

SPECIAL SESSION

NOVEMBER 5, 2014

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Annex with the following members present, to-wit:

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor
Monte Montgomery, Mayor Pro-Tem
Charles Elliott
Joe Whatley
Tres Winn

Pam Burton, City Administrator
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary
Conor Bateman, City Attorney

others present: Glen Herriage, Gary Crecelius, John McQueary, David Hopkins, Haven Cox, Sherri Skeeters, Tyler Hendrickson, Rich Flowers, and other interested citizens;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Montgomery.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

DISCUSS FUNDING OPTIONS FOR CAIN CENTER

Conor Bateman, City Attorney reviewed potential funding options for the Cain Center. Mr. Bateman explained the City may not impose a mandatory fee on Utility Bills. He explained the following options may exist: Voluntary donations, County contributions.

Councilmember Whatley stated he would like County involvement as the Cain Center benefits the County residents as well as the City.

Councilmember Elliott asked if there could be an election to raise property taxes by a certain percentage to fund the infrastructure of the Cain Center.

Mayor Vaught explained there are issues with the City's infrastructure. Mayor Vaught expressed there is the need for a new Police Station and a Municipal Court building. Mayor Vaught asked the Council to consider the City's needs.

After further discussion by the Council consensus was for the City Attorney to continue with researching the possibility of a bond election and property tax revenue for the Cain Center.

DISCUSS PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGULATING CLOTHING
COLLECTION BINS IN THE CITY

Conor Bateman, City Attorney explained he has researched an Ordinance regulating clothing collection bins in the City, however, he needed further direction from the City Council. Mr. Bateman asked the Council's input regarding an annual fee and the defining and regulating of the boxes. Mr. Bateman suggested the donation drop boxes must be constructed solely of metal, plastic, fiber glass and/or wood, have a sign or label indicating the name, address, and telephone number of the organization; be secured at all times, except when they are being emptied, have lid or a top to protect the contents from the weather; and be no larger than 102 cubic feet total in size.

He explained that any existing companies would have the opportunity to comply with the rules and regulations.

Councilmember Montgomery expressed the need for regulating the clothing bins.

Councilmember Winn expressed it may not be necessary for the City to charge a permit fee and if a fee is imposed it should be a minimal amount.

After further discussion Conor Bateman, City Attorney will proceed with researching similar Ordinances regulating clothing bins.

**DISCUSS ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS;
A) DISCUSS REQUEST TO DECORATE GINGER'S PARK DURING
HOLIDAY**

Ms. Burton explained that the "Light Up Athens" Committee is requesting authorization to decorate Ginger's Park during the holiday season. Decorations will begin December 6, 2014. This item will appear on the agenda, Monday, November 10, 2014 for action.

**B) DISCUSS REQUEST TO CLOSE A PORTION OF NORTH
PRAIRIEVILLE AND WEST TYLER STREETS ON DECEMBER 6, 2014
AS REQUESTED BY DAN ROGERS FOR A POST CHRISTMAS
PARADE STREET CELEBRATION**

Ms. Burton explained that the City of Athens is sponsoring the Christmas Around The Square Parade on December 6, 2014 and Dan Rogers has requested that portions of North Prairieville and West Tyler Streets be closed to allow for a Post Christmas Parade Street Celebration . The item will appear on the agenda Monday for action.

**C) DISCUSS FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE
REZONING OF TRACT 118A C.M. WALTERS SURVEY, FROM
AGRICULTURE TO INDUSTRIAL, OWNED BY MERRILL JENSEN
(2680 HWY 31 WEST)**

Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning & Development, explained that this property was purchased by Mr. Jensen for future development and Mr. Jensen will construct a 60 x 100 ft. building that will be used to make Metal Vessels used for Petroleum Industry. The item will appear on the agenda Monday.

**D) DISCUSS FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE
REZONING AND SITE PLAN AMENDMENT OF LOT 15C, J.B.
ATWOOD SURVEY FROM COMMERCIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT
-2 TO COMMERCIAL PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-2 SPECIFIC USE
PROVISION, OWNED BY JOHN H. BROWN (601 N.E. LOOP 7).**

Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning & Development, explained this property is located on the North Loop and has been vacant for 1 ½ years. The property is being rezoned to allow for a Commercial Wrecker Operation Impound Facility. A six (6) foot tall screen fence is proposed on three (3) sides of the property to prevent view from the Loop. The item will appear on the agenda Monday for action.

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DISCUSS ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSENT AGENDA;
A) DISCUSS APPROVING MINUTES

These items will appear on the Consent Agenda on Monday..

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN
RELATING TO THE CITY OF ATHENS.

No one appeared.

ADJOURN.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 24TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2014.

Jerry D. Vaught, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

