

Canton, Georgia

*151 Elizabeth Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Final

Thursday, May 4, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

City Council

1. Meeting Called to Order

Present for the meeting were:

Mayor Gene Hobgood

Mayor Pro-Tempore Bill Grant

Councilmember Sandy McGrew

Councilmember JoEllen Wilson

Councilmember Jack Goodwin

Councilmember John Rust

Councilmember Farris Yawn

City Manager Billy Peppers

City Attorney Bobby Dyer

Donna Bell—Executive Assistant

Mark Mitchell—Police Chief

Lorrie Waters—Human Resources

Nathan Ingram—Chief Financial Officer

David Hatabian—Utilities Engineer

Angela Thompson—Communications Director

Pat Gold—Public Outreach Coordinator

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Hobgood followed by an invocation given by Councilmember Rust.

3. Guests and Visitors**Public Service Announcements (Added)**

Councilmember McGrew read a list of upcoming events and activities occurring in Canton.

4. Consideration to Approve Agenda

Councilmember Rust moved to approve the agenda with Councilmember Yawn seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration to Approve Minutes**A. April 20, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes - Attachment 5A**

Attachments: [April 20, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Mayor Pro-Tempore Grant moved to approve the April 20, 2017 Minutes. Councilmember Yawn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Acknowledgement of Financial Statements**A. March Financials - Chief Financial Officer Nathan Ingram - Attachment 6A**

Attachments: [FY 2017-Mar](#)

The Council reviewed the March 2017 Financial Statements for the City. Mayor Pro-Tempore Grant asked if the remaining two change orders from the project at the Waste Water Treatment Plan were totaled into the project costs. Utility Engineer David Hatabian stated that they were close but were not included in the total expenses as of the March financials.

7. Ten Minute Public Input

Under the ten-minute public input, the following individuals spoke on the noted subjects:

Laura Tuttle—Concerns about Dogs in the City Parks

Councilmember Wilson added that dogs are not allowed in Boling Park.

8. CONSENT AGENDA - Items to Consider for Consent Agenda

No Items for Consent Agenda

9. OLD BUSINESS

No items under Old Business

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Review of City's 457(b) Plans - Chief Financial Officer Nathan Ingram - Attachment 10A

Attachments: [457 Plan Memo](#)
[GMA Summary](#)
[Hancock Summary](#)
[ICMA-RC Summary](#)

Chief Financial Officer Nathan Ingram stated that the City had received notification from Lord Abbett that the company would cease serving the City's 457(b) Employee Retirement Plan. The City currently offers three Deferred Compensation Plans administered by Newport Group, Nationwide and Edward Jones. The CFO, City Manager, and Human Resources Manager reviewed options from John Hancock (which would be administered by Edward Jones), Georgia Municipal Association and ICMA-RC (International City/County Management Association Retirement Corporation). Staff recommends moving all three existing plans into one plan. Mr. Peppers recommends moving all plans to ICMA-RC as it is specifically geared to service municipal and county employees and has more holdings than that of GMA. Mayor Pro-Tempore Grant asked about costs of the plans and Mr. Ingram stated that all three options were in the 1-2% range as was the case with Lord Abbett.

- B. Discussion of an Amendment to Utility Partners Contract to Extend Their Contract Until September 30, 2018 - City Manager Billy Peppers, City Engineer Dave Hatabian - Attachment 10B

Attachments: [Canton Contract Letter and Addendum 2 040717](#)

Mr. Peppers noted that this item was discussed as part of the City Council Retreat. He recommended continuing with the existing contract with Utility Partners for one additional year until the completion of the water and wastewater master plan by Black & Veatch. Mayor Hobgood asked if the contract terms and fees would remain the same. Utility Engineer David Hatabian stated that the terms would not change from the existing contract.

C. Presentation & Discussion of Speed Study on Reservoir Drive - Police Chief Mark Mitchell

City of Canton Chief of Police Mark Mitchell addressed the Mayor and Council about a speed study conducted by his agency on Reservoir Drive. Mitchell stated that the study included both weekday and weekend speed analysis including during and outside of the posted school zone times. The 85th Percentile of Speed for the roadway was 47 MPH. Mitchell stated that his office would be meeting with an Engineer from Georgia Department of Transportation to discuss options for speed adjustments on the roadway and how that might impact the school zone area. Mitchell suggested that the current staff concept would be to adjust the speed to 45 MPH from 35 MPH and increase the school zone from 25 MPH to 35 MPH. Mayor Hobgood asked about the speed design for the roadway. Mr. Peppers stated that the plans did not include a designated speed design. Mr. Dyer noted that the default speed of city streets is 35 MPH. Councilmember McGrew asked when the meeting would be held and Mitchell stated on Friday, May 5, 2017.

11. City Manager's Report

Mr. Peppers stated that the City had approved a purchase request with Curb Tech to complete ADA improvements at Etowah River Park, adding more ramps to existing sidewalks. He also stated that Public Works would be working to add some additional handicapped parking spaces closer to the walking track as part of the ADA improvements. Councilmember McGrew asked about the future playground improvements at Etowah River Park. Mr. Peppers stated that he hoped to have the RFP out by the end of next week with plans to come back in early June.

Mr. Peppers noted that he should have fee schedules and concept cost proposals for the extension of the Etowah River Trail by the end of the week and would have those as an informational item for Council at the next meeting.

Mr. Peppers stated that Lord Aeck Sargant was 75% completed with the demolition plans for the interior and exterior of the Jones Building. He stated that the plans should be completed in the next two weeks and would coincide with the hiring of a Construction Manager at Risk.

12. Mayor's Report

13. Adjourn

Councilmember Rust moved to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tempore Grant seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.