



City Council Meeting - Final

February 26, 2024
7:00 PM

C. MIN2024-024 Approval of the February 12, 2024 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes.
Citywide

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

A. Max Bacon City Hall
Council Chambers
2800 King Street
Smyrna, GA 30080

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

**February 12, 2024
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 Rickey N. Oglesby Jr.

Also Present: 1 – Scott Cochran

Staff: 9 – Tyler Addison, Jennifer Bennett, Joe Bennett, Mark Binicewicz, Jill Head, Russell Martin, Eddie Matano, Heather Peacon-Corn, and Joey Staubes

2. Call to Order

Mayor Derek Norton called to order the February 12, 2024 Mayor and Council meeting held at A. Max Bacon City Hall in Council Chambers at 7:00 PM.

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

A. Pastor Tyler Cook, Mt. Zion Baptist Church (1789 Hawthorne Ave)

4. Agenda Changes

5. Mayoral Report

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. **2024-32** Performance by Tomaree Tarpley in honor of Black History Month
Citywide

Tomaree Tarpley provided the following brief history and performed *Lift Every Voice and Sing*:

Often referred to as "The Black National Anthem," *Lift Every Voice and Sing* was a hymn written as a poem by NAACP leader James Weldon Johnson in 1900. His brother, John Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), composed the music for the lyrics. A choir of 500 schoolchildren at the segregated Stanton School, where James Weldon Johnson was principal, first performed the song in public in Jacksonville, Florida to celebrate President Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

At the turn of the 20th century, Johnson's lyrics eloquently captured the solemn yet hopeful appeal for the liberty of Black Americans. Set against the religious invocation of God and the promise of freedom, the song was later adopted by NAACP and prominently used as a rallying cry during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

B. **PRC2024-004** Proclamation in Recognition of Black History Month
Citywide

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines read and presented the following proclamation:

A PROCLAMATION
BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SMYRNA
In Recognition of Black History Month

Whereas: Each year during **Black History Month**, the City of Smyrna celebrates the history and culture of African Americans, discovering stories of triumph, courage, and creativity, through lectures, discussions, exhibits, and educational events; and
Whereas: The origins of Black History Month date back to 1915 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded the organization known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and
Whereas: Dr. Woodson initiated Black History Week, February 12, 1926; and for many years, the second week of February, chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln, was celebrated by African Americans in the United States; and
Whereas: In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and established as Black History Month, and is now celebrated all over North America; and
Whereas: The contributions of African Americans to the fabric of this country should be recognized and celebrated. In observation of Black History Month, the Smyrna Public Library will host a series of activities, and the city will host the annual Black History Month Celebration Dinner; and
Whereas: The Fanny Williams Legacy Project, the continued restoration of Mt. Zion Cemetery, and the efforts to historically preserve areas in the Rose Garden community are examples of the City of Smyrna's continuing commitment to solidify the legacy of black history in the City of Smyrna; Now
Therefore: I, Derek Norton, Mayor of the City of Smyrna, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2024, to be **Black History Month**.

Pastor Tyler Cook, Mt. Zion Baptist Church (1789 Hawthorne Ave.), gave a brief history of the church. It was established in 1877. He is the 7th pastor in 147 years. He is the youngest pastor at 33 years old. Pastor Cook is grateful to be part of this community, and he thanked the Mayor and Council.

C. **PRC2024-003** Proclamation in Recognition of Georgia Arbor Day, February 16, 2024
Citywide

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

A PROCLAMATION
BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SMYRNA
GEORGIA ARBOR DAY

Whereas: The first ***Arbor Day*** was celebrated in 1872 in Nebraska as a special day for planting trees and has grown to thousands of celebrations in communities across our nation each year; and

Whereas: Community partners, families, and friends will be joined together at local ***Arbor Day*** ceremonies to recognize the benefits of trees and urban forests; and

Whereas: Trees will be planted across the state creating a lasting legacy for future generations; and

Whereas: Trees improve water quality and quantity, reduce the erosion of precious topsoil, increase property values and economic vitality in business areas, provide shade, cleanse the air, create habitat for wildlife, and add beauty to communities; and

Whereas: Trees promote outdoor recreation which improves human health and well-being and reduces "Nature-Deficit Disorder" in children by encouraging more activity and connection to the natural world; and

Whereas: All of Georgia benefits from forestry, which contributes billions of dollars annually to our state's economy and provides employment for more than 100,000 people; and

Whereas: The City of Smyrna has been a Tree City for 21 years due to the celebration of ***Arbor Day***; now

Therefore: I, Derek Norton, Mayor of the City of Smyrna, Georgia do hereby proclaim February 16, 2024, as ***ARBOR DAY*** in Georgia and encourage our citizens to plant trees thus leaving a legacy for present and future generations.

Phyllis Owens, Chairperson of Keep Smyrna Beautiful, stated that they will be planting a tree in Smyrna in Taylor-Brawner Park on February 16, 2024. This is KSB's 40th anniversary, and she thanked Mayor and Council for their support.

7. **Community Development Items**

A. **Z24-001** Public Hearing - Zoning Request - Z24-001 - Allow rezoning from R-15 to LC-Conditional for the use as a veterinary clinic and day care facility - 3.01 acres - Land Lot 452 - 940 Concord Road - STNL Development LLC
Ward 4 Councilmember – Charles “Corkey” Welch

Councilmember Travis Lindley stated that he will recuse himself from this item out of an abundance of caution because he is Vice-Chair for the Executive Committee for First Methodist Church who owns this property. Councilmember Lindley left Council Chambers.

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

STNL Development LLC is requesting a rezoning from R-15 (Residential) to LC-Conditional (Limited Commercial) for the ability to construct a 7,000 sq. ft. veterinary clinic and 10,000 sq. ft. day care facility. The subject property is zoned R-15 and has been used for an institutional purpose as a church. The existing building will be demolished for the construction of a new veterinary clinic and day care facility on two separate parcels. The veterinary clinic parcel is 1.1 acres and the day care facility parcel is 1.8 acres. The buildings will be two stories with a maximum height of 26 feet. The project consists of a 10 ft. landscape buffer along the sides of the property adjacent to residential.

The veterinary clinic building will require two variances with respect to residential setbacks. Veterinary clinics require a setback of 100 feet from any residentially zoned property, and any non-residential building requires a setback of 50 feet from any residentially zoned property. The veterinary clinic requires a reduction of those setbacks to 40 feet. However, no outdoor kennels are proposed for the clinic, and the closest adjacent use is a church. Therefore, Community Development believes there should be no negative impact if the reduction is approved.

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

The applicant is providing 81 parking spaces which is greater than the minimum parking requirement of 68 spaces.

Community Development has reviewed the zoning proposal against the city's 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Future Land Use Plan. The zoning proposal to Limited Commercial is inconsistent with the MEDR land use designation on the Future Land Use Map. Therefore, a change to NAC will be required.

The rezoning will require the following variances:

- 1) Allow reduction of veterinary clinic setback from property with a residential zoning from 100 feet to 40 feet. (Staff Supports)
- 2) Allow non-residential building setback from any property line which abuts a residential district from 50 feet to 40 feet. (Staff Supports)
- 3) Allow new structure with roof slope less than 6/12 pitch. (Staff Supports)

Community Development has reviewed the proposed development against the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance with respect to the use as a veterinary clinic and day care facility. The proposed development meets most the zoning requirements for the proposed uses.

Community Development staff is supportive of the change in zoning from R-15 to LC-Conditional as it will be compatible with the surrounding uses.

Community Development recommends **approval** of the rezoning from R-15 to LC-Conditional on 3.01 acres for a veterinary clinic and day care 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'
External Side – 40'
Internal Side – 10'
Rear – 50'
11. In the event the adjacent parcel is redeveloped in the future an inter-parcel access agreement to Brown Road will be provided.
12. Approval of the subject property for the LC-Conditional zoning district shall be conditioned upon the development of the property in substantial compliance with the site plan submitted January 3, 2024, and created by AXIS Infrastructure and all zoning stipulations above.
13. The applicant shall be bound to the veterinary clinic elevations submitted on December 8, 2023, and the day care elevations submitted on January 3, 2024. Approval of any change to the elevations must be obtained from the Director of Community Development.

Kevin Moore, attorney for the applicant, came forward and presented additional information. Councilmember Susan Wilkinson asked Mr. Moore how many square feet the day care will be and how many children will it hold. Mr. Moore stated that it will be 10,000 square feet and hold a maximum of 180 students. Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould asked if they already have tenants lined up for the facilities. Mr. Moore said they do.

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

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to approve item Z24-001; seconded by Councilmember Glenn Pickens.

The motion to approve carried with the following vote:

Aye: 6 – Councilmember Pickens, Councilmember Hines, Councilmember Welch, Councilmember Wilkinson, Mayor Pro Tem / Councilmember Gould, Councilmember Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 1 – Councilmember Lindley

8. Privilege License and Show Cause Hearing

9. Formal Business

A. ATH2024-027 Approval to award low bid RFQ 24-018 for 6200 linear feet of waterline replacement in the area of Doeskin Lane as well as Green Forest Drive to Smith Pipeline Inc. (400 Bohannon Rd, Fairburn, Ga 30213) in the amount of \$806,414.00 to include all materials and labor which will be funded out of Water CIP as part of the ARPA funded projects and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Ward 4 Councilmember - Charles “Corkey” Welch

Councilmember Travis Lindley returned to Council Chambers.

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

As part of the overall funded ARPA projects to abandon and replace all asbestos cement piping from the city, this project will consist of 6,200 linear feet of water main and service line replacement in the Doeskin Ln. and Green Forest Dr. area.

The City of Smyrna requested bids for a unit-price contract for the installation of approximately 6,200 linear feet of new 6-inch PVC water main and reconstruction of existing water mains, service laterals and fire hydrants. Nine (9) contractors submitted, and the low bidder is Smith Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$806,414.00. Water, Utility and Sewer staff recommend approval.

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to approve item ATH2024-027; 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 Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- B. ATH2024-032** Approval to award low bid RFQ 24-019 for 4800 linear feet of waterline replacement in the area of Lake Court Drive to Smith Pipeline Inc. (400 Bohannon Rd, Fairburn, Ga 30213) in the amount of \$659,385.00 to include all materials and labor which will be funded out of Water CIP as part of the ARPA funded projects and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Ward 4 Councilmember - Charles “Corkey” Welch

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

As part of the ARPA funded project to abandon and replace all asbestos cement piping in the City, this project consists of 4,800 linear feet of water main line and service line replacement in the Lake Court Dr. area.

The City of Smyrna requested bids for a unit-price contract for the installation of approximately 4,800 linear feet of new 6-inch PVC and 8-inch PVC water main and reconnections of existing water mains, service laterals and fire hydrants. Seven (7) contractors submitted, and the low bidder is Smith Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$659,385.00. Water, Sewer and Utility staff recommend approval.

Councilmember Charles Welch made a motion to approve item ATH2024-032; seconded by Councilmember Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr.

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 Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- C. ATH2024-029** Approval to award low bid RFQ 24-020 for 10,800 linear feet of waterline replacement in the area of Spring Drive to Smith Pipeline Inc. (400 Bohannon Rd, Fairburn, Ga 30213) in the amount of \$1,381,914.10 to include materials and labor which will be funded out of Water CIP as part of the ARPA funded projects and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Ward 1 Councilmember - Glenn Pickens

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

As part of the overall ARPA funded projects to abandon and replace all asbestos cement pipe within the city. This project will consist of 10,800 linear feet of pipe and service line replacement in the Spring Dr. area.

The City of Smyrna requested bids for a unit-price contract for the installation of approximately 10,800 linear feet of new 6-inch PVC, 8-inch PVC and 10-inch PVC water main and reconnections of existing water mains, service laterals and fire hydrants. Eight (8) contractors submitted, and the low bidder is Smith Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$1,381,914.10. Water, Sewer and Utility staff recommend approval.

Councilmember Glenn Pickens made a motion to approve item ATH2024-029; 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 Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- D. **ATH2024-036** Authorization to revise the downtown concept plan to remove the parking deck from Atlanta Road, withdraw the award of the Construction Manager at Risk contract for construction of the parking deck in that location, reallocate SPLOST funds from the parking deck at that location to other approved SPLOST projects, amend 2022 SPLOST projects, and authorize the mayor to sign and execute all related documents.
Ward 3 Councilmember - Travis Lindley

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The City previously approved a downtown concept plan that includes a parking deck on the site of the current records center building on Atlanta Road, approved the plan for the deck, awarded a construction Manager at Risk to Winter Construction Company for the build of the deck and allocated SPLOST funds for construction of the deck on that location.

Based on subsequent circumstances, and other redevelopment planned within the downtown area, the City believes that the deck should not be built on this parcel.

Mayor Norton further explained that at the January retreat they discussed this project. The project originally was approved in 2021. The cost since then has more than doubled. This is not a good use of taxpayer dollars, so they have pivoted, the plan is now to knock down the old records building and create a surface lot.

Councilmember Travis Lindley made a motion to approve item ATH2024-036; 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 Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- E. **ATH2024-034** Authorization to approve the purchase of three 2023 Ford Pursuit Vehicles from Phil Brannen Ford (US Highway 41 South, Perry, GA 31069-9601) in the amount of \$43,471.00 per vehicle (\$130,413.00), establish a new project in the Vehicle Replacement Fund for Police Vehicles and increase the project budget and authorize the use of emergency replacement funds budgeted in the FY 2024 Adopted

Budget in the amount of \$147,376.44 to include the cost of the cars and equipment outfitting, and authorize the Mayor to sign and execute all related documents.

Citywide

Joe Bennett, City Administrator, provided the following background:

The Police Department needs to replace three (3) pursuit utility vehicles that were previously wrecked. The Police department has reusable equipment (cages and radio consoles) that can be fitted on new 2023 vehicles. The option to reuse our existing equipment will save time and money as the turnaround time for new equipment is 4 to 5 months. Police and Purchasing contacted Wade Ford, Allan Vigil Ford, and Phil Brannen Ford for availability of vehicles. Wade Ford has 2024 pursuit vehicles on order that could be delivered sometime in March, but the models are not compatible with the reusable equipment. Allan Vigil Ford did not provide information. Phil Brannen Ford has three (3) 2023 models available that are compatible with our reusable equipment and can be delivered as soon as possible. Police and purchasing recommend approval.

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines made a motion to approve item ATH2024-034; 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 Oglesby
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 Oglesby
Nay: 0 – None
Recuse: 0 – None

- A. MIN2024-015 Approval of the January 25, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
*Citywide***

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- B. MIN2024-016 Approval of the January 29, 2024 Pre-Council Meeting Minutes
*Citywide***

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- C. **MIN2024-017** Approval of the January 29, 2024 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
Citywide

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

- D. **ATH2024-031** Authorization for the closing of the upper area of Market Village immediately around the fountain, to include denying vehicle access from Atlanta Road and portions of the Market Village streets as well as parking in areas mentioned for the purpose of special event series on Saturday, September 28, 2024, Saturday, October 19, 2024, Saturday, November 16, 2024, and Saturday, December 7, 2024, titled "College Football Saturday in Smyrna"
Ward 3 Councilmember - Travis Lindley

This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.

11. Ward and Staff Reports

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines reminded all of the Black History Month celebration on February 23 hosting Dr. Daniel Black from Clark Atlanta University. She also mentioned that Smyrna's library is a great resource to find out what is going on in the city as well as The Tap magazine with is the Parks & Recreation magazine that has many announcements and events listed.

Councilmember Travis Lindley noted the passing of business leader in Smyrna, Randy Carmichael of Carmichael Funeral Home, keeping his sons and family in his thoughts and prayers.

Councilmember Charles Welch also offered his condolences to the Carmichael family. He also mentioned that he attended the Smyrna Public Safety Gala to raise money for public safety and first responders, and he encouraged others to support similarly.

Mayor Pro Tem Tim Gould echoed Councilmember Welch's comments about the Public Safety gala. That organization does a great job of supporting first responders. He also mentioned the Education Committee of the City has just organized a meeting of the Smyrna area school foundations for March 7 in order to share best practices and share stories.

Councilmember Rickey N. Oglesby, Jr. stated that he met with the Beltline Extension group or Georgia Path. There were a lot of questions from a large crowd of people. There will be a town hall in the coming month. For more information on the Silver Comet Trail extension, go to www.pathfoundation.org. Construction is already underway. He also mentioned he was a guest judge at King Springs Elementary Science Fair, and he was impressed with all of the students.

Mayor Derek Norton expressed that he was happy to have City Attorney Scott Cochran back after his long absence.

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**

Uriah Love – She spoke of an incident on February 2, 2024 in Marietta. She and her friends attended a sleepover. They decided to go to Smyrna’s QT to get some snacks. A woman pursued them, screamed at them, cussed at them, and then pulled a gun on them. They are here to let the Mayor and Council know what happened to make them aware that though Smyrna is usually a safe place, these things are occurring here. She also expressed her thanks to the police department for the help they have been providing since this occurrence.

Jaiden Purnell – An accomplished Campbell High School student who came forward and was part of this group of friends at the sleepover. She stated that the woman who pursued them accused them of cutting her off and making offensive hand gestures at her. She was angry and pulled a gun on them. The store clerk pushed the panic button after seeing the confrontation, but the police never showed up. The young ladies eventually left the QT and returned to the hotel where they were staying. They all felt that no one cared for their wellbeing. She urged the elected officials to be mindful of the safety and wellbeing of its residents and young people.

Madison Hampton – She also spoke of the incident that frightened all of them. She spoke of the issue and seriousness of road rage and how no one came when the panic button was pushed.

Mayor Derek Norton expressed his appreciation for them coming to speak and tell their story. He stated that this is not indicative of what happens in this community.

Councilmember Latonia P. Hines stated that it takes a lot of courage to come before a body like this. She commended them for staying calm in the situation and not escalating the situation. She agreed with them that drivers’ behaviors are awful at times and that it is a shame that an adult behaved so poorly.

Deputy Chief Binicewicz stated that he has been in contact with one of their mothers. He apologized to them and apologized for what they experienced. He explained that the police department never received a panic alarm. If they had, they certainly would have responded because they would never not respond to help being sought. Unfortunately, the panic button that was pressed never communicated with the police department. They are investigating what happened. He stated this should never have happened, and should it ever happen again to please call 911.

13. **Adjournment**

Mayor Derek Norton adjourned the February 12, 2024 Mayor and Council meeting at 8:01 PM.

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the 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