

**CITY OF PEACHTREE CORNERS**  
**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 19, 2012 @ 7:30 PM**

The Mayor and Council of the City of Peachtree Corners held a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:30pm. This Special Called Meeting was held at Robert D. Fowler YMCA located at 5600 West Jones Bridge Road in Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092. The following were in attendance:

Mayor	Mike Mason
Council Member	Phil Sadd, Post 1
Council Member	James Lowe, Post 2
Council Member	Alex Wright, Post 3
Council Member	Jeanne Aulbach, Post 4
Council Member	Lorri Christopher, Post 5
Council Member	Weare Gratwick, Post 6
Acting City Attorney	Bill Riley
Acting City Clerk	Joan Jones
Consultant	John Kachmar

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Mayor Mason.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Mayor Mason thanked everyone for attending and remarked on the feasibility study conducted by the Carl Vinson Institute, their proposed budget options and the proposed 1 mill millage rate figures. He asked the citizens in attendance to consider this 2013 proposed budget has a lot of first time expenses. Mayor Mason asked Consultant Kachmar for any remarks. Mr. Kachmar reiterated what the Mayor said, but noted to also keep in mind the feasibility study used academic figures versus reality figures and is a few years old. He went on to explain the additional sources of revenues other than the millage rate. Acting City Clerk Jones reminded the Mayor and Council there will be another Public Hearing on the budget at their June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No Public Comment

**REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS:** Consultant Kachmar presented an update on the following:  
»City Hall Lease: currently awaiting a call back from the owner on council's request to do away with the five month COLA clause,

»City Manager search; currently 77 resumes have been received, will wait one more week before closing the notice and there are 15 good prospects,

»Training Opportunity offered by the Department of Community Affairs on the duties/responsibilities of a Planning Commissioner, education on Comprehensive Planning etc., which is August 10-11 at Unicoi State Park.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**IT Start Up and Short Term Agreement:** Council Member Christopher motioned, seconded by Council Member Gratwick to table this agenda item. There being no discussion, the motion carried unanimously. *(TABLED)*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PUBLIC HEARING PROCEDURES:** Attorney Riley reviewed this Resolution establishing a temporary procedure for conducting public hearings, explaining the options available to Mayor and Council and the difference between a Public Comment Period and a Public Hearing. That just like the Public Comment period, there is no two-way conversations between the speaker and council. He recommended to council as there were a number of citizens in attendance to limit the speaking time to three to five minutes and allow an hour for the public hearing as this would permit the best opportunity to hear from the most citizens. Mr. Kachmar explained to the council they also have the option to waive the time by a vote from the majority of the council and recommended if there were citizens from the same HOA and they had similar views or concerns they may want to choose a spokesperson to address the council tonight. He offered to answer questions from any citizen after the meeting if so directed by council for any budget feedback they may need. Council Member Aulbach motioned, seconded by Council Member Sadd to approve the Resolution to adopt temporary procedure for City Council Public Hearings to allow three minutes per speaker and allow one hour for this public hearing. During discussion, clarification was made this is temporary and that the times can be waived by council. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously. *(RESOLUTION 2012-06-06)*

**2013 BUDGET ORDINANCE:** The First Read of an Ordinance to adopt the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for each fund of the City of Peachtree Corners, Georgia, appropriating the amounts shown in each budget as expenditures, adopting the anticipated revenues for each fund, prohibiting expenditures to exceed appropriations for each fund and prohibiting expenditures to exceed actual funding available for each fund was held. Mayor Mason asked Mr. Kachmar to review the budget prior to the Public Hearing. *(FIRST READ)*

Mr. Kachmar reviewed each budgetary expenditure line item as follows:

City Council:	\$83,111	Facilities & Buildings Dept:	\$250,000
City Manager:	\$199,954	City Clerk Dept:	\$91,936
General Operations Dept:	\$1,017,650	Contingency:	\$294,046
Finance Dept:	\$188,587	Community Development:	\$201,885
Legal Services:	\$200,000	Designated Reserves:	\$200,000

During his review, he highlighted high cost budget items such as the initial set up of operations, equipment, Tax Anticipation Notes, the development of the Comprehensive Plan, required audits, various contractual services such as AP/AR/Procurement, Website Mgmt., advertisement costs, litigation cost, building lease cost for city hall, etc. He explained this is a conservative budget with both revenues and expenditures balancing at \$2,727,168.

Mayor Mason opened the Public Hearing on the proposed 2013 Fiscal Year Budget. Mr. Jimmy Neese addressed the council explaining he has lived in the community 62 years and is concerned

this starting budget is so far off from the Carl Vinson Study of 750K. He told council he does not want them to be working towards a larger city and is concerned about not keeping control of this large a budget. Mr. Judson Ward explained to the council he hopes they keep the line of communication open and just because we have the money, doesn't mean we have to spend it. He asked council to look closely at the proposed salaries of the city manager, community development manager, is the compensation right for a light city, and to be reasonable about what is purchased. Ms. Mary Beth Stickney asked council to represent us as a limited city, to question the line items in the budget especially the 401K expenses of 17-25%, not to do what other cities are doing. She asked council to cut this budget, to look at what we are as a limited city and community are and to become a city others talk about. Mr. Gary Terry voiced to council there are other revenue sources to consider, he asked about court expenses, contracts for police/fire. He noted the city manager's salary/benefits and to consider the difference between private vs public sector pay. In addition, Mr. Terry asked about procurement under the finance department, the professional services cost and the non-auditable legal hours/services. He presented the clerk with a handout about homestead exemption. Mr. Gary Shell addressed the council with his concerns about the 1 mill as it is more than what we want to spend; the numbers seem fluffy/rounded to him. He asked council to sharpen their pencils and don't go with a comfortable budget.

Mayor Mason called for anyone else wishing to speak during this budget public hearing. There being no other speakers, Mayor Mason closed the Public Hearing.

**FRANCHISE AGREEMENT-GA POWER:** The First Read of an Ordinance Approving a Franchise Agreement between the Georgia Power Company and the City of Peachtree Corners, Georgia was held. Attorney Riley explained he will review this Ordinance at the Second Read.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Mayor Mason thanked everyone for attending

No Executive Session was held.

Council Member Sadd motioned, seconded by Council Member Christopher to adjourn. There be no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved:

  
Mike Mason, Mayor

Attest:

  
Joan Jones, Acting City Clerk