

HOSCHTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

MINUTES

July 7, 2008, 7:00 p.m.
Hoschton City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Copenhaver called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Council members: Richard Green, Post 1
 Jim Jester, Post 2
 John Schulte, Post 3
 Richard Shepherd, Post 4
 Tom Walden, Post 5
 Theresa Kenerly, Post 6

City Clerk Kristen A. Smith
Mayor William Copenhaver
City Attorney Thomas Mitchell

C. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Motion made by Councilman Walden to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2008 Regular Meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly, with all present voting in favor.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Thomas Mitchell, city attorney, reported one additional item needing to be discussed for approval. Article II. Vegetation, Section 33-204 requires a correction due to a clerical error. Mayor Copenhaver reported this would be added as number 6 in new business.

E. PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, RECOGNITION AND AWARDS:

None.

F. PUBLIC INPUT/DISCUSSION:

The "Hoschton Scarecrow" made a grand entrance into the city council room to introduce himself to our Mayor, Council, and public. Councilman Schulte was in the scarecrow costume. Councilman Schulte shared that he would be going to various public events around Jackson County during the next several months to gain further interest in the Hoschton Fall Festival's 'Scarecrow Stampede'. Councilman Schulte and the members of the Hoschton Fall Festival hope that the "Hoschton Scarecrows" presence in the community will encourage citizens to make scarecrows and help Hoschton with the goal to enter the Guinness Book of World Records for the most scarecrows in

one location. Hoschton has designated the "one location" to be in view from a street at any 30548 mailing address.

G. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. Water, Waste and Environmental Services

Councilman Green reported that Ocone Well Drillers (OWD) had, today, mobilized on the specified site on Cabin Drive to begin the 2nd well drilling project.

Councilman Green reported that the Pall Membrane System was, this Wednesday, going to be viewed by a party with potential interest in purchasing the system. Councilman Green shared again that the purchase of this unit was due to the incorrect guidance of the previous engineer and is not necessary for a wastewater treatment plant but typically only utilized for plants treating drinking water.

2. Fiscal Resources

Councilman Walden reported that Fiscal Resources would be meeting in July at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, July 21st at city hall in the council room. The committee will be discussing Hoschton's current fee schedule as well as the first review and cut of the proposed 2009 Budget.

3. Public Works and Properties

Councilman Jester reported that Public Works and Properties met on June 18th.
Committee Meeting Minutes for 6/18/08 attached hereto.

Councilman Jester reported Hoschton having approximately 31 missing or faded street signs in addition to those already replaced this year. Officer Grogan, Hoschton Police Department, and Kristen Smith, city clerk, will obtain an approximate cost for this project. Funding for this project will come from Street SPLOST during 2008.

Councilman Jester reported that Mill Street will become a one-way street.

Councilman Jester also reported D.O.T. is still evaluating the public cross walk at the Depot.

4. Public Safety

Councilman Shepherd reported that Public Safety met on June 17, 2008 with the only attendees being committee members and Chief Hill. Councilman Shepherd also reported that the Hoschton PD Forum Meeting, immediately following committee meeting, had approximately 12 attendees.

Councilman Shepherd reported receiving proposed crossovers and pathways for low speed vehicles from Wistar Harmon, city planner. The finalized Low Speed Vehicle Ordinance will be presented in August 2008. The proposed fees correlating to low speed vehicles will also be presented at the August 2008 meeting.

Committee meeting minutes for 6/17/08 attached hereto.

5. Planning & Zoning

Councilwoman Kenerly reported there were no zoning requests submitted in June and nothing further to report at this time.

6. Business, Commerce, and Economic Development

Councilman Schulte reported his committee met in June and had engaged Leah Nelson, marketing representative with The Paper, to assist in determining marketing options for the City. Printed materials were considered the best option. Councilman Schulte reported the consideration of a Hoschton Presentation Folder containing various removable cards inside. The cards would be in bullet-point format with possible topics including; demographics, land use, space available, school system, and tax incentives. Estimated cost for 500 completed packs is between \$1,500 and \$2,000. Mrs. Nelson asked that the committee determine the amount of her compensation for the project work. Project completion anticipated to take one (1) month.

Proposal prepared by Councilman Schulte and attached hereto.

The committee also discussed consideration of a banner to be attached to the 1st support level of the water tower as an opportunity to advertise upcoming events.

Councilman Schulte shared that Robbie Bettis and her staff had made a scarecrow costume that can be worn at public events prior to the Hoschton Fall Festival and Scarecrow Stampede.

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS:

1. Fall Festival Committee

Mayor Copenhaver reported that the Fall Festival is coming together and the entertainment for the event is in place. Mayor Copenhaver also noted that scarecrows are beginning to show up all along highway 53.

Mayor Copenhaver reported that the city may want to consider closing City Square to traffic during the festival, September 26th and 27th. This consideration would need to be presented at the August meeting.

Mayor Copenhaver reported that the city is working with the Chief of Police, Dave Hill, and the city's attorney, Thomas Mitchell, to approve an Ordinance that allows for the sale of beer and wine during special events. He recommended this be handled and presented by the Public Safety Committee. The purpose of this ordinance would be to allow beer and wine sales during the Hoschton Fall Festival 2008 concert events. The ordinance is being mirrored from the existing Norcross ordinance. No glass or metal cans would be allowed at the events.

2. Economic Development Commission

None.

3. Historic Commission

Mrs. Dianne Blankenship wished to thank the Hoschton Business Alliance again for their generous donation to the Historic Commission in June for assistance with restoration and moving of the Darby Building.

Councilman Jester asked the dollar amount of the donation which was reported to be \$1,000.

I. ACTIVITY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mayor Copenhagen reported that the June 2008 Administrative Activity Report is attached to the July 7th Regular Meeting Agenda.

June 2008 Administrative Activity Report attached hereto.

J. UNFINISHED OR TABLED BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance – Motorized Carts

Councilman Shepherd reported that he and Councilman Schulte had recently ridden in a motorized golf cart with Chief Hill around the Hoschton city limits and on Peachtree. The Highway 53 permitted crossings presently being considered are at Safety Storage and Broad Street. The final proposal will be presented during the August Work Session and Regular Meeting.

2. Resolution – Fees – Motorized Carts

Councilman Shepherd reported this would be ready for presentation during the August 2008 City Council Meeting.

K. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Resolution – Jackson County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

Mayor Copenhagen reported that the deadline for signing the Jackson County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan Resolution required signing prior to the July Sessions. Mayor Copenhagen had sent an email to all council members with information regarding the Plan and request for consideration. All council members responded, via email, in favor of the Resolution.

Motion by Councilman Green to approve the Resolution of the Jackson County Mitigation Plan, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

2. Approval of Phase I – Sewer line to Joppa Lane

Councilman Green reported that \$45,000 in pre-paid connections has been collected by city staff as of 7/02/08 which is 38% of the total project cost (\$118k). The amount collected as of 7/2 is \$10,000 more than previously collected when first discussed.

Councilman Green recommended that the city of Hoschton pay the remaining \$73,000 cost from the Water & Sewer Revenue Fund. This recommendation is based on several factors, including; this sewer line will allow for additional growth in Hoschton as well as the current slow economy has created an opportunity for the cost of this project to be at a historically low price.

Councilwoman Kenerly stated she felt moving forward with the Phase I Sewer line to Jopena Lane is a wise decision.

Councilman Shepherd stated the Phase I Sewer line to Jopena Lane is necessary for growth.

Motion by Councilman Green to approve Phase I – Sewer line to Joppa Lane, seconded by Councilwoman Schulte. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

3. Approval of survey of sewer system manhole location and elevation

Councilman Green reported the City has approximately 130 existing manholes but doesn't know the locations or elevations. It is necessary for future growth to know the elevations. The city, having solicited seven (7) bids, received five (5) responses. The low bid came in at \$5,200 by Henderson Land Survey Company. Councilman Green requested to award the contract to Henderson Land Survey Company at a contract amount of not to exceed \$6,000 to cover all contingencies.

Mayor Copenhagen reported expenses for this project will be funded from the City Water Sewer Revenue Fund.

Motion by Councilman Green to approve survey of sewer system manhole location and elevation, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

4. Approval of administrative charge for use of credit cards for services at City Hall

Councilman Walden reported the city is in the process of establishing merchant services in order to allow for credit and debit card payments at City Hall. Walden stated that there is no Ordinance required for adding a fee. The fee will only apply to those paying a service with a credit or debit card. There remains no fee for any payments made by cash or check.

Mary Anne Kenerly, citizen in the audience, announced she has a merchant machine that she has not used and will not need that she is willing to donate to the city.

Motion by Councilman Walden to approve administrative charge for use of credit cards for services at City Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

5. Approval of development and printing of a presentation folder with inserts to advertise Hoschton

Councilman Schulte recommended approval of the presentation folders, as earlier discussed in detail, at a cost of not to exceed \$2500, based on Leah Nelson's experience and knowledge.

Councilman Jester stated the Hoschton Business Alliance ("HBA") would directly benefit from these presentation folders. Councilman Jester recommended the HBA be approached with the request to donate funds to the city for this specific project cost in an amount equal to the HBA's donation to the Hoschton Historical Commission for the Darby Building.

Councilman Jester recommended this item be tabled until after the upcoming July HBA meeting. Mayor Copenhaver reported that this item is not an ordinance so approval cannot be delayed.

Motion by Councilman Schulte to approve development and printing of a presentation folder with inserts to advertise Hoschton, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion made with those in favor being: Councilman Green, Councilman Schulte, Councilwoman Kenerly, Councilman Shepherd, and Councilman Walden. Councilman Jester abstained.

6. Amend Chapter 33 Nuisances, Article II, Vegetation, Section 33-204 Abatement of City, Notice of Abatement; to correct clerical error

Section 33-204 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Hoschton is amended as follows

- a. References to "Section 34-113" are deleted and "Section 33-203" inserted in lieu thereof.
- b. The title of this Section is changed to "Abatement by City, Notice of Abatement".

Motion by Councilwoman Kenerly to approve change of Ordinance for clerical correction, seconded by Councilman Schulte. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

L. CLOSING COMMENTS:

None.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None.

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion made by Councilman Schulte to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Kenerly. Motion carried with all present voting in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen A. Smith, City Clerk

Attachments in Minute Book

APPROVED:

William Copenhaver, Mayor

Kristen A. Smith, City Clerk

Manner of Addressing Council. No member, while the City Council is in session shall speak on any subject unless recognized by the presiding officer. Every speaker shall address the chair, and no member shall interrupt anyone who is speaking, except to call him to order or for explanation.

Limitations on Addressing City Council. Any person not a member of City Council who desires to address the City Council shall first secure the permission of the presiding officer, and then shall step up in front of the council, give his name and address in an audible tone of voice for the record, and direct his remarks to the City Council as a body rather than to any particular member, limiting such remarks to a reasonable time (**2 minutes per person/ 5 minutes per topic**) unless additional time is granted by City Council. Permission to speak is at the discretion of the Mayor and City Council. Persons wishing to bring subjects to attention of the City Council may do so either by providing the City Clerk or the Mayor with a written petition for presentation to the City Council at its regular meeting or by contacting the Mayor or any City Council member informally

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