

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF AUSTELL  
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015**

Present: Mayor Joe Jerkins  
Kirsten Anderson  
Ollie Clemons  
Randy Green  
Virginia Reagan  
Scott Thomas  
Suzanne Thomason

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall.

Also present were: Scott Kimbrough, City Attorney; Carolyn Duncan, City Clerk; Sandra Farmer, Deputy City Clerk, General Administration; Randy Bowens, Public Works Director; Jim Graham, Community Affairs Director; Bob Starrett, Police Chief; and Tim Williams, Fire Chief.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jerkins called the meeting to order. Pastor Tim Ridgeway, First Baptist Church gave the Invocation and Mayor Jerkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone would like to add items to the Agenda. Ms. Anderson stated she would like to add 11C. -Adoption of Cobb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan 2040 Update.

*Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to add 11C. – Adoption of Cobb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan 2040 Update. Seconded by Mr. Clemons. Motion passed (6-0).*

**2. CONSENT AGENDA – INFORMATION AND UPDATE**

(No Action Required by Council – See Specific Department Director before Meeting.)

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve Bills
- B. Approve Legal Bills \$1,000.00
- C. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting April 6, 2015

*Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Ms. Thomason. Motion passed (6-0).*

**4. EXCEPTION TO CONSENT AGENDA**

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**5. CITIZENS REPORT**

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone would like to speak to the Mayor and Council. No one spoke.

**6. GAS SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE  
JOE JERKINS**

Mayor Jerkins stated Mr. Kimbrough and Mr. Clemons attended the Gas Board meeting. Mayor Jerkins stated they discussed Walk with the Mayor and how many participated from the Austell Gas System which was a large turnout. The gas prices are staying the same and not changing very much. Everything seems to be going good.

**7. FINANCE DEPARTMENT  
VIRGINIA REAGAN, CHAIRPERSON  
Denise Soesbee, Director**

A. Financial Report

B. Public Hearing Preliminary Reading of 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year Budget

Ms. Reagan stated this will be the first reading and at this time I would like to turn this over to our Attorney, Mr. Kimbrough. Mr. Kimbrough stated at this time we will call for a Public Hearing for the first Preliminary Reading of 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year Budget. Mr. Kimbrough asked if anyone had any questions or had signed up to speak about the budget. Does any Council Member have any questions? No one did. Ms. Reagan asked Mr. Kimbrough if he would read the highlights. Mr. Kimbrough stated yes, he would.

Mr. Kimbrough stated please find a copy of the 2015-16 Preliminary Budget. Some highlights of the 2015-16 budget include:

- Revenue increase for Austell Gas System: The projections for 2015-16 fiscal years are \$618,000 higher as a result of increased usage by customers.
- Personnel Services: A three percent increase in salaries overall costing \$204,000.
- Purchased/Contracted Services Increase: Increases in demolition and other costs associated with home abatements \$225,000.

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- Healthcare: Healthcare costs are projected to increase beginning in January 1, 2016 with open enrollment. Estimated costs for this is \$100,000.
- Capital Outlay: New fire equipment \$83,000, three new police cars, E-911 equipment and various transportation and sidewalk improvements.
- Other: Approved increases in Council Members salary beginning January 1, 2016 from \$1,000 per to \$1,200 per month.

This Public Hearing was advertised in the Marietta Daily Journal on April 24<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup> prior to the Public Hearing in accordance with O.C.G.A. 36-81-5. Also the Preliminary Budget will be made available upon request on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

This is the first Public Hearing and the next one will occur on June 1, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall and at that point and time a vote will be taken after the second Public Hearing.

*Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the first Public Hearing. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).*

**8. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION  
KIRSTEN ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON  
Carolyn Duncan, Director**

- A. No Report

**9. POLICE DEPARTMENT  
VIRGINIA REAGAN, CHAIRPERSON  
Bob Starrett, Police Chief**

- A. Police Report  
B. Code Enforcement Report

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**10. FIRE DEPARTMENT  
RANDY GREEN, CHAIRPERSON  
Tim Williams, Fire Chief**

A. Fire Report

Mr. Green stated at this time he would like to turn this over to Chief Williams.

B. 1131 Pontiac Circle/ Information Only

Chief Williams stated the first property is 1131 Pontiac Circle and this is for information only. Chief Maxwell and myself went out and inspected this structure at 1131 Pontiac Circle which is a residential structure damaged in the flood of 2009. Due to the condition of the structure, an Unsafe Building Abatement notification was sent to the owner, Mr. Dan L. Williams. Upon receipt of the notification, Mr. Williams contacted the city with a plan of action to renovate the structure within the next ninety day period. He has permitted the property for renovation and is approved to begin the renovation as soon as possible. He is coming along very nicely. He should be finished well within the ninety day period.

C. Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing / 1138 Pontiac Circle

The residential structure located at 1138 Pontiac Circle has been inspected by City officials. The structure is in an irreparable state and has visible structural problems from the exterior. Due to the condition of the dilapidated structure, it is our recommendation the structure is placed in Unsafe Abatement for a Council Hearing at the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council on May 4, 2015. We recommend the structure be demolished for these reasons.

A title search on the structure shows the property is owned by TCS Property Holdings, LLC. Also, there are outstanding security deeds with Bank One, NA, Chase Manhattan Bank, and Homegold, Inc. A letter of notification of the Unsafe Abatement Hearing has been sent to each. A notification letter has also been sent to the previous owner, Robert Leighton. The notification letter serves notice of the Abatement hearing.

Mr. Kimbrough stated at this time we will call for a Public Hearing for the Unsafe Building Abatement with regard to property located at 1138 Pontiac Circle here in the City of Austell. Mr. Kimbrough asked if anyone was present on behalf of the property.

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Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams if notices were sent to all of the interested parties. Chief Williams stated, yes, and also we ran the legal ad in the Marietta Daily Journal for four (4) consecutive weeks. Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams if there had been any contact by the interested parties. Chief Williams stated no sir, not on this structure. Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams what his recommendation was on this property. Chief Williams stated his recommendation was for the property to be demolished due to the condition of the property. Mr. Kimbrough asked if any members of the Council had any questions for Chief Williams. No one did. Mr. Kimbrough stated he would like to entertain a motion to close the Public Hearing.

*Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).*

*Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Chief Williams to demolish the property located at 1138 Pontiac Circle. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion approved (6-0).*

Mayor Jerkins asked Mr. Kimbrough if we needed to have a time period on this are move forward. Mr. Kimbrough stated he would verify if we can move forward with this. Proper notice has been given to all of the interested parties and we will make sure we have done everything we can possibly do to put the whole world on notice for these properties. The advertising has been done so we can move forward on this. Mayor Jerkins asked Mr. Kimbrough to please let him know as soon as possible so they could forward. I just want to be sure and not do the wrong thing and get ahead of ourselves.

**D. Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing / 1129 Pontiac Circle**

Chief Williams stated the residential structure located at 1129 Pontiac Circle has been inspected by City officials. The structure is in an irreparable state and has visible structural problems from the exterior. Due to the condition of the dilapidated structure, it is our recommendation the structure be placed in Unsafe Building Abatement for a Council hearing at the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council on May 4, 2015. We recommend the structure be demolished for the aforementioned reasons.

A title search on the structure shows the property is owned by Richard E. Jones and Lynn Y. Jones. Also, there are outstanding security deeds with CBC National Bank, NA, and Union Planters Bank, NA.

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A letter of notification of the Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing has been sent to each. The notification letter serves notice of the Abatement hearing.

Mr. Kimbrough stated at this time we call for a Public Hearing in the matter of Unsafe Building Abatement for 1129 Pontiac Circle. Is anyone here on behalf of this property, structure or the owner or the creditors? Ms. Lynn Jones stated her name and stated she had contacted a person to demolish the property. Mr. Kimbrough swore in Ms. Jones. Ms. Jones stated her property was damaged by the flood. The water was in the house for three days and to rebuild we just never did it because of what it would have cost. They would not let us build it bigger so it has been sitting. We have contacted someone to help us demolish the property and he was supposed to give me a letter but I have not received as of today. The contractor's name is Dupree who will help me out with this. We really didn't know what to do. Mr. Kimbrough asked Ms. Jones if she was asking the Council to allow her to demolish her property. Ms. Jones stated, yes, she was. I think it would be cheaper on my behalf. Mr. Kimbrough stated, he didn't know, however what can happen on this end if the City does the work to demolish this property the City can place a lien on that property for whatever the value of the work is done. We certainly can't say what that value would be. But, if you wish to do that and take of it yourself I am sure the City would very much appreciate it. Ms. Jones stated she was aware she would have to get a permit to demolish the house. Mr. Kimbrough asked the Council if they would like a time frame on this property to be demolished. Ms. Jones asked for ninety days and then stated what a good time frame is and please give me some time. Mayor Jerkins stated we would like to see it cleaned up in less than thirty days and we think this would be a reasonable time. Ms. Reagan stated it has been sitting since 2009. Ms. Jones stated she was aware of this and she agreed. Ms. Jones stated again like I said I wanted to build a little bigger than it was but we were told no. I didn't see spending all that money and it didn't make any sense. I would have been spending seventy thousand on a house I could only rent and I owed forty on it. Mayor Jerkins asked Mr. Bowens if this house was out of the flood plain. Mr. Bowens stated, yes it is. Ms. Jones stated she does get it mowed about every two weeks in the spring and summer. But, in the winter we just let it go for awhile. Mr. Green asked we are asking for thirty days what timeframe do you think we can do it in? Ms. Jones stated she would like longer than thirty days, maybe sixty days are how much time I can have. Can I have at least sixty days? Mayor Jerkins stated he was o.k. with it if the Council is o.k. with it. We just do not want to keep lingering on because it has been there so long and we need something done with it. This is why we are taking action to do something.

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Mr. Kimbrough stated if not completed in sixty days the City will initiate the demolition of the structure. Mr. Green stated to Ms. Jones if you work with Chief Williams and he comes back with a good report in sixty days we could work with that. Mr. Kimbrough asked if any of the Council Members had any more questions. None did. Mr. Kimbrough asked Ms. Jones if she had anything further to say. She did not. Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams if notice was sent out as is the first one to the MDJ and property posted as well as the proper notification sent to the owners and creditors. Chief Williams stated, yes, sir. Mr. Kimbrough stated he needed a motion to close the Public hearing.

*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).*

*Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the sixty day time period for Ms. Jones to demolish her property. If by some chance she does not work with Chief Williams then the City of Austell can demolish the property. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed (6-0).*

**E. Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing / 2080 Sanders Drive**

Chief Williams stated the residential structure located at 2080 Sanders Drive has been inspected by City officials. The structure is in an irreparable state and has visible structural problems from the exterior. Due to the condition of the dilapidated structure, it is our recommendation the structure be placed in Unsafe Building Abatement for a Council hearing at the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council on May 4, 2015. We recommend the structure be demolished for the aforementioned reasons.

A title search on the structure shows the property is owned by Kristina A. Smith. Also, there are outstanding security deeds with Citifinancial Mortgage Company, Inc., and Capital One Home Loans. A letter of notification of the Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing has been sent to each. The notification letter serves notice of the Abatement hearing.

Mr. Kimbrough stated at this time we would like to call for a Public Hearing for the Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing at 2080 Sanders Drive here in Austell, Georgia. Mr. Kimbrough asked if there is anyone present on behalf of the property for Ms. Kristina A. Smith are any of the creditors Citifinancial Mortgage Company, Inc. and Capital One Home Loans. Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams to be on record if notice was sent to each one of those individuals and entities. Chief Williams stated yes, sir.

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Mr. Kimbrough asked Chief Williams if it was also published in the Marietta Daily Journal as required by ordinance as well as property posted. Chief Williams stated, yes. Mr. Kimbrough asked if any of the Council members had any questions or concerns. No one did. Chief Williams stated the recommendation is for the property to be demolished. Mr. Kimbrough stated we need a motion to close the Public Hearing.

*Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).*

*Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the recommendation of Chief Williams that the property be demolished. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed (6-0).*

**F. Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing / 2090 Sanders Drive**

Chief Williams stated the residential structure located at 2090 Sanders Drive has been inspected by city officials. The structure is in an irreparable state and has visible structural problems from the exterior. Due to the condition of the dilapidated structure, it is our recommendation the structure is placed in Unsafe Building Abatement for a council hearing at the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council on May 4, 2015. We recommend the structure be demolished for the aforementioned reasons.

A title search on the structure shows that the property is owned by David L. Huckeba. Also, there are outstanding security deeds with GMAC Mortgage Corporation d/b/a Ditech.com. A letter of notification of the Unsafe Building Abatement Hearing has been sent to Ditech Mortgage Corporation. The notification letter serves notice of the Abatement hearing.

Mr. Kimbrough stated he would like to call for a Public Hearing at this time in the matter of the Unsafe Abatement for 2090 Sanders Drive here in Austell. Mr. Kimbrough asked if anyone was present on behalf of David L. Huckeba or GMAC Mortgage Corporation d/b/a/ Ditech.com. Mr. Huckeba stated his name and Mr. Kimbrough swore in Mr. Huckeba.

Mr. Huckeba stated he handed over the property two to three years ago to the City of Austell. I was contacted by Ms. Trudie Causey who is no longer with the City Council and another lady and I don't know. I came in and gave all the paperwork and as far as I know the City of Austell owns that property.



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Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Huckeba if he had any problems with the property being demolished. Mr. Huckeba stated no, he did not. Mr. Kimbrough stated he was not sure if the City accepted that property at that point and time. We will have to go back and look at the deeds and everything. Mr. Huckeba stated if the City of Austell didn't accept it I never received any paperwork from the City. Also, whatever happens with that property I could care less. Mr. Kimbrough stated to Mr. Huckeba do you understand you are still the record owner of that property and if the City does work on that property the City can place a lien on the property for the work that has been done. Mr. Huckeba stated yes, he understood. Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Huckeba so, you are fine that. Mr. Huckeba asked if he had a choice. Mr. Kimbrough stated I can't give you legal advice all I can do is just ask you. Mr. Huckeba stated I really don't care what you do with it. Mr. Green asked is there a lien on the property. Mr. Huckeba stated no sir, not that I know of. Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Huckeba if GMAC had a mortgage on that property. Mr. Huckeba stated all he received was a deed. As far as I know the bank wrote it off. Whoever, the county or the city put a no build on the lot. Even if I wanted to fix the house I couldn't. Mr. Green stated so; you actually had a clear deed to it. Mr. Huckeba stated, as far as I know yes sir. Mr. Green stated so it could be turned over to the City. Mr. Kimbrough stated if the City wants to accept it. Mr. Huckeba stated it has been nine years and I assume if I owed a mortgage on it they would have been after me for their money. I have not heard a word from anyone. Mayor Jerkins stated the county put a tax sale on it and it would not sell. Mr. Huckeba stated who wants to buy an acre you can't do anything with. Mr. Kimbrough asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Huckeba. No one did. Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Huckeba if he had any questions or concerns. Mr. Huckeba stated no sir, I know something needs to be done with the property. If the City would knock it down it would make a nice little park for the neighborhood. Mr. Kimbrough recommended another title search to make sure who owns the property. Mr. Kimbrough stated to Mr. Huckeba you have stated you are the owner and you give permission for the City of Austell to tear it down. If you are the record owner you still wish to give it to the City of Austell. Mr. Huckeba stated as long as it will not cost me anything you can have it. Mayor Jerkins stated we have done our part and we just need to go forward with it. Let happen whatever will happen. Mr. Kimbrough asked if anyone had any more questions for Mr. Huckeba. No one did. Mr. Kimbrough stated we need a motion to close the Public Hearing.

*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Mr. Kimbrough to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).*

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*Mr. Green moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to demolish the property located at 2090 Sanders Drive. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Motion passed (6-0).*

**11. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
KIRSTEN ANDERSON, CHAIRPERSON  
Randy Bowens, Director**

**1. Recommendation and Approval:**

**A. Veterans Memorial Highway Sidewalk Improvements**

Ms. Anderson stated the purpose is to install approximately 250 linear feet of new pedestrian sidewalk along State Route 8/Veterans Memorial Highway (under the State Route 5/ Austell Road bridge overpass). The scope of the work includes installation of pedestrian sidewalk improvements, guardrail, handrail and other miscellaneous improvements.

The following bids were received, opened, and read publicly at the bid opening on April 17, 2015:

<b><u>Bidder</u></b>	<b><u>Bid Amount</u></b>
Butch Thompson Enterprises, Inc.	No Bid
Curb Specialists, Inc.	No Bid
Curb Tech	No Bid
DAF Concrete, Inc.	No Bid
Glosson Enterprises, LLC	No Bid
Lewallen Construction	No Bid
Site Engineering	No Bid
Summit Construction &Development, LLC	No Bid
The Corbett Group (Reeves Contracting Company)	\$164,255.00

To be funded form the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, Fund 325, account 4210 (DOT Projects), 54.1400 (Infrastructure).

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*Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve the installation of 250 linear feet of pedestrian sidewalk along State Route 8/ Veterans Memorial Highway (under the State Route 5 / Austell Road bridge overpass) and all other related work. Further, it is the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to award a contract and issue a Notice to Proceed to the best responsive bidder, Reeves Contracting Company, in the amount of \$164,255.00. Seconded by Mr. Green. Motion passed (6-0).*

**B. Purchase of New Brush Chipper**

Ms. Anderson stated the purpose is to purchase one new Vermeer BC1000XL Brush Chipper for use in the Street Department. In March 2001, the City Council authorized the purchase of a new 250 XP Brush Bandit Chipper. This chipper is just over 14 years old and has exceeded its useful life.

The Staff has viewed several chipper demonstrations and feel confident the new chipper being recommended will meet the City's needs for the next several years. We have received the following proposal and respectfully request to waive the three bid policy.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Vermeer Southeast Sales and Service, Inc.	\$35,501.15

It is to be funded from the Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax, Fund 325, account 4210 ( DOT Projects). 54.1400 (Infrastructure).

*Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to authorize the purchase of one new Vermeer BC 1000XL Brush Chipper from Vermeer Southeast Sales and Services, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$35,501.15. Seconded by Mr. Clemons. Motion passed (6-0).*

**2. Proclamations (Under Mayor's Agenda)**

- A. Water Professionals Appreciation Day
- B. National Public Works Week

**3. Vote to Add:**

- C. Adoption of Cobb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan 2040 Update  
Ms. Anderson stated the purpose is to adopt the Cobb County Transportation Plan 2040 update.

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On February 4, 2008, the City Council adopted the Cobb County 2030 Comprehensive Transportation Plan document. The current document resulted from a 22-month countywide planning effort from Cobb County and its six municipalities.

On May 7, 2012, the City Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with Cobb County to complete a five year update. The required plan is for Cobb County's six municipalities to remain competitive for federal implementation funds, as well as to address growth and other changes that have occurred since the adoption of the plan.

The five year update is now complete. A copy of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan Recommendations report is attached and a final copy will be distributed after adoption by all municipalities. The Cobb County Board of Commissioners completed their adoption on April 28, 2015.

*Ms. Anderson moved to follow the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to adopt the Cobb County Comprehensive Transportation Plan 2040 update and further authorize the adoption of the corresponding Resolution. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).*

**12. PARKS DEPARTMENT  
SCOTT THOMAS, CHAIRPERSON  
Jim Graham, Director**

- A. No Report

**13. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
OLLIE CLEMONS, CHAIRPERSON  
Jim Graham, Director**

- A. Building Permit Fee Schedule  
Mr. Clemons stated the Community Affairs Department reviewed current building permit fees for Cobb County. The attached fee schedule is more in line with what Cobb County and other municipalities in Cobb County are currently charging. The City of Austell has not raised building permit fees since 2006.

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*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Community Affairs Committee to approve the attached building permit fee schedule. (Please see attached sheets). Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).*

**B. Adoption of Mission Statement**

Mr. Clemons stated in order for those who view the City of Austell we have adopted a Mission Statement. It says City of Opportunity, Moving Forward!

It is the mission of the City of Austell to provide advanced opportunities by meeting current and future needs of those living in, doing business with, and visiting the City. Our primary goal is to provide an honest, effective, and open government; to protect life and property, and to provide professional, cost-efficient services; and excellent customer service to our citizens. We are also asking to adopt the word Austell using each letter as follows:

Accountability  
Understanding (or unique, urban)  
Stewardship  
Trust  
Efficient  
Loyal  
Leadership

*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation to adopt this Mission Statement for the City of Austell. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).*

**14. ATTORNEY, DUPREE & KIMBROUGH**

**A. No Report**

**15. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**A. CMA MEETING**

LOCATION:

TIME:

JUNE 9, 2015

HOSTED BY CITY OF SMYRNA

@ BRAWNER HALL

6:30 P.M.

**B. Proclamation – Water Professionals Appreciation Day**

Mayor Jerkins proclaimed May 4, 2015 as Water Professionals Appreciation Day.

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*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the Proclamation for Water Professionals Appreciation Day. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).*

**C. Proclamation – National Public Works Week**

Mayor Jerkins proclaimed May 17, 2015 as National Public Works Week.

*Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the Proclamation for National Public Works Week. Seconded by Mr. Clemons. Motion passed (6-0).*

Mayor Jerkins thanked Mr. Randy Bowens on what a great job his department had done and how much he appreciated their hard work.

**D. Request from Representative Erica Thomas – Foster Children’s Program**

Mayor Jerkins stated we have a very important person here tonight Erica Thomas who was a foster child. We would like to help her declaring May 31, 2015 as Foster Children’s Day in the State of Georgia. She is asking also if the Council will donate a thousand dollars toward her Foster Children’s Program. If the Council agrees we need a motion to approve the donation of a thousand dollars.

*Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to donate a thousand dollars to the Foster Children’s Program. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).*

**E. Ethics Policy – Resolution**

Mayor Jerkins stated we have an Ethics Policy and we actually passed this on June 7, 2004 which was years ago. GMA somehow lost it so I recommend we pass this again. We need a motion to approve the Ethics Policy Resolution.

*Mr. Clemons moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to approve the Ethics Policy Resolution. Seconded by Ms. Reagan. Motion passed (6-0).*

Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone had any concerns or comments. Ms. Anderson stated on our Mission Statement the last item Excellent Customer Service to our citizens. I would like to thank all of our Department Heads because I think all our employees do an excellent job for our citizens. This comes directly from our Department heads. I would like to thank you all for having great employees.

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Mayor Jerkins stated he would like to thank everyone for their support on tearing the houses down. We will skip a month and then go back and look at four or five more. We will be moving forward on these houses. We have a Prayer breakfast on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 8:00 A. M. at the Community Center. The First Baptist Church, Pastor Tim Ridgeway will be hosting the breakfast and all of the City employees are invited to attend. Mayor Jerkins asked if anyone had any more questions or concerns.

Ms. Thomason stated she had a question and a comment for Mr. Graham. My question is on the Newton Business property. Did we allow him to fill it up with trucks before he landscapes the property? I heard him say last time it would be three months before he did his landscape. There are more trucks in there and almost full and the grass is knee high around the edges. Mayor Jerkins asked Mr. Graham to go down there and tell him what needs to be done. Ms. Thomason stated he will slip through if we don't stay on top of it. Mr. Graham stated he would take care of it and I promise he will not slip through.

Mr. Green stated we are going to have an Austell Fun Day on May 30, 2015 from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. for all the children. We will have a lot of events going on free child ID kits, and this will be great. Mr. Graham stated we have had so much response from the churches and we will try to make room for everyone.

Chief Williams stated the Run/Walk with the Mayor 5K last month was a huge success. Thanks to the Mayor and Council for allowing us and the Wellness Committee for allowing us to put that on. We had a hundred and thirty-three who participated. There were a few no shows due to the weather but it was still great. Pastor Ridgeway and the First Baptist Church manned the water station for us and we really appreciated everything and we had a lot of fun. Mr. Clemons stated he attended the Gas Board Meeting and they told him they had a great attendance in the 5K Run/Walk with the Mayor but said it needed to be renamed next year not Walk with Joe but Catch up with Joe. Ms. Anderson stated it was one of the best races I have ever been to. We had parking across the street from the park and we didn't have any hassles with cars. The coffee, the water, the food bars everything was great and organized. Everyone was smiling and it was a great time. Also, C.A.M.P. received a lot of cans goods and Darlene stated this was the most they had received at a race.

**16. ADJOURN**

*Mr. Thomas moved to follow the recommendation of Mayor Jerkins to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Motion passed (6-0).*