

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Final

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

3:00 PM

Virtual Special Called Work Session

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/ihg-sfkg-vcb

Phone Number (US): +1 617-675-4444 PIN: 183 232 588 3504#

City Council

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grant around 3:15 pm after having some technical difficulties.

Members Present:

*Mayor Bill Grant
Mayor Pro Tempore JoEllen Wilson
Councilmember Shawn Tolan
Councilmember Nick Estes
Councilmember Brooke Schmidt
Councilmember Sandy McGrew
Councilmember Will Carlan
Mr. Billy Peppers, City Manager
Mr. Nathan Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Bobby Dyer, City Attorney
Ms. Annie Fortner, City Clerk
Mr. Mike Morgan, Information Technology Director*

Absent:

None

2. Discussion of Boards and Commissions

Mayor Grant stated there are three of the City's boards and commissions that need appointments immediately due to upcoming business issues. These boards and commissions include the Downtown Development Authority, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Historic Preservation Commission. City Manager Billy Peppers stated these are the three most pressing as far as appointments for meetings. Mr. Peppers added it would be helpful for Council to discuss their thoughts on the other boards as far as consolidations or getting rid of boards. Mayor Grant stated Council can decide on nominations during this meeting and then have a vote during the regular Council meeting on January 21st. Mayor Grant discussed having diversity across all the boards and stated residents may continue to complete Citizen Participation Applications.

Mayor Grant listed the current members of the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) as Zach Kell and Rebecca Johnston. Mr. Peppers provided the guidelines for appointing members to the DDA and their terms. After discussion among staff and Council about candidates and possible resignation or removal of Chairman Rebecca Johnston, the recommended appointments to the DDA were as follows:

*Zach Kell (to complete current term)
Rebecca Johnston (to complete current term)
Councilmember Brooke Schmidt
Jose Luna
Jennifer Hughes
Tammy Perkins
Cindy Brooks (reappointment)*

Mayor Grant stated the Board of Zoning Appeals has seven total members and need six appointments. Mr. Peppers noted the board has a case to be heard in February. Mayor Grant discussed the types of cases this board hears and votes

upon. After discussion among staff and Council about training and candidates, the recommended appointments to the Board of Appeals were as follows:

*David Johnson (to complete current term)
Dustin Davey
Louis Smith
Richard Kemp
Rajpal Sagoo
Allison Christou
Karen Randall*

Mayor Grant stated the Historic Preservation Commission has cases coming up as well. After discussion among staff and Council about candidates and guidelines for appointments, the recommended appointments to the Historic Preservation Commission were as follows:

*Joe Sellers (reappointment)
Jane Shelnutt (reappointment)
Michele Waterman*

Mayor Grant stated cases that would normally be heard by the Planning Commission have been coming before Council during the pandemic. This has seemed to work well and has helped streamline public hearings process. City Attorney Bobby Dyer discussed the process for eliminating the Planning Commission to allow for public hearing cases to go straight to Council. Council agreed that staff should move forward with a public hearing application to eliminate the Planning Commission.

Council and staff discussed other changes to boards and commissions including altering the Tourism board and possibly including a Tourism Director as well as consolidating the Tree Commission and Stormwater Advisory Board into the Sustainability Commission. Council and staff also discussed the purpose of the Main Street Board and the expectations from the board. Consolidation of the Main Street Board and Tourism was also discussed. Council spoke about the Parks and Recreation Board meeting schedule, purpose, and possible consolidation with Sustainability Commission. These topics could be items for further deliberation at the next Council retreat. Council requested Mr. Peppers provide a list of boards required by state law and those necessary for the City.

Mayor Grant stated there are eight openings on Main Street Board and after discussion the proposed appointments were as follows:

*Sharon Ware (reappointment)
Brandy Rousselle
Jack Shampine*

Mr. Peppers stated the Canton Development Authority is a statutory development authority. The Canton Building Authority was created by local legislation for a specific purpose. Mayor Grant asked Mr. Peppers and Mr. Dyer to review if either of these boards has any debt or obligations. Mr. Peppers stated the Canton Building Authority has debt relating to water and sewer. The Canton Development Authority has golf course property in their name. Mayor Grant asked that these board also be added to the list of items to discuss at the upcoming Council retreat. Council discussed when the retreat would be scheduled and whether it would be held virtually or in person.

3. Adjourn

Councilmember Tolan made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tempore Wilson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Bill Grant, Mayor

Attest:

Annie Fortner, City Clerk

Dates Minutes Approved by Council