

WALNUT GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016

Present at Meeting:

Mayor Lamar Lee
Carol Witcher
Kathy Dimsdale
Wayne Dimsdale

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to Order by Mayor Lee

II. INVOCATION

Given by Joe Reitman

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. AGENDA

Motion made to approve the Agenda by Wayne Dimsdale, seconded by Kathy Dimsdale and Carol Witcher, Motion Passed.

V. PUBLIC HEARING – Joe Reitman, City Attorney, opened the Public Hearing. The meeting was turned over to Joe Walter with Precision Planning, Inc.

Mr. Walter explained he met in the fall with Mayor Lee and City Clerk Kathy Glass regarding items that needed to be addressed before the Sewer Plant was completed. There were 3 specific areas that needed to be addressed. The First was the zoning map in the office did not match the language in the zoning ordinances. C-1 and C-2 need to be switched to match the zoning map.

Mr. Walter handed out copies of the new map. The proposed Amendments in Article 4 – Zoning Districts are as follows:

1. Amend Section 400 (District Designations) by reversing the names and designations of the Neighborhood Commercial District and the General Commercial District so that the section reads as follows:

C-1 Neighborhood Commercial District; provides for the limited commercial uses that serve the neighborhood.

C-2 General Commercial District: provides for retail, wholesale, storage, repair services and garages.

Also covered were the proposed amendments to the text of Articles IV, V, VI, VII, IX and XII of the 2012 Zoning Ordinance.

The Mayor and Council had discussion with Mr. Walter on these proposals.

Mr. Reitman went to the Public Comment Phase of the Hearing. Hearing none, the Public Hearing was turned back over to Mr. Walter to continue.

Issue number 2 was the re-adoption of the Official Zoning District Map for Walnut Grove. The proposal is to re-adopt the Official Zoning District Map to address annexations, re-zonings and mapping inconsistencies which have occurred since the last Zoning Map Adoption. After discussion of the proposed changes of the map with the Mayor and Council Mr. Reitman opened the Public Comment Phase.

There was no public comment.

Issue Number 3 is the proposed amendment to Section 602 of the 2007 Comprehensive Land Development Ordinance that will incorporate the most recent version of the Model State Erosion, Sedimentation Control and Pollution Ordinance per O.C.G.A. §12-7-8(a)(2). This State model was adopted in June of 2016. The Mayor and Council discussed questions with Mr. Walter after which Mr. Reitman opened the hearing to the Public Comment Phase.

There was no public comment.

Hearing closed.

Carol Witcher made a motion to add the following items to the agenda:

1. Update Walnut Grove zoning map
2. Add Amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance
3. Adopt the latest version of the Model State Erosion Sedimentation Control and Pollution Ordinance.

Wayne Dimsdale seconded the motion, Motion Passed.

Move into the Agenda

Vote on the Zoning Map –Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to adopt the new zoning map, Kathy Dimsdale seconded the motion, Motion Passed.

Vote on the Amendments to the Zoning text – Carol Witcher made a motion to accept the amendments as stated in our Public Hearing. Wayne Dimsdale seconded the motion, Motion Passed.

Vote on adding the latest version of the Model State Erosion Sedimentation Control and Pollution Ordinance. Carol Witcher made a motion to adopt as presented by Mr. Walter, seconded by Wayne Dimsdale, Motion Passed.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Girls Scout Group #13686 was present at the Council Meeting. They stood up and introduced themselves, three girl scouts and three scout leaders.

Girl Scout member Anniston Holman Beasley addressed the Mayor and Council. She explained how their Girl Scout Group would like to do a project at the Walnut Grove Library to earn their next badge. They handed out a proposal of an Outdoor Reading Garden. The theme of the Garden will be fairies. There will be a table which will look like two tree stumps for seating and a tabletop with a checkerboard for checker games and chess. The game pieces will be checked out at the Library. There will also be other decorations which will be weather proof. Their time line for the project will be to finish the end of September or early October. They will have fund raisers to raise money. Anniston was praised for her presentation. A photo was taken of the girls with the Mayor and Council members.

VII. MINUTES APPROVAL – July 14, 2016 Minutes

Motion to approve the July 14, 2016 minutes as presented was made by Wayne Dimsdale, seconded by Carol Witcher, Motion Passed

VIII. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Public Works Director not present – No Report

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

Kathy Glass, City Clerk directed the Mayor and Council to the financial documents in their notebooks.

Motion made to accept the financials as presented by Wayne Dimsdale, seconded by Carol Witcher, Motion Passed.

X. CLERK'S REPORT

Kathy Glass reported there were 43 citations issued in the month of July. Twenty-four from the Walton County Sheriff's Office, Nineteen from the Georgia State Patrol and there were none from the Walton County Animal Control. There were no new Business Licenses and no renewals. There was one permit issued for a deck. There were 2 ball park reservations made and 3 Pavilion reservations.

XI. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Craig Ellington, Code Enforcement Officer reported he had answered five complaints, issued nineteen notices and only issued two of the second notices on violations. Everyone is trying to comply. On the second notice, that individual is now working on being in compliance. He reported he is trying to foster a relationship with individuals.

XII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Lee reminded the Council and Employee's the Employee Picnic is Saturday, August 27th here at the Municipal Building. Sonya Cox reminded everyone to please bring a dessert.

The work on the new Fire/EMS Station will start on August 24, 2016. The sewer line will run up to the back of the property. It has already been surveyed. The estimated cost of running the sewer line was \$420,000.00. This was a better option than putting in septic tanks at the fire station and another one at the ball fields. There was discussion about possible further development on the Darrell McWater's property.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

None

XV. DISCUSSION ITEM

There was discussion regarding the grass on the spray fields at the Waste Water Facility. There will be fescue and rye grass planted on these fields soon.

XVI. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Kathy Dimsdale – None

Wayne Dimsdale – None

Carol Witcher- I think we were very productive tonight.

Joe Reitman – None

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION, if needed

XVIII. ADJOURN

Wayne Dimsdale made a motion to adjourn, Carol Witcher seconded the motion, Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

This _____ day of September, 2016.

Mayor Lamar Lee

Katherine A. Glass, City Clerk

