

CITY OF PEACHTREE CORNERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
May 29, 2012 @ 7:30PM

The Mayor and Council of the City of Peachtree Corners held a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, May 29, 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-Absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Mayor Mason.

OPENING COMMENTS: Mayor Mason thanked everyone for attending and provided an overview of the meeting process and summarized the agenda items that will be discussed this evening. Mayor Mason asked to amend the agenda to allow public comments; however Attorney Riley interjected and advised that for a special called meeting the agenda may not be amended. Attorney Riley further elaborated on the quick pace and the short time in which the City must move to get all their processes in place and business in order and suggested there may be several special called meeting during this period where public comment is not received.

REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS: Consultant John McDonough reviewed a PowerPoint outlining the functions for a **Community Development Department**. He reviewed the documents which may dictate the functions and responsibilities of the office, such as property maintenance and building code, city charter and local zoning ordinances which will be adopted by Council. Mr. McDonough mentioned the documents establish the legal basis for operation of the department; he reviewed the components of the Comprehensive Plan, which is a blueprint of the Council's vision for the City and would drive the type of development the city encourages. He reviewed the various departments and roles which would comprise the Community Development Department, including the building permitting, planning and zoning and inspections and touched on the responsibilities and the makeup of a planning commission and the necessity to establish a Board of Appeals indicating both boards would be comprised of citizen volunteers. Mr. McDonough discussed the skills set for a planning and zoning administrator and Council discussed the options of hiring a staff or outsourcing the community development functions. There was further discussion on the importance of having a skilled person familiar with the process to minimize litigation risks for the City and the ramifications of land use litigation. In closing Mr. McDonough summarized the responsibilities of the code enforcement

arm of Community Development, including property maintenance, enforcement of sign and litter regulations, and the process for achieving community compliance. Attorney Riley commented on the impact the code enforcement unit can have in enhancing the esthetics of the community based on guidelines established by Council. There was discussion on how the City would provide this service, by staffing or outsourcing. Attorney Riley recommended the City allow Gwinnett to handle in the short-term.

Council Member Lowe distributed materials and reviewed the services offered by **Answer Connect**. The service would provide a 24hr answering service to field citizen inquiries. The cost would be less than \$500 per month with no contract obligations. Council Member Lowe reviewed the history of the company and his experience with their services. There was additional discussion on the types of services which would be provided which would essentially be a referral, based on a drop down menu, and not a full service call center.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONTRACT WITH GWINNETT COUNTY FOR AD VALOREM TAX BILLING AND COLLECTION: As this item was discussed during a previous meeting, no additional presented was requested. Mayor Mason asked for a motion and Council Member Aulbach motioned, seconded by Council Member Christopher to approve the contract with Gwinnett County for the Ad Valorem Tax Billing and Collection and to authorize Mayor Mason to enter into the agreement on the behalf of the City. During discussion Mayor Mason reviewed the contract terms offered by Gwinnett County to collect the taxes for the 2012 tax billing season for a cost of \$3,437.20. The Mayor commented this was at a lower rate than the Fulton County cities pay. There being no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

ACCEPT GIFT OF BRANDING AND LOGO FROM ACCENT SOUTH MEDIA (ASM): As this item was previously discussed, Council Member Sadd motioned, seconded by Council Member Gratwick to accept the offer from Accent South Media to offer branding and the creation of a logo services to the City at no cost. During discussion Council Member Mason commented on the great experience of ASM and Council Member Lowe provided an overview of the services that would be gifted to the City. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor Mason thanked everyone for attending. He noted several Council Members would be available after the meeting to answer questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session

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

Approved:

Mike Mason, Mayor

Attest:

Corrine Lindo for Joan Jones, Acting City Clerk