

MINUTES
WORKSESSION MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013
6:30 P.M.

Present: Councilmembers Shirley Jackson, Brian Jones, Angelette Mealing and Vince Williams, City Attorney Dennis Davenport, Interim City Manager Sonja Fillingame, City Clerk Jacqueline R. Cossey and Assistant City Clerk Tameka Ashmon

Absent: Mayor Ralph Moore

In the absence of Mayor Ralph Moore Mayor Pro-Tem Vince Williams led the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Williams who stated that Mayor was unable to attend tonight.

I. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Proclamation Presented to Banneker High School Principal, William Bradley

At this time Mayor Pro-Tem Williams presented Mr. William Bradley with a proclamation honoring his retirement from the Fulton County School System after 26 years. A photo was taken of Mr. Bradley and the Council immediately following the presentation.

Mr. Bradley addressed the Council and stated that he was appreciative of the recognition and humbled by the proclamation. He concluded that he considers the proclamation an affirmation of his work.

Councilmember Jones stated that he spoke with Ms. Bryant and she is currently out of town, otherwise she would have been present; however, Mr. Bradley has her support.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES:

- Worksession Meeting, 05/13/2013
- Regular Council Meeting, 05/21/2013
- Retreat Minutes, 05/31/2013

Mr. Williams asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. No corrections were made to the minutes.

The minutes were added to the consent agenda as written.

III. OLD BUSINESS: None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: (*Determine Items for Consent Agenda*)

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Council and will be approved by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration.

1. Council to consider approval of one monthly Council Meeting for the remainder of the 2013 calendar year to be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Williams stated that he wanted to share this with everyone as we move forward with the remainder of this year. He added that he would like the Council to consider approval of one council meeting per month for the remainder of 2013 to be held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. He added that this recommendation is a cost saving which cuts cost and time regarding our current Council meetings. Mr. Williams stated that the City Charter requires one monthly meeting and with the efficiency of staff and the departments, we are entering into the summer months and this will address the conflict for staff and Council. He then asked if there were any issues with the recommendation.

Councilmember Mealing stated that she does not have a problem with it, but she has a problem in terms of getting around the Worksession. She then asked if the meeting would be coupled together.

Mr. Williams stated that we can certainly do that and we also have the ability to have Called Meetings should a matter arise.

He then asked City Attorney Davenport if he was correct.

City Attorney Davenport stated that Mr. Williams was correct.

Councilmember Jackson stated that the Council used to have one meeting per month and the Worksession began at 6:00 p.m. and the Regular Council Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmember Jones stated that he would be fine with Councilmember Jackson's recommendation.

Mr. Williams stated that depending on the amount of items on the agenda, he would suggest that the Worksession begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. He added that tonight's agenda is a clear indicator that this would work well.

Councilmember Mealing stated that she is not sure that she is sold on this.

Mr. Williams stated that this is only for the remainder of the calendar year. He added that with the amount of recommendations that each department has and considering the cut-backs, we do not have a lot of things being built or ongoing projects; so it is certainly a cost savings for the City and wear and tear on the staff.

Ms. Fillingame stated that we are not doing a lot of enhancements at this time.

Councilmember Jackson reiterated that the Worksession Meeting would begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Regular Council Meeting would begin at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month.

Councilmember Mealing stated that if something goes over, the Council would discuss it in the Regular Meeting.

Mr. Williams concurred. He then asked if anyone wanted to put that in the form of a motion.

On motion of Council member Jackson seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, the aforementioned recommendation was unanimously approved. Vote was unanimous.

City Clerk Cossey asked if the meeting tonight would suffice as the one meeting for this month.

Mr. Williams responded, "Yes".

Mrs. Cossey stated that the minutes should be approved tonight as they are currently on the consent agenda.

Mr. Williams stated that he would like to approve the minutes in the form of a motion.

Councilmember Mealing interjected and stated that before the Council does this, she was not sure if this was the proper protocol. She added that we just approved something and now we are going back and she wants to make sure that the public understands that this would be the meeting for the month of June because she does not think that we have given proper notice.

Mrs. Cossey stated that the Regular Council was a week away and she has the ability to provide a one week notice to the public if the Council was agreeable.

Mr. Williams stated that this was not designed to harm the public in any way.

Councilmember Mealing stated that she just wanted to be sure and is fine with it now.

On motion of Councilmember Jackson seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried the minutes from May 13, 2013, May 21, 2013 and May 31, 2013 were unanimously approved.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION: None.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS: None.

City Manager Reports: None.

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Councilmember Jones stated that during the retreat, there was a presentation regarding redevelopment of the Mall and the steps that we need to take to move forward. He then asked how soon we could move forward with the first step to get the Mall in a position of interest for

redevelopment before someone else grabs it. He then added that the Toys R Us building seems to have some activity and from what he has heard it may not be a desirable business on this side of the expressway. Councilmember Jones stated that he would hope that we could move forward with the Council's vision. He added that the presentation could have been a waste of time if someone else gets the Mall before we can implement our development plan and move forward.

Councilmember Mealing asked if this was about implementing the Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Plan.

Councilmember Jones responded, "Yes". He further added that we are talking about implementing zoning and all of the different steps and he wants to know when do we start the process. He stated that he is ready to move forward now.

Councilmember Mealing stated that there was a timeline.

Mrs. Fillingame stated that she would check with AMEC and Ms. Harris and provide the Council with an update. She added that she is aware that the final draft of the document was being submitted to Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) for their review last week.

The Council as a whole was agreeable to moving forward with the LCI timeline.

Mrs. Fillingame stated that she would get the information and share it with the Council.

Mr. Williams asked if anyone else wanted to add anything.

Fire Chief Donald Leasher stated that he was not sure if Mrs. Fillingame was aware that the Sears building has been sold to Unclaimed Freight. He concluded that he heard the news late last week that the final paperwork is being signed.

Mr. Williams stated that he heard the same, but we can confirm that with the staff. He continued stating that Macy's is being entertained by a foreign company.

Mr. Williams stated that with regard to zoning, we want to make sure that we incorporate the Town Center Mixed Use (TCMU) because that is scaring a lot of interested developers.

At this time Councilmember Jones thanked the staff for their efforts. He added that we are half way through 2013 and we are three weeks away from the next concert and we had a great turnout for the last movie. He concluded that the process is slow, but things are happening in Union City and he is excited about the second half of 2013 and he hopes that the residents are as well.

Councilmember Mealing stated that she agrees with Councilmember Jones regarding the "Movies by Moonlight." She added that it was a great success and she has received a lot of good feedback about it from the residents. She further added that she does not know how we are going to continue to feed everyone because we always run out of food and it is mainly because the crowd gets bigger every time.

Mrs. Fillingame stated that Councilmember Mealing was correct with regards to the “Movies By Moonlight” crowd. She added that this was the largest crowd by far. She further added that she received great feedback from the residents as well. She then praised Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Public Safety for coming together and making this a successful event.

Mr. Williams asked Fulton County School Board Member Catherine Maddox if she wished to speak.

Ms. Maddox stated that she was pleased with the work that Mr. Bradley has done for the Fulton County School System over the years. She further stated that she was also pleased with Banneker and she looks forward to the Charter System. Ms. Maddox concluded by thanking the Council for their support.

City Attorney Davenport stated that he had four times for Executive Session. He added that there were two items involving threatened litigation, one item involving land acquisition and review of Executive Session Minutes from May 13 and May 21.

On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, Council entered into Executive Session to discuss two items involving threatened litigation, one item involving land acquisition and review of Executive Session Minutes from May 13 and May 21. Vote was unanimous.

On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Mealing and carried, the meeting reconvened to Regular Session. Vote was unanimous.

On motion of Councilmember Mealing seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried, the Executive Session Minutes from May 13 and May 21 were approved as written. Vote was unanimous.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

On motion of Councilmember Jones seconded by Councilmember Jackson and carried the meeting adjourned.

Jacqueline, R. Cossey, City Clerk

Vince Williams, Mayor Pro-Tem