

**MINUTES
CITY OF GAINESVILLE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
200 South Rusk
Gainesville, Texas 76240
August 15, 2006
6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Gainesville, Texas met in regular session on August 15, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. with the following persons in attendance:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Glenn Loch
Council Members Charles Draper, Jim Goldsworthy, Carolyn Hendricks, Beverly Snuggs, Vince Rippey, Woody Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Land, City Manager; Kay Lunnon, City Secretary; Dan Parker, Finance Director, Ron Sellman, Public Services Director, John Noblitt, Planning Technician

VISITORS PRESENT: Kathy Floyd, Andy Hogue, Kathy Carlton, Susan Cuadra, Martha Milburn, Nancy Murray, Andy Scates.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Loch called the meeting to order. All members were present.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Ronnie Quaid, Commerce Street Church of Christ. Councilmember Snuggs led in the pledge to the flag.

REPORTS

Public Services Director Ron Sellman reported that water usage has increased to nearly 4 million gallons per day. He said the water system is still within its capacity but is being stressed. Dry ground has caused numerous leaks that have kept crews busy. Sellman said they are receiving as many as ten calls a day to repair water leaks and they are addressing them on a prioritized basis as quickly and as efficiently as possible. Moss Lake level is down about two feet, but that is due mainly to evaporation. He reassured Council that the City is not in an emergency water situation.

City Manager Mike Land reported that the Cemetery Committee had met to evaluate the ordinance restricting placement of objects on graves, and the committee recommends enforcement of the ordinance as written, and supports the efforts of Cemetery Staff to clean up and maintain the Cemetery. Land noted that the ordinance does not prohibit placing flowers on graves. Councilmember Goldsworthy said he thinks concerned citizens should meet with the Cemetery Committee to try to find a common ground. Cemetery staff has removed enforcement signage while Council considers any other action, and Council stated they would wait until September 30 to make final decision on whether or not to amend the ordinance.

Land reported the City Council Utility Committee met to discuss the business plan and study the water utility rate structure and proposed connection fee. The Committee is recommending a 4%

increase in the water and sewer base charge, in accordance with the Comprehensive Business Plan, and establishing a connection fee of \$3.50 per unit for mobile home parks, nursing homes and apartment complexes. The connection fee has been reduced significantly from the initial proposal of \$16.90 per unit. City Manager, Mike Land, said letters will be sent to multi family property owners to advise them of the proposed new connection fee. The rate increase and connection fee ordinance will be presented for City Council consideration in September.

Land mentioned to Council that the monthly financial report has been redesigned.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Susan Cuadra, owner of Lexington Square Apartments, requested the Council to reconsider the per door water connection fee for multi family units because the rent restricted facilities and facilities in the "all bills paid" category will be most injured. She said the increase is burdensome and may cause property owners to have to decrease services. Cuadra said she appreciates the reduction in the amount of the proposed connection fee, and thanked the Council, especially Councilmember Carolyn Hendricks, for their assistance on this issue.

Kathy Carlton of the Apartment Association of Greater Dallas, stated that multi family property owners do not mind paying their fair share, but she said that with the proposed new connection fee, they will be paying more than their fair share because they are being billed commercial rate for the meter and residential rate for connections. Carlton also expressed her appreciation for the reduced amount of the proposed connection fee.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council reviewed the Minutes of August 1, 2006 Regular City Council Meeting and approved them as written.

Councilmember Goldsworthy **made the motion for approval of the Consent Agenda**, seconded by Councilmember Hendricks. Motion carried.

Ayes: Draper, Goldsworthy, Hendricks, Loch, Rippy, Snuggs, and Williams.

Nays: None.

ITEMS CONSIDERED

ORDINANCE NO. 1148-08-2006 - ADOPTING AIRPORT HAZARD ZONING REGULATIONS

CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE UPDATING GAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT HAZARD ZONING REGULATIONS; REGULATING AND RESTRICTING THE HEIGHT OF STRUCTURES AND OBJECTS OF NATURAL GROWTH AND OTHERWISE REGULATING THE USE OF PROPERTY IN THE VICINITY OF THE GAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT BY CREATING APPROPRIATE ZONES AND ESTABLISHING THE BOUNDARIES THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR RESTRICTIONS OF SUCH ZONES AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF SUCH RESTRICTIONS; DEFINING CERTAIN TERMS USED HEREIN; REFERRING TO THE GAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT HEIGHT HAZARD ZONING MAP PREPARED BY TXDOT AVIATION, DATED FEBRUARY 22, 2006, WHICH IS INCORPORATED IN AND MADE A PART OF THESE REGULATIONS; PROVIDING FOR A BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT; PROVIDING PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; PROVIDING FOR SUSPENSION OF THE CHARTER REQUIREMENT OF READING THE ORDINANCE ON

THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN OPEN MEETING FINDING.

Mayor Loch asked for any comments or discussion on the second reading of this ordinance. Councilmember Rippe reported he had met with the City Manager regarding his concerns with the ordinance, and those concerns have been resolved. They recommend that the definition of “airport” be amended by removing the clause “including the ultimate development of that facility”.

Councilmember Draper **moved to Suspend the Charter**, and was seconded by Councilmember Goldsworthy. The motion carried by the following votes.

Ayes: Draper, Goldsworthy, Hendricks, Loch, Snuggs, and Williams;

Nays: Rippe

Councilmember Goldsworthy **motioned to Adopt the Ordinance with the recommended amended definition**, seconded by Councilmember Williams. The motion carried by the following votes.

Ayes: Draper, Goldsworthy, Hendricks, Loch, Rippe, Snuggs, and Williams;

Nays: None

TABLED PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE ON THE FINAL PLAT FOR VINTAGE SQUARE

City Staff recommended tabling this item. John Noblitt, Planning Technician, reported that final inspection has not been made on the Vintage Square development, and the developer is not ready for final plat approval. Council tabled the Public Hearing and consideration of the ordinance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council did not convene into executive session.

CITY MANAGER’S COMMENTS

Mike Land invited Council to attend the City Employees Picnic tonight at Leonard Park.

Land reported that they have been interviewing applicants for the Economic Development Executive Director and the Airport Manager positions and should be completed in a couple of weeks.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS

Against a backdrop screen with a logo stating “Take Pride in Gainesville”, Mayor Loch spoke directly to citizens viewing the Council meeting via delayed broadcast on Cable Channel 2. He announced the logo represents a new campaign to clean up Gainesville, both “trash-wise” and crime-wise.” The Mayor said Council members are “fed up” with the trash in the city, junk in yards, vehicles parked in yards, and crime in Gainesville. He urged citizens to get fed up also with trash and crime, because he said, it will take everyone’s help to be able to do anything about these problems. The “Take Pride in Gainesville” campaign encourages everyone to work with the City and with their neighbors to clean up the town. Loch spoke about the two recent drive-by shootings, saying these things must be stopped, and the way to stop it is with the help of Gainesville citizens. Loch said he recently met with area ministers who also are willing to help. He appealed to all citizens to join the campaign with him to clean up the city, by cleaning up their property and helping their neighbors, so that we can be proud of our community. He said it will take everyone’s participation to make the campaign succeed. Loch announced that the

Police Department will issue Crime Watch Program information in September, and he reminded citizens of the telephone numbers for Police Dispatch and the TIPS line to report crime if they wish to remain anonymous.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Glenn Loch, Mayor

Attest:

Kay Lunnon, City Secretary