

CITY OF CHAMBLEE GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
Thursday, July 14, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing

Mayor Clarkson read the rules for a Public Hearing and called the hearing to order at 6:03 p.m.

Ms. Michele Alexander, Pond & Company introduced Mr. Joel Reed, Pond & Company, who was attending the Work Session.

Ms. Alexander read the variance report which recommended approval of the variance with conditions that the builder submit plans in compliance with all Fire Safety and Building Code requirements and obtain permits for the work. The Mayor asked if there was any discussion. Mr. Richard Bishop, General/Licensed Contractor, for the owner of 1918 Connemara, discussed the renovation plans and how the additions would complement the existing structure. Ms. Ellie Joseph, the property owner, stated that her house was the first one on Connemara Drive that people saw as they come into the neighborhood. She also stated all twelve of her neighbors were in favor of the renovation. This item will move forward on the agenda for the scheduled Council Meeting on July 19, 2011.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. A motion to adjourn the Public Hearing was made by Council Member Robson, seconded by Council Member Taylor and carried unanimously. The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Work Session

1. The Mayor called the Work Session to order at 6:20 p.m.

Council Members present were Mr. Scott Taylor, Mr. Dan Zanger, Mr. Tom Hogan, Mrs. Leslie Robson, and Mr. Mark Wedge.

Staff Members present were Dr. Niles Ford, City Manager; Marc Johnson, Chief of Police; Tillman Hannon, Director of Public Works; Joel Holmes, Director of Parks and Recreation; Travis Sims, Finance Director; and Linda McDaniel, Assistant City Clerk.

Announcements and Presentations

There were no announcements or presentations.

Staff Actions

City Clerk

1. Approval of Minutes – June 16, 2011 – City Council Work Session
2. Approval of Minutes – June 21, 2011 – Regular City Council Meeting

Mr. Taylor asked that the minutes for June 12, 2011 reflect that he cast the deciding votes to deny the applications for In-Talage located at 3718 Sexton Woods Drive and Reptiles of Mass Destruction located at 3588 Sexton Woods Drive.

City Manager

Dr. Niles Ford, City Manager, asked the Council to approve the addition of an item to the Agenda so he could update them on the status of a Home Business application for "Reptiles of Mass Destruction" that was denied in June.

Mr. Wedge made a motion to suspend the rules and allow an item to be added to the agenda. Ms. Robson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wedge made a motion to add "Reptiles of Mass Destruction" to the agenda. Mr. Zanger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Reptiles of Mass Destruction

Dr. Ford said he had researched ordinances from other jurisdictions and found their home occupational regulations similar to ours. He recommended that the Council keep Chamblee's current ordinance in place until further research could be done. He recommended that the Council uphold the action of Nancy Williams, City Clerk, to deny the application. There was a brief discussion by the Mayor and Council. Council Member Hogan asked that it be noted for the record that a thorough discussion by staff should take place in reference to the Home Occupations Ordinance. Council Member Robson also asked that further discussion on the Home Occupation Ordinance be conducted by staff. This item will not move forward on the Agenda for the Council Meeting, July 19, 2011

Police Department

1. 2011 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant

Chief Johnson said the City had been notified that it is eligible for the 2011 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant in an amount of up to \$10, 812. Chief Johnson said that the application is due on or before July 21, 2011. Due to the time constraints he asked that Council vote at the Work Session so he could start the application process. Ms. Robson made a motion to authorize Chief Johnson to start the application process. Mr. Zanger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. This item will not move forward on the agenda for the Council Meeting July 19, 2011.

Development Director

1. Variance for 1918 Connemara Drive

This item will move forward on the agenda for the regular scheduled Council Meeting, July, 19, 2011.

2. Clarifications for Seasonal Events Ordinance

The City Council discussed this item with staff. The Council made the recommendation that Dr. Ford continue to use the previous rules regulating the number of days for Seasonal Events until staff could make a recommendation for changes to the ordinance. This item will not move forward on the agenda.

3. Project Proposals from Pond, Inc.

After a brief discussion, the Mayor and Council postponed indefinitely the agenda items for "Construction and Design for Gravel Driveways", "Fees in Lieu of Parking", and "Fees in Lieu of Streetscape" until the City hires a Development Director to do further research for ordinance revisions. These items will not move forward on the agenda.

Finance

1. Financial Statements

A review of the 2nd Quarterly Financial Statement was presented by Mr. Sims. Council Member Mark Wedge asked that items such as Financial Statements be given to the Mayor and Council before the scheduled Work Session allowing them time to look over such items giving them time to address any questions

that they might have. The Finance Director predicted a small overage in revenue if the budget stays on course. This item will not move forward on the Agenda.

City Attorney

1. The 2nd Reading of the Ordinance for Insurance License Fees will move forward on the Agenda for the Council Meeting on July 19, 2011.

Mayor and Council Items

1. Council Member Hogan addressed the Mayor and Council Members about the Taste of Chamblee scheduled for September 17, 2011, from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Chamblee Business Association will manage the finances for the upcoming Taste of Chamblee. Council Member Hogan made a request to Staff to provide 2010 expenditures paid by the City. He asked that they be available at the regular scheduled Council Meeting, July 19, 2011. This item will move forward on the Agenda for the regular scheduled Council Meeting, July 19, 2011.

2. Council Member Robson - Maintenance of Invasive Plant Species. This item will not move forward on the Agenda.

3. Council Member Scott Taylor asked the Council to consider reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of all Council Meetings. This item will move forward on the Agenda for the Council Meeting scheduled for July 19, 2011.

Citizen Comments

Michele Alexander, Pond & Company, updated the Mayor and Council on the Comprehensive Plan process. There was a positive outcome from the initial Community Meeting in June and they are expecting more input from the Business Community Round Table this coming Thursday, July 21 at the regular meeting of the CBA from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Civic Center.

Evelyn Kennedy, former Mayor of Chamblee and resident of Sexton Woods Drive stated that she was pleased that the Mayor and Council did not forget to listen when residents of Chamblee speak.

There being no additional comments the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Linda M. McDaniel, Assistant City Clerk

Attest: _____
Mayor Eric R. Clarkson

