

# **Canton, Georgia**

*151 Elizabeth Street  
Canton, Georgia 30114*



## **Minutes - Final - Final**

**Tuesday, December 8, 2015**

**3:00 PM**

## **Tree City Commission**

- 1. Call to Order**
  - 2. Budget**  
**(Approval of Fund Allocation Agreement between**  
**Hotel/Motel Tax Fund & Tree City)**
  - 3. Arbor Day 2015**
  - 4. Yard of the Month**
  - 5. Adjourn**
- Canton,**

## **Minutes**

**Present: Linda Schwamlein (Chair)**

**Frances Vaughn**

**Ann Fincher**

**Joan Anderson**

**Melissa Forrester**

**Tom Gilliam**

**Merrick McClure**

**Michelle Poole**

**Not Present: Jerry Merritt**

**Don Stafford**

**Pat Stewart**

**Rajayne Cordery**

**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order**

**Chairman Linda Schwamlein called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.**

**Item 2: Budget**

**Discussed Treasury Report. Balance of \$7,141.65. No money has been spent. Received \$1,250.00 contribution from the City of Canton. Mrs. Schwamlein signed the Fund Allocation Agreement between the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund and Tree City. This allows the City to contribute \$1,250.00 monthly to Tree City.**

**Item 3: Tree City Response Letter of August 27, 2015**

**Discussed all items and provided an update.**

- Community Garden at corner of East Marietta Street and West Marietta Street – Property owned by Roy Taylor. This property is not being kept up and should be considered a blighted property. Mrs. Schwamlein spoke with Billy Peppers in reference to this and he is going to contact Mr. Taylor.**
- On Hwy 20 near Hwy 5, next to the Repair Barn, the building is falling in – the buildings have been cleared.**
- Mrs. Schwamlein voiced her concern in reference to the property located across the street from Antique Village on Marietta Highway – the building is vacant and the roof is falling in. Need to determine if the property is located within the city limits.**

- Mrs. Schwamlein voiced her concern with the property located on Old Ball Ground Highway – Abandoned vehicles (busses) and equipment. Also discussed the bank located in this area. Tree City installed trees in the past. The City use to mow the bank. What is the City's plan for this bank? Mr. McClure indicated that this has been brought up before. It is something that Ken Patton is involved with. Merrick's concern is disturbing the slope of this bank.
- Discussed property located at 610 East Main Street. The City received bids for demolition of this property. The attorney has approved it. Merrick has tried to contact the contractor to ensure that their previous quote is still good. Once he hears back from the contractor, they will be able to proceed with the removal.
- Discussed garbage cans from the Snug in downtown Canton. This was brought up at the City Council meeting and they are trying to work with other business owners to see if they will let the Snug dump their trash in one of their dumpsters.
- Mrs. Schwamlein stated that Tree City plants trees but is also concerned with the beautification of the City. Even if they plant trees/shrubs to beautify the City, the blighted properties take away from this. She stated that Mr. Peppers is concerned with this also. She asked about the City of Canton's Code Enforcement and what regulations they follow. She asked Michelle to invite the Code Enforcement official to the next meeting so that these items can be discussed and addressed.
- Mrs. Schwamlein stated that Barbara Fullbright with Revolution Church, along with volunteers, worked the weekend before Thanksgiving pruning the trees in Cannon Park. They took the trees back down to about 12 inches. Mrs. Schwamlein stated that she advised them not to put the trimmings in the parking lot or on the sidewalk. The Church left the trimmings around the Christmas tree. This caused some issues due to the fact that Public Works went to decorate the tree on Monday and the brush was in the way. She apologized for this. She was asked to please contact the Public Works Department when she plans these events in the future so that there will not be any conflict.
- Ann Fincher suggested grinding the stump left in front of the sign in Cannon Park.

- Mrs. Schwamlein asked if the City would please pick up the rose bush clippings that were left in front of the monument at the intersection of Main Street and North Street.
- Mrs. Schwamlein stated that she is aware that the Public Works department is shorthanded. She stated that during her meeting with Mr. Peppers, he indicated that the City is looking into the possibility of outsourcing the maintenance of the Downtown area.
- Mrs. Schwamlein stated that Doug Key of Keys Jewelry is interested in doing something in front of his store. She asked the committee about putting out planters and encouraging the businesses to install plants and keep them watered. She asked if the committee thought that they should just put a few planters in certain areas or if they should allow the businesses to put in what they choose to. Do we want uniformity? Committee stated that they would like to see uniformity and possibly just provide the businesses with a list of suggested plant material. Michelle Poole asked Mrs. Schwamlein to discuss this with the Main Street Coordinator, Micah Fowler. Mrs. Schwamlein asked Michelle to invite Ms. Fowler to the next meeting in order to discuss this.
- The City wants to plant a memorial tree for Jack Fincher. Ann Fincher would like to replant the evergreen tree in Cannon Park in Jack's memory. Joan stated that they will need to determine if the existing tree was planted in memory of someone before they proceed with this. She asked Melissa Forrester to check the Council minutes around March 2010. She believes that Tree City may have paid for a portion of this tree in memory of a family.
- Mrs. Schwamlein asked about the Washington Hawthornes – Merrick stated that the gator bags need to be removed due to inclement weather.
- Mrs. Schwamlein stated that the Zelkovia trees in Cannon Park are too crowded. She asked if the City would remove the (3) Zelkovia trees after Christmas.

**Item 4: Yard of the Month for 2016**  
**March – Joan Anderson**  
**April – Don Stafford**  
**May – Ann Fincher**  
**June – Francis Vaughn**

**July – Linda Schwamlein**  
**August – Pat Stewart**  
**September – Jerry Merritt**  
**October – Rajayne Cordery**  
**November – Linda Schwamlein**  
**December – Don Stafford**

**Item 5: Other Items**

- **Passed out article clippings from the newspaper for Yard of the Month recipients. Passed out article from Canton Family Life magazine in reference to Don Stafford.**
- **Asked committee members to think about how they want to spend the contribution money from the City and provide these ideas at the next meeting in January.**
- **Tree City board members contributed money for Subway sandwiches for the Public Works employees. She asked Michelle to take the order and contact her with the date so that they can bring them lunch.**
- **Next committee meeting will be on Tuesday, January 12, 2016.**
- **February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 9, 2016.**
- **Arbor Day will be Friday, February 19, 2016**

**Item 6: Adjourn**

**Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 PM.**