

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)
VACANT (Ward 7)

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

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

**June 05, 2023
6:30 PM**

1. Roll Call

Present: 7 – Mayor Derek Norton, Councilmember Glenn Pickens, Councilmember Latonia P. Hines, Councilmember Travis Lindley, Councilmember Charles Welch, Councilmember Susan Wilkinson, and Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Tim Gould

Also Present: 1 – Scott Cochran

Staff: 9 – Jennifer Bennett, Joe Bennett, Jill Head, Russell Martin, Penny Mocer, Landon O’Neal, Eric Randall, Kristin Robinson, and Joey Staubes

2. Call to Order

Mayor Derek Norton called to order the June 5, 2023, Pre-Council Meeting held at the Smyrna Community Center in the Oak Room at 6:31 PM.

3. Formal Business and Presentations

4. Review of Current M&C Agenda

PRE2023-016 Review of the June 5, 2023 Mayor and Council Meeting agenda.

Mayor Norton reviewed the Mayor and Council agenda.

Discussion took place on item 7B. **ORD2023-006** Public Hearing - Approval of ORD2023-006 for amendments to the Code of Ordinance in relation to notification requirements for variance requests, special land use permits, administrative appeals and the Urban Design Commission and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents. City Attorney Scott Cochran explained that this needs to be done prior to July 1, 2023, to be in compliance with the state. Zoning decisions are legislative, and appeals are made directly to superior court. Variances are quasi-judicial, the state has a procedure on how the decision of the board is reviewed which means appeals go to superior court. If variances are embedded in zoning, the Mayor and Council are still involved. Council was concerned that minor variances cannot be appealed to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Cochran stated

the city could add an additional layer to the appeals process at a later date so it can go before the Mayor and Council, but for these purposes, to be in compliance with the state, this amendment needs to be approved. Russell Martin, Community Development Director, stated that most appeals to variances are neighbor disputes.

Penny Mocer, Deputy City Administrator, explained for item 9D. **RFQ2023-13** Approval to award RFQ 23-013 Fanny Williams Legacy Project to the team of David Wilson, Stephen Hayes, and Michael Gonzales for their proposed design, Testimony of Redemption for \$125,000, and to authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all documents, that the draft contract has been sent to legal for review. What is built into that contract is that design amendments/changes can be made throughout with the Committee to Honor Fanny Williams.

Eric Randall, Public Works Director, explained for item 9E. **AGR2023-015** Approval of the Framework Agreement with Cobb County to fulfill role as Project Administrator with Georgia DOT for South Cobb Improvement Project and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents, there is language structured to allow for a breaking point and the city assume control of the project.

5. Other Business / Staff Comment

Mayor Norton reminded everyone that there will be a Special Called Council Meeting at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

6. Executive Session (As Needed)

7. Adjournment

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the June 5, 2023, Pre-Council Meeting at 6:51 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