

CITY OF FAIRBURN City Council Special Called Meeting Minutes City Hall 56 Malone Street Fairburn, GA 30213 June 13, 2014 2:00 P.M.

The Honorable Mayor Mario Avery

The Honorable Ron Alderman The Honorable Elizabeth Hurst The Honorable Lydia Glaize The Honorable Alex Heath The Honorable Marian Johnson The Honorable Hattie Portis-Jones

City Administrator: City Clerk: City Attorney: Mr. Tom B. Barber Mrs. Brenda B. James Mr. Randy Turner

## I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Provided by Honorable Mayor Mario Avery.

**II. ROLL CALL:** All Members of Council were present which constituted a quorum.

## **III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

## IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

1. Professional Services Agreement

Mr. Barber gave an overview of the Professional Service Agreement with Metrocorp Development Enterprises, Inc. with Herbert Humphrey. He said we are looking for a temporary replacement for the city engineer's position. He said he recommend bringing the contractors for thirty hours a week starting on Monday June 16, 2014. He said this will allow them to see the operation of what we are doing until we can get a replacement for the position. He said the contractors will be given a blended rate of eighty dollars per hour.

Mayor Avery said for clarity purposes Mr. Humphrey and the transportation specialist will only be here 8 to 10 hours a week. He said this will allow Mr. Humphrey to give us an overview of our pending

contracts. He also said he will be assisted by the transportation specialist of the company. He said Mr. Humphrey is a previous co-worker from Fulton County and he is very glad to see him because of his work ethic and the reputation he has in the industry.

City Attorney, Randy Turner said he worked with Mr. Humphrey at Fulton County and he is very smart and detailed oriented.

Council Member Glaize made a motion to approve the authorization to engage Metrocrop Development Enterprises, Inc. to provide engineering services during the transition to a new City Engineer with Council Member Alderman providing the second.

Council Member Hurst asked about the temporary employment and if we are going to go statewide for replacement. Mr. Barber said they advertise through the website and the GMA Marketplace, however; they could use ICMA to advertise. **After discussion, the motion carried.** 

2. Van Rental for Summer Camp

Council Member Alderman made a motion to approve the reconsideration of a previous action denying the rental of a 15-passenger Van for Summer Camp in an amount of \$500-\$562.50 per week for up to nine weeks with Council Member Johnson providing the second. **The motion carried.** 

Council Member Heath made a motion to approve the previous action denying the rental of a 15 passenger van for up to nine weeks for Summer Camp from Helping Hands Services, Inc. with Council Member Alderman providing the second.

Council Member Glaize asked if there would be a change in the budget. Mr. Barber said the line item is going to change because we budgeted \$30,000 in revenue and we have \$30,000 in expense between our payroll and operating expense. He said we should break even.

Council Member Hurst asked if there were seven staff members at the Youth Center. Mr. Barber said no, those positions were not filled. He said there are four people who are employed and there are several volunteers. He said he would provide an updated list for the employees who are working at the Youth Center. She said being a mother who raised children on her own and always having to find some place to put them in the summer; we should look at the late registration as we go forward and decide to do this again. She said the late registration is very excessive if a person is having problems coming up with a seventy five dollar fee they would have a problem coming up with a hundred dollar fee. She said if the late fees were less there is a chance we may get the other eighteen kids in the program. Mr. Barber said there are twenty-seven kids at the Youth Center and asked if Council would like to prorate the late fees. Council Member Johnson said she does not understand the fees. Mr. Barber said it is seventy five dollars a week with a one hundred dollar late registration fee.

Council Member Portis-Jones said she thinks proration is a fair way for the late comers to come in. She said we had some discussion about the large number of kids who are on the school lunch qualifier and asked what we could do to assist those families to participate in the Summer Program. Mr. Barber said yes, there are eighteen slots left. She asked how we could go about advertising this.

Council Member Glaize said we could do it on a prorated basis for example; if we have a family that has free and reduced lunch we would have that documentation and information. She said we would then subsidize it from partial reduction or full reduced lunch. She said we would collect 50% of the payment weekly and 25% of the partial reduced payments weekly.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked how we could get this information to the public. Council Member Glaize said we could use the website, youth center, word of mouth and send out the information to your local churches.

Council Member Alderman said they have a church bulletin board and the information could be sent to the secretary of the church for advertisement.

Council Member Hurst said she did not have an issue with this item other than being aware of where we stood budget wise.

Mayor Avery said he understands why the item failed, however; he knows what will happen if the Council uses the motion to reconsider because of his experience at Fulton County Government. He said the Council could lose their credibility.

Council Member Portis-Jones said she thinks the issue is we must be informed and provided adequate information in a timely manner because it puts us at a disadvantage when we receive information at 6:00pm on the day of a Council Meeting. She said if we make a decision it would be a poor decision. She said we should be educated enough to make an adequate decision. Council Member Alderman said we should not get information at the last minute. Council Member Portis-Jones said she knows things come up. Council Member Alderman asked if the information on the Youth Center was emailed. Mr. Barber said yes. Council Member Alderman said he is having issues with opening the emails sent by the City Clerk.

Council Member Glaize said she heard the comments provided by the Mayor and Mr. Barber and she appreciates them, however; she believes when we talk about an issue we should bringing it back to the table. She said that is the real elephant in the room. She said she do not think we are developing a trend where we are voting down something in the City and that is not the right perspective to have about this. She said she would like for us to be more engaged and that is what we should leave with today.

Mayor Avery said if he had been present, he would have asked the City Attorney if we could hold the item so we would not have to come back for reconsideration. Council Member Glaize said there was no effort for that. Council Member Johnson said she was in charge and she did not do it. Mayor Avery said he understand the protocol as it relates to the various different motions that are made because of his experience with Fulton County. Council Member Heath asked about tabling an agenda item. Mayor Avery said when an agenda item is tabled you would bringing it back to the next meeting. Council Member Johnson said she cannot believe this item was voted down. Council Member Hurst said the reason we did not vote on the item is because we did not have the information needed and because we did not have the information we did not vote for it. Council Member Johnson said she trusts the staff and if they say we need it; we should be able to take their word for it. Council Member Hurst said she believes in Mr. Barber and she think he does a great job, however; they needed additional information. Council Member Alderman said we must be familiar with the item because if a constituent ask about the item we must have the knowledge needed to answer any concerns they may have. After discussion, the motion carried.

3. Sublease of Brenau Classroom Space

Mr. Barber said GMC does not want the new building and they are opening a new building in Fayetteville. He said they need Brenau Classroom Space and they are willing to sublease the space. He said Brenau lease requires them to get our permission. He said he recommends authorizing the Mayor to approve the sublease but only if they agree to waive the non-compete clause forever.

Mayor Avery said for a point of clarity he attended a meeting with the General and the Business Development Manager at GMC on yesterday. He said he explained to them that the institution is causing a hardship. He said he plans to meet with them again next week.

Mr. Barber said Brenau and GMC are also located in Augusta and they do not have a non-compete clause so this is not a corporate institution.

Council Member Hurst made a motion to approve the Sublease of Brenau Classroom Space with Council Member Glaize providing the second.

Council Member Portis-Jones asked why we are not being specific about the non-compete clause and does the rate stay the same or is there an opportunity to increase the payments from GMC. Mr. Barber said the lease rates are fixed.

City Attorney Randy Turner said the non-compete exist in the leases that GMC has with us and what we are asking is for them to delete the non-compete clause.

Council Member Glaize said she has an observation about this issue and there are only 2 ways it is going to hatch out. She said it is going to either be in our favor or it is not going to be in our favor. She said we are going to have to take a leap of faith and do something demonstrative. After much discussion, the motion carried.

## V. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING:

Council Member Alderman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 pm with Council Member Johnson providing the second. **The motion carried.** 

Brenda B. James City Clerk

Mario Avery, Mayor