

Canton, Georgia

*110 Academy Street
Canton, Georgia 30114*



Minutes - Final - Draft

Thursday, September 12, 2024

6:00 PM

**City Hall
110 Academy Street**

City Council

1. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Grant and an invocation was given by Councilmember Roach.

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grant.

Members Present:

*Mayor Bill Grant
Councilmember Farris Yawn
Councilmember Shawn Tolan
Councilmember Sandy McGrew
Councilmember Bryan Roach
Councilmember Travis Johnson
Mr. Billy Peppers, City Manager
Mr. Bobby Dyer, City Attorney
Mr. Nathan Ingram, Assistant City Manager
Mr. Steve Green, Zoning Administrator
Mr. Ken Patton, Housing Initiatives Director
Mr. Kevin Turner, Community Development Director
Ms. Bethany Watson, City Engineer
Mr. Marty Ferrell, Police Chief
Mr. Scott Hooper, Public Works Director
Ms. Brittany Anderson, City Planner
Ms. Lauren Johnson, Communications Manager
Mr. Jacky Cheng, Digital Content Specialist
Mr. Russell Martin, IT Systems Analyst
Ms. Annie Fortner, City Clerk*

Absent:

Mayor Pro Tem Dwayne Waterman

3. Consideration to Approve Agenda

City Manager Billy Peppers requested to add New Business Item D for the discussion and possible action on sanitary sewer line replacement on Shipp Street. Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilmember Tolan seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

4. Guests and Visitors**A. Presentation of Constitution Week Proclamation**

Mayor Grant read and presented a proclamation for Constitution Week to members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

B. Canton Main Street Board Presentation

Ms. Dana Cox, President of the Canton Main Street Board, presented to Council the Board's mission statement and discussed that the Board recently updated their bylaws. Ms. Cox provided the Board's strategies for improving the downtown experience, striving for organizational excellence, and promoting economic vitality through community engagement. Ms. Cox reviewed past awards and accomplishments and spoke about upcoming events and grants that the Board is working on.

C. Downtown Development Authority Presentation

Ms. Jennifer Hughes, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Chair, provided a presentation which discussed the DDA's mission, current members, and district. Ms. Hughes spoke about how the DDA accomplishes goals through state and locally approved development tools and partnerships. Recent real estate transactions and currently held assets were discussed. Ms. Hughes noted that the DDA is currently reviewing the Downtown Master Plan and went over future plans for DDA owned properties. Ms. Hughes discussed the major initiatives of the DDA as preserving historic assets, improving transportation and pedestrian access, encouraging residential development, and utilizing community input through open meetings and community forums.

5. Consideration to Approve Minutes

A. Council Meeting Draft Minutes - September 5, 2024

Attachments: [Minutes - Council Meeting - September 5, 2024](#)

Councilmember Tolan made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

6. Informational Items

None.

7. Other Announcements

None.

8. Ten Minute Public Input

None.

9. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Resolution of Support Authorizing the Preparation, Submission, and Funding Commitment of a Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program Grant Pre-Application for the River Mill Pedestrian Bridge Project - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Resolution of Support - River Mill Pedestrian Bridge Project](#)

- B. Approval of the Procurement Policy for Federal and State Funded Transportation Projects - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Procurement Policy](#)

- C. Approval of the River Mill Trail Design to BCC Engineering LLC dba Heath & Lineback in the Amount of \$178,150.26 - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Heath & Lineback Trail Design](#)

- D. Approval of Caustic Tank & Line Replacement at Canton Water Treatment Plant to RemTech Engineers Remediation Specialists in the Amount Not to Exceed \$65,268.72 - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [RemTech Engineers Remediation Specialists](#)

- E. Approval of Street Acceptance for City Maintenance for Streets in Summer Walk Townes - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Street Acceptance - Summer Walk Townes](#)

*Councilmember Roach made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
Councilmember Tolan seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.*

10. Old Business

- A. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt the New Zoning Map in Response to Unified Development Code Amendments - Community Development Director Kevin Turner

Attachments: [Adoption of Zoning Map](#)

Community Development Director Kevin Turner reviewed the zoning districts which Council voted to remove. Mr. Turner discussed the process for best determining the new zoning classifications for those parcels which were affected by the removal of those zoning districts. Those property owners were notified of the proposed change. Mr. Turner noted that about ten property owners requested a different zoning classification than staff had proposed. Those requests were granted. Mr. Turner stated that the zoning map provided in Council's packet reflects all the changes recommended by staff. Mayor Grant discussed that a few of the properties along Highway 140 will have special considerations should they wish to rezone in the future dependent upon what Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) does along that roadway. Councilmember Tolan made a motion to adopt the new zoning map as proposed. Councilmember Yawn seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

- B. Discussion of the Canton Downtown Master Plan - City Engineer Bethany Watson

Attachments: [Downtown Master Plan](#)

City Engineer Bethany Watson stated the master plan will be placed on the October Council agenda for approval. Mayor Grant noted the DDA is still reviewing the master plan and will be providing a recommendation to Council. Mayor Grant stated this will also be an agenda item for the Council fall retreat.

11. New Business

- A. Staff Report - Information Only - Annexation (ANNX2405-008), Rezoning (RZON2404-011), and Conditional Use Permit (CUP2404-012) for 1610 Butterworth Road, 1618 Butterworth Road, and 8420 Knox Bridge Highway for a Proposed Townhome Development - Zoning Administrator Steve Green

Attachments: [Butterworth Rd & Knox Bridge Hwy Townhomes](#)

Zoning Administrator Steve Green stated the public hearings will be held on October 3rd. The proposed development consists of six acres for the construction of 41 townhomes. Mr. Green noted the original site plan showed two entrances, one on Knox Bridge Highway and one on Butterworth Road. During the community input meeting, residents expressed concerns with the entrance on Butterworth Road. A revised site plan has been submitted eliminating the entrance on Butterworth Road. Mr. Green stated at this time staff has not received any comments from residents for or against the applications.

- B. Discussion and Possible Action on Jarvis Street Stormwater and Sidewalk Project - Public Works Director Scott Hooper

Attachments: [Jarvis Street Stormwater and Sidewalk Project](#)

Public Works Director Scott Hooper stated the City put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) due to a failure in the road from an aging storm drain. Mr. Hooper stated the project would include replacing that structure, 190 feet of sidewalk, handrailing, fire hydrant, and resurface the street. Options were included to remove and replace two retaining walls. The total amount of the project is not to exceed \$232,164.28. Mr. Hooper stated that staff is recommending the lowest bidder, Complete Site LLC. Mr. Hooper noted that work could take one to two weeks to complete. Councilmember Yawn made a motion to approve the stormwater and sidewalk repairs not to exceed \$232,164.28. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed with all but Councilmember Roach voting for the motion. Councilmember Roach recused himself from the vote.

- C. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Cherokee County Limited License Agreement for the Use of Premier One Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System - Police Chief Marty Ferrell

Attachments: [CAD System](#)

Police Chief Marty Ferrell stated the Police Department has been working with Cherokee County 911 and their IT Department as well as the City's IT Department to conduct a 30-day test period of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. The trial run was successful. Chief Ferrell requested that Council approve the Limited License Agreement with Cherokee County for the use of the Premier One CAD system. Mayor Grant confirmed the cost is around \$8,000 per year for 40 licenses. Councilmember McGrew made a motion to approve the license agreement with Cherokee County in the amount of \$8,000 per year for 40 licenses. Councilmember Roach seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Item 11D: Discussion and Possible Action on Sanitary Sewer Line Replacement on Shipp Street

Ms. Watson stated there is work being completed to demolish the old apartments on Shipp Street to create the new Tanner Place. The contractor was supposed to connect to the existing sewer, however upon looking at the existing sewer it was found to be in disrepair. Ms. Watson noted the lines are old terracotta and concrete lines and there are sewer leaks. Staff received a quote from the contractor that is on site completing sewer work. Ms. Watson stated she has reviewed the quote and compared it to others. Ms. Watson asked that action be taken so that emergency repairs can be made and the project be allowed to continue. Councilmember Roach made a motion to approve the emergency action on the sanitary sewer line replacement on Shipp Street to Georgia Development Partners in the amount of \$167,973.74. Councilmember Tolan seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

12. City Manager's Report

Mr. Peppers spoke about the Multicultural Festival that was held last weekend and thanked all of those who made it such a successful event. Mr. Peppers stated the Taste of Canton will be taking place on September 26th and tickets are now on sale. Mr. Peppers informed that he is working to get better estimates from Cherokee County as to when striping will take place on the newly paved roadways and provided an update on the remediation from the leak at the Public Safety Building. Mr. Peppers recognized Ms. Brittany Anderson for all her work within the Sunnyside area and initializing conversations that have fostered community and growth. Mr. Peppers also recognized Mr. Kenny Blanton as the Team Member of the Month.

13. Council Introduced Items

None.

14. Mayor's Report

Mayor Grant congratulated Mr. Blanton for being recognized by his peers and being awarded Team Member of the Month. Mayor Grant spoke about the wonderful Multicultural Festival and stated he presented a proclamation for National Hispanic Heritage Month. Mayor Grant appointed Councilmember McGrew, Councilmember Tolan, and Mayor Pro Tem Waterman to a committee to review the City's noise ordinance.

15. Adjourn

Councilmember Roach made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Yawn seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Bill Grant, Mayor

Attest:

Annie Fortner, City Clerk

Dates Minutes Approved by Council