

MINUTES
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
CITY HALL-136 KEYS FERRY STREET
FEBRUARY 4, 2016
5:30 PM

1. Call to Order

Mayor Copeland

Mayor Copeland called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. Pledge to the Flag

CM Craig Elrod led the Pledge to the Flag.

3. Invocation

CM Benjamin Pruett gave the Invocation.

4. Roll Call

Mayor Pro Tem Roger Pruitt – present
CM Kam Varner – present
CM Rufus Stewart – present
Mayor Copeland – present
CM Benjamin Pruett – present
CM Craig Elrod – present
CM Sandra Vincent - present

Others in attendance were: City Administrator, Mr. Keith Dickerson; City Attorney, Ms. Leigh Hancher; City Clerk, Ms. Janis Price; Police Chief, Mr. Preston Dorsey; Fire Chief, Mr. Steve Morgan; Finance Director, Mr. Mike Clark; Business Development Director, Mr. Bob Trescott; Public Works Director, Mr. Ronnie Thompson; Media Specialist, Ms. Casey Case; Tourism Director, Ms. Christie Collier; and Technology Associate, Mr. Brian Linton.

5. Public Comments

Mr. Rodney Bowler, Superintendent of Henry County Schools discussed Education SPLOST.

- Voting will be held on March 1, 2016, for up to \$325,000,000
- Academy for Advanced Studies is currently housed in Henry County High School
- Need to build McDonough High School and McDonough Middle School to meet the needs of the growing population

- Technology will include a fiber optic network
- 35 schools are in need of renovations and repairs
- Performing Arts Center will be built on the north side of town
- Convert all high schools into state of the art facilities for athletic programs to include a second gymnasium at each, and to include adding AstroTurf to stadiums
- Mr. Bowler will meet with anyone to discuss the importance of this SPLOST
- Early voting begins on Monday, February 8, 2016

A short discussion ensued relative to additional projects with SPLOST funds that may be possible in the future. CM Vincent commented that she would like to see continued efforts to collaborate with the school systems and identify opportunities to work together.

6. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Pruitt motioned, and CM Stewart seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

7. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Adoption Agreement and Resolution requested by Security Benefit regarding restatement of the 457 Deferred Compensation Plan and the Exclusive Benefit Governmental 401 (a) Non-Trusted Retirement Plan to comply with IRS regulations, and authorization for the Mayor to sign all necessary documents.
- B. Approval of the Adoption Agreement and Resolution requested by the Georgia Municipal Association for the City's 401 (a) Defined Contribution Plan to comply with IRS regulations, and authorization for the Mayor to sign all necessary documents.
- C. Approval of the Mayor to sign the annual Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the McDonough Main Street Program to retain its' accreditation. This MOU will be submitted to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs prior to February 15, 2016.
- D. Approval of Mallett Consulting, Inc engineering services associated with Phase-1 sidewalk connectivity project in the amount of \$79,300.00 plus hourly inspection fees, reimbursable expenses, mileage, any necessary outside specialty consultants, and authorization for the Mayor to sign necessary documents.
- E. Approval to award bid to Red Dirt Landscapers, LLC for the installation of 16,000 square feet associated with the parking lot on Jonesboro Road for the Alexander Park Walking Trail. The cost will be \$8,000.00 and will be paid from SPLOST IV funds.
- F. Approval of the minutes for January 19, 2016 Council Meeting.

Mayor Copeland called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. CM Elrod motioned, and Mayor Pro Tem Pruitt seconded. The vote was seven in favor.

8. Update from Mayors' Day Conference

**McDonough Youth
Council Representative**

CM Kam Varner introduced Morgan Crump, Marissa Silver, and Faith Smith, students with the McDonough Youth Council (MYC) to discuss their experience at Mayors' Day and other activities through MYC.

- Thank you for the educational opportunity
- Never realized how much work goes on within local government
- Looking forward to being involved in Georgia Cities Week; Hands on Henry unification projects; McDonough 101 Workshop; and the team building activities
- Thank you to City Administrator, Mr. Keith Dickerson, the Mayor and City Council for your support.

CM Vincent said she was proud of the MYC students and their involvement in Mayors' Day, and shared her appreciation for Miss Brenda (chaperon) and CM Varner for their efforts. Mayor Copeland and CM Stewart also offered their appreciation and continued support of the students participating in the MYC.

CM Varner thanked Mayor and Council for their continued support, and expressed her personal pride in the efforts of the students.

**9. Discussion of revenues and expenditures
of the General Fund, SPLOST Capital
Projects Fund and Hotel/Motel Tax Fund**

Mr. Mike Clark

Mr. Clark gave updates on each of these funds through December, 2015.

- General Fund revenues are \$8,664,358.
- General Fund expenditures are \$5,867,558
- 93.6% of property taxes have been collected
- 97% of budget has been met for property taxes
- SPLOST III total expenditures are \$266,466
- SPLOST IV total expenditures are \$1,578,668
- Hotel/Motel Tax Fund revenues are \$554,113, which is 19.98% higher than the previous year

CM Vincent said that she would like to develop some sort of algorithm to analyze the fiscal impact as it relates to the costs of serving citizens per capita, in anticipation of new growth within the city.

10. Unscheduled Public Comments

There were no Unscheduled Public Comments.

11. Executive Session (if needed) for:

**Litigation O.C.G.A. 50-14-2
Real Estate O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(1)
Personnel O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (b)(2)**

No Executive Session was held.

12. City Administrator, City Attorney, City Clerk Comments

City Clerk, Ms. Janis Price advised Mayor and Council about the upcoming quarterly dinner, on March the 31, 2016 that the City of Hampton will host.

13. Councilmembers and Mayor Comments

CM Vincent said she is looking forward to taking what has been learned through the Retreat and the Mayors' Day Conference to move forward; and she thanked those who have been instrumental in ensuring the success of those events.

CM Elrod offered appreciation to the staff for their hard work in making the Retreat a success, and thanked the public for their continued participation.

CM Stewart offered his appreciation for the successful events. He went on to mention ongoing conversations regarding the old Snapper building, and said that there will be more discussion about uses for that property in the coming weeks.

Mayor Pro Tem Pruitt offered his appreciation to staff for their hard work related to the Retreat, and said he also enjoyed the Mayors' Day Conference sponsored by GMA.

Mayor Copeland thanked everyone on staff for their great presentations and attendance at the Retreat.

14. Adjournment

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to adjourn. CM Stewart motioned, and CM Elrod seconded. All stood in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Janis E. Price
City Clerk

****CM (Councilmember)**

OPEN MEETINGS COMPLIANCE NOTICE: This is a regularly scheduled meeting of Mayor and Council of the City of McDonough duly noticed pursuant to the requirements of the Georgia Open Meetings Law (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, et seq). Notice of the meeting was published in the Henry Herald on December 30, 2015; and a copy of the meeting schedule was posted at City Hall and on the City's website, as required by law.