

**CITY OF CHAMBLEE, GA.
MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 10, 2009**

PRESENT: Mayor Clarkson, Council Members Wedge, Robson, Hogan, and Taylor

Public Hearings called to order: Mayor Clarkson called the public hearings to order at 6:07 p.m.

Public Hearing: proposed amendments to zoning ordinance: Mayor Clarkson read the rules of order for the public hearing and identified an application for zoning variance regarding proposed amendments to Chapter 94, Zoning Ordinance, Article VI, General Use Provisions, to provide for Retail Sporting Goods Establishments with Accessory Indoor Shooting Ranges; Section 1003, Accessory Uses and Section 301, Definitions. The Development Director discussed the intent of the zoning variance. The Mayor asked individuals wishing to speak in favor of the variance request to come to the microphone. No one came forward in favor of the variance.

The Mayor then asked for those wishing to speak in opposition to the variance request to come to the microphone. Art Gibert objects to liberalization of rules to allow a shooting range, but not a neighborhood restaurant.

There was no further discussion or questions by the Council. There being no further comments or questions, **motion to adjourn the public hearing** was made by Councilmember Wedge, seconded by Councilmember Taylor, and **carried** unanimously.

Work Session called to order: The work session was called to order at 6:12 p.m. by Mayor Clarkson.

Staff Action Items for Regular Meeting 9-15-09:

City Clerk:

6A-1. Approval of Minutes from August meetings: There was no discussion on this item at the work session. Item will move to the regular agenda for action.

Development Director:

6B-1. Draft policy for use of Tree Replacement Funds: The Development Director discussed the content and intent of the policy. There was discussion and questions by the Council. Item will move to regular agenda for action.

6B-2. Request for variance – Au-Rendez-vous Restaurant – 4102 Clairmont Road: Regarding Buffer

6B-3. Request for variance – Au-Rendez-vous Restaurant – 4102 Clairmont Road: Regarding Parking.

The Development Director advised the Council that staff had met with the applicant and his representative to follow the suggestions made by Council that they work with individuals in the neighborhood to reach consensus.

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Staff Action Items – Continued

The Mayor asked individuals wishing to speak in favor of the variance requests to come to the microphone. Jeff Westfall of Westfall Architects, representing the owner, spoke in favor of the variances and described proposed changes to the project made on the suggestion of staff, the neighborhood residents and Council. Patti and Charles Langford, residents of Clairmont Hills, spoke in favor of the restaurant and provided a petition in favor of same signed by her neighbors. Art Gibert of Sexton Woods said he and the residents of Sexton Woods were also in favor of the variances for the restaurant seeing it as an improvement to the neighborhood.

Individual wishing to speak in opposition to the variance came to the microphone. Dee Bradford-Smith, Kelly Livingston, Aloysius Seeley, Doyle Fowler, Cindy Cline, Susan Weyrauch, and Bruce Burke of Clairmont Terrace were not opposed to a neighborhood restaurant, but felt this particular location and variances requested posed increased traffic and parking hazards. They also insisted that the 30 foot buffer should be maintained.

Anne Lee and Art Gibert reiterated their support of the variances and the restaurant. There were questions and discussion by the Council. The items will move to regular agenda for action.

Staff Discussion Items:

Development Director:

5. A - Presentation and Final Report by the Atlanta Regional Council (ARC) on Green Building: The Development Director provided a background on the City's request and need for the report. Crystal Jackson of the ARC expressed thanks on behalf of the ARC for the opportunity to work with the City and made the presentation. She presented 3 main points outlined in the report. The Mayor opened the floor to discussion and questions by the Council. Council members discussed the report and asked Ms. Jackson and staff questions pertaining to report content. Council expressed their continued support of the ordinance and the ARC report. Item will not move forward to the Council Meeting Agenda.

Parks and Recreation Director:

5. B - Request for use of soccer field Montgomery Elementary for Special Event: The Parks and Recreation Director provided background relevant to the request by Jennifer Duncan who represented the Montgomery Elementary PTA. The Director's recommendation was to deny the request based on prior direction of the Council to only allow use of City fields for City events.

Ms. Duncan described the event and why they wished to use the City facility. There was discussion and questions by the Council. The City Manager recommended developing a policy on use of City facilities for such events. The item will move to regular agenda for action.

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Finance Director:

5.C - Proposed Budget Hearing and Budget Adoption Dates: The Finance Director presented the 2010 Budget Calendar emphasizing 3 important dates. The Mayor advised the Council to review their personal calendars and be prepared to make determinations on acceptable dates during the next meeting. The item will move to regular agenda for action.

City Manager/City Attorney:

5. D - Discussion of Ordinance exempting lawyers from certain requirements
In connection with Occupational Tax Certification: The City Manager discussed the problems with the City's ordinance relating to lawyers and Occupational Tax Certifications. A revision to the ordinance is proposed by the City Attorney in order to bring the ordinance into compliance with State law. The proposed ordinance will move to the regular agenda for First Reading.

Item 6: City Attorney:

1. Reading of Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Code regulating and providing for indoor shooting ranges as a permitted use – Second Reading
2. Reading of Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance regulating Farmers Market and/or Special Events – First Reading
3. Reading of Ordinance to Amend Chamblee Code of Ordinance Chapter 22, "Business", Article I, "Occupation Tax" to exempt lawyers from the registration, certification, and due date requirements – First Reading

There was no discussion. Items will move to regular agenda for action.

Discussion - Councilmember Tom Hogan:

Councilmember Hogan thanked everyone who participated in making "*The Taste of Chamblee*" a success including The Mayor and City Council, City Staff, Danny Johnson, JRM Management, Cheryl Finke, Jim Loser, Stephen Moore, Ronnie Meyer, The Chamblee Arts Alliance, the Chamblee High School Football Team, The Chamblee High School Spirit Squad, Brett Jackson, Larry Fried and Wal-Mart. He also thanked all the volunteers and sponsors for their help and support. He was thankful for good weather. Approximately 15,000 people attended the event.

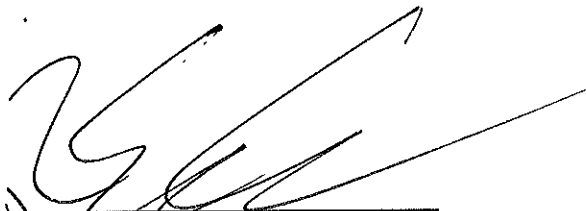
CITIZEN COMMENT (each person allowed three minutes)

Art Gibert suggested a proclamation plaque for those who contributed to the Taste of Chamblee. He also addressed a need to emphasize Chamblee's "green" friendly status to encourage "green businesses" from an economic development standpoint.

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The Mayor thanked Councilmember Hogan for taking the lead on the Taste of Chamblee project and for his support and work in making that event a success.

Meeting adjourned: The work session was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:40 p.m.



R. Eric Clarkson – Mayor



Fran Diedrich – City Clerk