

MINUTES  
CITY OF MCDONOUGH  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY HALL – MAY 16, 2011  
7:00 PM

The regular City of McDonough Council Meeting was held on Monday, May 16, 2011, at 7:00 PM with the following members present:

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

(Councilmember Monta Brown and City Administrator Billy Beckett were not present)

Also present for this meeting were: City Clerk, Janis Price; City Attorney, Leigh Hancher; Fire Chief, Steve Morgan; Police Chief, Preston Dorsey; Media Relations, Casey Case; Planning and Zoning Director, Rodney Heard; Special Projects Director, Jestin Johnson; and Public Works Director, Lee Hearn.

Mayor Copeland called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mayor Copeland welcomed Ms. Leigh Hancher from The Whalen Law Firm, in Griffin, as the new city attorney.

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

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Stewart motioned and Councilmember Smith seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

A Proclamation for Travel and Tourism Week, and a Certificate of Recognition for Cindy Weeks were presented at the meeting. Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to make both of these designations a part of tonight's minutes. Councilmember Smith motioned and Mayor Pro Tem Vincent seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

Ms. Staci Sheppard was scheduled to speak during Public Comments, but she did not attend the meeting.

Mayor Copeland reviewed the redistricting process to the public attending the meeting and explained the following details. The Mayor stated that according to State law the Redistricting Ordinance is presented and made available at two regular council meetings which will be tonight and at the June 6, 2011 meeting. The Redistricting Ordinance must be adopted at two meetings which will be tonight, May 16, 2011, and at the June 6, 2011 meeting. There were copies of the

ordinance available at the back of the room to anyone who wanted a copy and also a map of the proposed new districts was available in Council Chambers for review.

A Public Notice regarding the redistricting and the ordinance has been/and will be advertised in the Henry Herald for 3 weeks prior to the adoption date. The dates of advertisement in the paper are: May 11, May 18, and May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

A copy of the Ordinance, and a copy of the map have been delivered to the office of Barbara Harrison, Clerk of Superior Court, for anyone who wishes to review the ordinance and the map. Also copies of the ordinance and the map are available in the City Clerk's office at City Hall.

Mayor Copeland asked if there were any comments or did anyone have any questions regarding the proposed redistricting? Mayor Copeland acknowledged that Mr. Rodney Heard from the Community Development Department was present to answer any questions. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mayor Pro Tem Vincent asked the City Attorney, Leigh Hancher, if the City did not hear back from the Department of Justice, would the City revert back to the previous ordinance. Ms. Hancher acknowledged that yes, the City would. Once again Mayor Copeland asked if there were any questions or comments, and there were none.

Mayor Copeland asked the City Clerk to read the title to the ordinance:

**City of McDonough Voting Districts**

**ORDINANCE NO. Pending**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER, CITY OF MCDONOUGH, GEORGIA, SEC 5.14, CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS; ADJUSTMENT OF DISTRICTS, TO REALIGN THE ELECTION DISTRICTS FROM WHICH MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL ARE ELECTED; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES ALLOWED BY LAW.

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion. Councilmember Smith motioned to approve the first reading of the City of McDonough Voting District Ordinance, and Councilmember Notti seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

Ms. Hancher discussed the adoption of the Pawnshop Ordinance due to the fact that the moratorium would be expiring shortly. Councilmember Smith motioned to approve the

Pawnshop Ordinance and Councilmember Notti seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

Chief Preston Dorsey recommended approval the beer and wine alcohol license for Ms. Jin Shou Wang, for the Sakura Hibachi Sushi Buffet, LLC, located at 1001 Regency Plaza. The background has been completed and all fees paid. Councilmember Stewart motioned to approve and Councilmember Amis seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

Mr. Lee Hearn, Public Works Director, reviewed the Lawrenceville Street Improvement Project and made a recommendation of awarding the curb and gutter work to Curb Specialists. Mr. Lee stated that the funds would come from SPLOST money. Councilmember Smith motioned to approve the recommendation of the Public Works Director and award the contract to Curb Specialist in the amount of \$33,230.00. Councilmember Stewart seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

There were no unscheduled comments.

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for a real estate matter. Councilmember Smith motioned and Councilmember Amis seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to go back into regular session. Councilmember Amis motioned and Councilmember Notti seconded. The vote was five in favor. (Councilmember Brown was not present.)

There was nothing to report from Executive Session.

Councilmember Smith commented on attending a meeting with Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) staff, and representatives from the four cities and Henry County. The purpose of the meeting was the discussion of the proposed transportation project list for the Regional Roundtable. The Cities and Henry County were complimented on the spirit of cooperation between the group and that the group had submitted strong projects and this looked very positive for the project list. Also Councilmember Notti commented that this is very positive that the group had stayed the course with the projects identified in the Joint Cities/County Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

City Clerk commented that there had been a very good response to the Henry County Municipal Dinner that the City of McDonough was hosting at the Hilton Garden Inn, on May 19, 2011 at 6:30 PM, and encouraged our McDonough people to attend.

Having no further business, Mayor Copeland asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Amis motioned and all stood in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Janis Price

City Clerk