

# Committee of the Whole 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)  
Kathy Young (Ward 7)

Smyrna Community Center  
HR Training Room  
2800 King Street SE  
Smyrna, GA 30080

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

**August 03, 2023  
6:45 PM**

## 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, and Councilmember Kathy Young

**Also Present:** 1 – Scott Cochran

**Staff:** 15 – Jennifer Bennett, Joe Bennett, Dan Campbell, Anthony Carter, Dustin Davey, Adam Dodd, Dat Luu, Russell Martin, Penny Mocer, Paul Osburn, Heather Peacon-Corn, Kristin Robinson, and Keith Zgonc

## Call to Order

Mayor Derek Norton called to order the August 3, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting held at A. Max Bacon City Hall in the HR Training Room at 6:45 PM.

## 2. Staff M&C Agenda Items to Review

## 3. Formal Business and Presentations

### A. **COW2023-041** Introduction of Community Development Assistant Director Anthony Carter and Chief Building Official Adam Dodd.

Russell Martin, Community Development Director, presented to the Mayor and Council Anthony Carter, Assistant Director of Community Development, and Adam Dodd, Chief Building Official. Mr. Martin explained that with the promotion of Mr. Carter and the addition of Mr. Dodd, he reorganized Community Development to be more efficient in responsibilities and more effective in cost-savings measures.

- Mr. Carter will be head of the field side of things – Building and Code Enforcement – and answer directly to Mr. Martin.

- Mr. Carter stated his objective with Code Enforcement is to be proactive rather than reactive.
- Mr. Carter was over the Buildings department, and he hopes he has provided Mr. Dodd with a good base.
- Mr. Dodd worked for Smyrna between 2016-2018 and comes back to Smyrna from Dallas then Villa Rica.
- In the time Mr. Dodd was away, he was able to complete his Chief Building Official Certification.

#### 4. Review of Current M&C Agenda

##### A. COW2023-040 Review of the August 7, 2023 Mayor and Council Meeting Notice and Agenda

Brief discussion took place regarding Z23-003, a rezoning from R-8 Conditional to RDA. Community Development Director Russell Martin confirmed that it is currently zoned for five house, not six. Councilmember Hines stated that she is fine with this moving forward for approval. Mr. Martin explained that there are some residents from surround neighborhoods that do not want to see this move forward. Those residents are not within the city limits of Smyrna, but are rather in unincorporated Cobb County.

Dat Luu, IT Director, explained for CON2023-012 that this contract is to upgrade the firewall for the entire City which, in short, will increase cybersecurity. This is a CIP budget item.

Paul Osburn, Assistant Public Works Director, briefly discussed ATH2023-025 Approval of a sidewalk project from Dunn Street to Hayes Drive along King Springs Road for pedestrian access to Tolleson Pool as requested by Council with the work to be done by Llano Contractors, LLC (4028 Townsend Lane, Dunwoody, GA, 30346) in the amount of \$104,254.44 and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents. This will come out of the 2016 SPLOST.

#### 5. Other Business / Staff Comment

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided updates for the following

- The soil stabilization at Public Works has improved that area.
- Council Chambers project – completed the trays for the wall lights.
- Progress on the downtown greenspace water feature is moving forward.
- Rain has delayed the erosion control in the city park area.

Paul Osburn, Assistant Public Works Director, provided updates for the following:

- New water saving faucets installed in lower and upper bathrooms
- The downtown fountain is complete
- Landscaping at front entrance and fountain will start next week
- City Hall and Community Center pressure washing will begin soon
- ERU (Energy Recovery Unit) had shipping delays – installation in November
- Council Chambers – touch up painting will be finished tomorrow, next week they will lay carpet
- Forensic testing is being completed by GA Power

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines thanked staff for all that has been done in Rose Garden. She also thanked everyone for their support during these difficult times she and her family are experiencing.

Councilmember Travis Lindley announced that there will be a joint wards 1, 2, & 3 town hall on August 29, 2023.

Councilmember Corkey Welch asked when the tables for the October 7 concert will be going up for sale. Jennifer Bennett stated they will be open for sale at 6:00 PM on August 23. Councilmember Welch mentioned phone calls he received about sidewalks on King Springs Rd. Because that area comes in and out of Smyrna city limits, Mr. Welch wondered if conversations have been had with Cobb County about adding sidewalks. Mr. Bennett stated that they are not receptive, but he will attempt to reach out to Cobb County again.

Councilmember Kathy Young thanked staff for all of the work at River View Rd.

Councilmember Susan Wilkinson mentioned sidewalks at Belmont Circle. She also mentioned Old Concord Road that also needs sidewalks and goes in and out of Smyrna city limits.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould announced that the Arts Task Force selected the artists that will decorate the utility boxes along Atlanta Road. Two will be painted and two will be wrapped in a vinyl wrap. Two of the four artists are from Smyrna. He also stated that they had a great Committee to Honor Fanny Williams meeting recently. Mr. Gould also mentioned that the Teacher Appreciation luncheon was really great.

Mayor Derek Norton thanked those who were able to attend the State of the City address. He has gotten a lot of positive feedback about all that is happening in the City. He also mentioned the Teacher Appreciation luncheon and how much fun it was.

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

## **7. Adjournment**

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the August 3, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:20 PM.

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for 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**