	3,036,500	12,331,000	2,801,000

- Increase of \$504K compared to FY 2023 Adopted
- \$1.3M of FY24 projects funded by revenues from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- \$800K funded by transfer-in from General Fund

General Fund CIP Projects

IT

- Computer Upgrades: 46,000
- Core Network Router Replacement: 120,000

Library

- Bathroom Remodel: 300,000

Parks & Recreation

- Playground Repairs & Maintenance: 150,000
- Parking Resurfacing/paving: 30,000

Public Safety

- Structural Firefighting Gear: 79,000

Public Works

- Green Energy Projects: 800,000
- Miscellaneous Flooring Replacement: 30,000
- Replace Generators: 50,000
- Painting of City-owned Buildings: 150,000
- Add Awning to Front of Fleet Shop: 35,000
- City Landscape Outlets and Lighting: 75,000
- Bridge Repairs and Maintenance: 150,000
- Replace Underground Sanitation Can: 10,000
- Sanitation Carts: 90,000

Total FY 2024 CIP Projects: \$2,115,000

E-911 CIP

E-911 CIP	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Furniture Replacement	168,000				
Total E-911 CIP	168,000				

- FY24 – Full \$168K funded by revenues ARPA

Water/Sewer CIP

Water/Sewer CIP	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Infrastructure	2,817,000	3,014,000	3,221,000	3,471,000	3,714,000
Meters & Dials	636,000	387,000			
Drainage	258,000	276,000	296,000	316,000	338,000
Lead & Copper Inventory	200,000	500,000	500,000	200,000	200,000
Lateral Launch Camera System	150,000				
Total W/S CIP	4,061,000	4,177,000	4,017,000	3,987,000	4,252,000

- FY24 funded by transfer-in from Water/Sewer Fund

Storm Water CIP

Storm Water CIP	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Misc. Projects	1,469,000	1,498,000	1,528,000	1,559,000	1,590,000

- Funded by monthly storm water fee
- Includes \$0.07 increase effective in January

Vehicle Replacements and Additions

Department	Number	Budget
Community Development	1	35,000
Engineering	1	45,000
Fire	2	949,000
Highways & Streets	3	132,000
Parks Administration	1	38,000
Sanitation	1	358,000
Total	9	1,557,000

- Replacements funded by transfer-in from General Fund

2022 SPLOST

2022 SPLOST	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Downtown Redevelopment	7,007,839	927,883	927,883
Aquatics/Gymnastic Facility	996,710	6,000,000	4,030,237
Resurfacing	1,444,699	1,444,699	1,444,699
Traffic Calming	205,000	300,000	300,000
Sidewalks, Trails, Greenways	918,900	918,900	918,900
Other Projects	7,999,963	12,001,401	9,112,247
Total 2022 SPLOST	18,573,111	21,592,883	16,733,966

- 1% sales tax collection began in January 2022

Find the Budget Book at smyrnaga.gov under Finance Department.

Budget Adoption Schedule

- May 15 – Budget presentation and public hearing at Council meeting
- June 1 – Discuss any changes at work session
- June 5 – Formal budget adoption at Council meeting

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***

7. **Community Development Items**

- A. **Z23-004** Public Hearing - Zoning Amendment - Z23-004 - Request to modify the currently approved density, site plan, and elevations - Land Lot 690 & 691 - 5.4 acres - 4788 & 4840 Hanson Drive and part of 4838 S Cobb Drive - Jason Lewis
Ward 7

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to table this item; seconded by Councilmember Travis Lindley.

The motion to table carried with the following vote:

Aye: 4 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson
Nay: 0 – None
Absent: 1 – Councilmember Hines

8. **Privilege License and Show Cause Hearing**

9. **Formal Business**

- A. **POL2023-001** Approval of revisions to the City of Smyrna Public Art Policy and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute related documents.
Citywide

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The purpose of the Public Art Policy is to establish a program for public art in the city. This policy establishes guidelines to ensure a consistent decision-making process related to the acceptance, placement, display, and long-term maintenance of public art in City owned facilities. The Public Art Policy was initially adopted on February 21, 2022 with processes outlined for public art donations. Staff revised the policy to add sections on publicly funded/commissioned art, loans, deaccessioning, and other guidelines for art implementation.

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to approve item POL2023-001, the City of Smyrna Public Art Policy and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Glenn Pickens.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 4 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson
Nay: 0 – None

Absent: 1 – Councilmember Hines

- B. **2023-112** Parks & Recreation recommends that Mayor and Council award the project for Batting Cage Structures at Brinkley Park and Ward Park to ClearSpan in the amount of \$198,101.00. ClearSpan has provided pricing through Sourcewell Cooperative Contract #091319-CSS/110822-CSS and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Ward 6 Councilmember – Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould

Ward 5 Councilmember – Susan Wilkinson

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The City of Smyrna Parks & Recreation sought out pricing information from ClearSpan based on a recommendation from Purchasing, due to ClearSpan's ability to provide pricing through Sourcewell Cooperative Contract #091319-CSS/110822-CSS. ClearSpan provided pricing for Brinkley Park and Ward Park for metal clad roof structures that include custom beam design and engineering/installation. The structures are part of current CIP budgeted projects.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson made a motion to approve item 2023-112 to award the project for Batting Cage Structures at Brinkley Park and Ward Park to ClearSpan in the amount of \$198,101.00 as provided through the cooperative contract #091319-CSS/110822-CSS and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents; seconded by Councilmember Charles Welch.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 4 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson

Nay: 0 – None

Absent: 1 – Councilmember Hines

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: 4 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Lindley, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson

Nay: 0 – None

Absent: 1 – Councilmember Hines

- A. **MIN2023-047** Approval of the May 1, 2023 Special Called Council Minutes – Budget Review
Citywide

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- B. **MIN2023-048** Review of the May 1, 2023 Pre-Council Meeting Minutes.
Citywide

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- C. **MIN2023-049** Approval of the May 1, 2023 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes.
Citywide

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- D. **ATH2023-07** Authorization for a road closure on Lee St. between Marion St. and Hickory Cir. on Monday, May 29, 2023, from 11:00 am-5:00 pm for the Forest Hills Neighborhood Block Party by resident Melissa Powell.
Ward 6 Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember - Tim Gould

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

11. Ward and Staff Reports

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson mentioned that the Garden Tours were wonderful this year.

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 (3) Minutes***

12. Public Comment

13. Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould adjourned the May 15, 2023, Mayor and Council Meeting at 8:20 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