

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Draft

Friday, November 11, 2022

12:30 PM

**City Council Retreat
November 11-13, 2022**

**The Edwin Hotel
102 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, TN 37403
City Council**

Friday, November 11th - 12:30 pm***Present:***

*Mayor Bill Grant
Mayor Pro Tempore Sandy McGrew
Councilmember Shawn Tolan
Councilmember Brooke Schmidt
Councilmember JoEllen Wilson
Councilmember Will Carlan
Councilmember Dwayne Waterman
Mr. Billy Peppers, City Manager
Mr. Nathan Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Bobby Dyer, City Attorney
Ms. Annie Fortner, City Clerk*

1. Call to Order

The retreat was called to order by Mayor Grant.

2. Agenda Review

City Manager Billy Peppers reviewed the retreat agenda and items to be discussed. Mr. Peppers provided highlights of projects and achievements from Fiscal Year 2022. Council discussed upcoming opportunities and projects for Fiscal Year 2023 and spoke about possible challenges. Council provided their overall goals for the retreat.

3. Staff Presentations

Staff members joined at 2:00 pm.

Staff Present:

*Eric Fortner, Director of Building and Safety Services
Steve Green, Zoning Administrator
Scott Hooper, Public Works Director
Ken Patton, Housing Initiatives Director
Stephen Merrifield, Police Chief
Bethany Watson, City Engineer
Lorrie Waters, Human Resources Director
Angie Busby, Manager of Economic Development & Tourism
Lauren Johnson, Communications & Marketing Specialist
Brittany Anderson, Planner
Dave Hatabian, Utility Engineer*

Housing Initiatives Director Ken Patton provided information regarding a concept plan submitted by Lew Oliver for the potential housing project located at the old fire station property near Laurel Canyon, accessory dwelling units, and recommendations for a down payment assistance program. City Engineer Bethany Watson discussed updates on transportation and capital improvement projects such as the City's parking deck, Highway 140 projects, traffic signal improvements, Transportation Master Plan, Harmon Park, North Street improvements, and Georgia Department of Transportation projects. Manager of

Economic Development & Tourism Angie Busby spoke about collaborative projects such as a destination marketing strategy and website, Cultural Arts Master Plan/Public Arts Master Plan, Economic Development Business Guide, hosting the Downtown Development Association 2023 Conference, and Main Street GEMS status project. Police Chief Stephen Merrifield reviewed department staffing and open positions, updates on training, request for a change/increase in Special Events pay, future capital items, and handgun transitions. Utility Engineer Dave Hatabian provided updates on the Water Pollution Control Plant schedule, water treatment plant, utility relocations, and lift station improvements.

4. Review of Saturday Agenda

Council and staff reviewed items for discussion.

Adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Saturday, November 12th - 8:30 am

Present:

*Mayor Bill Grant
Mayor Pro Tempore Sandy McGrew
Councilmember Shawn Tolan
Councilmember Brooke Schmidt
Councilmember JoEllen Wilson
Councilmember Will Carlan
Councilmember Dwayne Waterman
Mr. Billy Peppers, City Manager
Mr. Nathan Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Bobby Dyer, City Attorney
Ms. Annie Fortner, City Clerk
Eric Fortner, Director of Building and Safety Services
Steve Green, Zoning Administrator
Scott Hooper, Public Works Director
Ken Patton, Housing Initiatives Director
Stephen Merrifield, Police Chief
Bethany Watson, City Engineer
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1. FY 2022 Roadmap Updates

2. Big Discussion Topics

A. Growth & Development

B. Housing Development

- C. **Recreation**
- D. **Transportation**
- E. **Economic Development**
- F. **SPLOST**

3. FY 2023 Big Topics

Mr. Peppers provided Council and staff with a handout outlining the City's Roadmap for Success including accomplished projects and tasks left to be completed. Council and staff reviewed and discussed each tenet and the corresponding projects. Council and staff discussed the newly acquired property in south Canton regarding possible water tank locations and dog park features. Mr. Peppers spoke about the recently approved SPLOST and reviewed the categories in which SPLOST funds can be utilized. Staff provided Council with updates on projects that have been approved but development has not yet begun.

Staff members depart at 2:00 pm.

Mr. Peppers and Council discussed placing a temporary pause on residential projects which require public hearings noting there are several data points to consider including the housing study, Transportation Master Plan, growth boundary and land use maps, Recreational Master Plan, and Tax Allocation District.

Adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Sunday, November 13th - 9:00 am

Present:

*Mayor Bill Grant
Mayor Pro Tempore Sandy McGrew
Councilmember Shawn Tolan
Councilmember Brooke Schmidt
Councilmember JoEllen Wilson
Councilmember Will Carlan
Councilmember Dwayne Waterman
Mr. Billy Peppers, City Manager
Mr. Nathan Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Bobby Dyer, City Attorney
Ms. Annie Fortner, City Clerk*

1. Retreat Wrap-Up Session

Council reviewed all actions items from discussions held. Mr. Peppers stated staff will work with GIS on a Ward map to show new districts. A draft will be presented in December with the public hearing and adoption to be completed in

January.

2. Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

11:30 am - Adjourn

Bill Grant, Mayor

Attest:

Annie Fortner, City Clerk

Dates Minutes Approved by Council