

MINUTES
CITY OF MCDONOUGH
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL – JULY 6, 2010
7:00 PM

The regular City of McDonough Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 6, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. with the following members present:

Mayor:	Billy Copeland
Mayor Pro Tem:	Sandra Vincent
Councilmembers:	Rufus Amis
	Monta Brown
	Gail Notti
	Wayne Smith
	Rufus Stewart

Also present for this meeting was: City Administrator, Billy Beckett; City Clerk, Janis Price; City Attorneys, Steve Fincher & Emilia Walker; Fire Chief, Steve Morgan; Police Chief, Preston Dorsey; Interim Community Development Director, Rodney Heard; and Executive Assistant to Mayor and Council, Leslie Balog.

Mayor Copeland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Councilmember Brown led the Pledge to the Flag and Councilmember Smith gave the invocation.

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to approve tonight's agenda with the following modification, the deletion of item #7. Councilmember Brown motioned to approve the agenda with the above modification and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Amis was not present for the vote and arrived shortly thereafter.)

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda. Councilmember Brown motioned and Councilmember Smith seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Amis was not present for the vote and arrived shortly thereafter.)

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 21, 2010 meeting as submitted. Mayor Pro Tem Vincent motioned and Councilmember Smith seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Amis was not present for the vote and arrived shortly thereafter.)

Dr. Grier was scheduled to speak under Public Comments but decided not to address Mayor and Council during this meeting.

Mr. Robbie Robinson, Chairman of the Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) spoke to Mayor and Council regarding the historic district designations. On June 17, 2010 the HPC voted

to amend the maps of the historic districts to include additional properties located on Bryant Street, Cleveland Street, Lawrenceville Street and Sloan Street. The city attorney, Mr. Steve Fincher, advised Mayor and Council about the two options they have to vote on regarding the new amendment. (1) Vote to accept, reject or modify the new amended plan or (2) could consider to accept, reject or modify the original proposed plan. Mayor Copeland opened the Public Hearing. One person spoke in favor Mr. Alan Shackelford, a member of the Planning Commission. And the following persons spoke in opposition:

Mr. James Moss, 118 Cleveland Street

Mr. Si Elliott, 18 Macon Street

Ms. Cathy Sowell- owns 4 properties in the proposed district

Ms. Cheryl Mahaffey, 97 Lawrenceville Street

Mr. Mark Stanton, 67 Jonesboro Street

Mr. Jim Crisci, 103 Bryan Street

Ms. Elaine Childs, 114 College Street

Mayor Copeland closed the Public Hearing. Councilmember Amis motioned to deny the HPC recommendation and deny any proposed historic districts and Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor and one in opposition. (Councilmembers Amis, Brown, Smith, Stewart & Vincent voted in favor; and Councilmember Notti voted in opposition).

Councilmember Brown commented on the pros and cons on the HPC district. Mayor Pro Tem Vincent and Councilmember Notti both commented on preserving the history of the buildings and the downtown area.

Police Chief Dorsey presented and recommended the following request for alcohol license approval:

(1) Shabbir Abdulali for the Pick N Go located at 280 Griffin Street

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to approve the alcohol license for Mr. Shabbir Abdulali for Pick N Go located at 280 Griffin Street. Councilmember Brown motioned and Councilmember Amis seconded. The vote was six in favor.

Mr. Rodney Heard gave an update of the 2010 ARC Community Choices program. Comments were made by Councilmember Notti and Mayor Pro Tem Vincent. Discussion ensued. Mayor Pro Tem Vincent motioned to accept the recommendation of the Community Development Director and to sign off on the Community Choices implementation scope of work and schedule request by the ARC and Councilmember Notti seconded. The vote was six in favor.

There were no unscheduled comments.

City Clerk reminded Mayor and Council that Campaign Contribution Forms are due on July 7, 2010. After this date you will be considered late and will have to pay a fee.

Councilmember Brown commented that \$5,000 was successfully raised for the Lee Family.

Councilmember Stewart commented on the thoughtfulness of Mayor Copeland for heading a project to raise funds for the family of the young boy that was struck by lightning.

Mayor Pro Tem Vincent commented on looking at a reverse 911 system. This will allow citizens to be aware of any impending danger in the city. Also, Mayor Pro Tem Vincent will be starting a new initiative called Operation Round-Up. This will be an effort to clean up Jonesboro Road. Councilmember Notti will work along with Mayor Pro Tem Vincent on this project also.

Mayor Copeland commented on Mayor Pro Tem Vincent receiving a training award at the Savannah GMA Convention.

Having no further business Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Smith motioned and all stood in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Janis E. Price,
City Clerk