



CITY OF RICHMOND HILL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017
7:30 P.M.**

**Richmond Hill City Hall Council Chambers
40 Richard Davis Drive
Richmond Hill, Georgia 31324**

Present from City Council: Harold Fowler, *Mayor*; Russ Carpenter, *Mayor Pro-Tem*; *Councilmembers:* Jan Bass, John Fesperman and Johnny Murphy

Staff Present: Chris Lovell, *City Manager*; Scott Allison, *Asst. City Manager*; Randy Dykes, *Asst. Planning & Zoning Director*; Dawnne Greene, *City Clerk*; Charlie Heino, *EOM Project Manager*; Bob Whitmarsh, *Finance Director*; and Ralph Catlett, *Fire Chief*

Mayor Fowler called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Councilmember Carpenter gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Ralph Catlett.

**PROCLAMATION TO HONOR MICKEY BAYENS ON BEING AWARDED ATHLETIC DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR
FOR REGION 2-AAAAAA BY THE GEORGIA ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S ASSOCIATION**

Whereas, our public schools have acknowledged that quality education is not acquired in the classroom alone; and

Whereas, we realize that participation in organized athletics helps build character and helps to develop the potential of young people in so many ways; and

Whereas, it takes a dedicated person to teach a young person to excel in sports and to learn the basic ideals of fair play and good sportsmanship; and

Whereas, during the years of his career, Mickey Bayens has taught and encouraged many young people, coaches, parents, and countless other supporters to work together to allow each individual to achieve their best; and

Whereas, these and other achievements have resulted in positive publicity for the City of Richmond Hill and the Bryan County schools; and

Whereas, the Mayor and Council wish to recognize the inspiration he has provided to his friends, family, teachers and coaches;

Now, therefore we are pleased today to publicly commend and honor Richmond Hill High School Athletic Director Mickey Bayens for being chosen Athletic Director of the Year for Region 2-AAAAAA by the Georgia Athletic Director's Association.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Richmond Hill, Georgia to be affixed this 31st day of March, 2017.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve proclamation for Mickey

Bayens in the official minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

1. Approval of Minutes of March 21, 2017

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the March 21, 2017 City Council Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administration and Personnel: Dawnne Greene

GEORGIA CITIES WEEK

April 23-29, 2017 RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL RECOGNIZING GEORGIA CITIES WEEK, APRIL 23-29, 2017 AND ENCOURAGING ALL CITIZENS TO SUPPORT THE CELEBRATION AND CORRESPONDING ACTIVITIES.

WHEREAS, city government is the closest to most citizens, and the one with the most direct daily impact upon its residents; and

WHEREAS, city government is administered for and by its citizens, and is dependent upon public commitment to and understanding of its many responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, city government officials and employees share the responsibility to pass along their understanding of public services and their benefits; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Cities Week is a very important time to recognize the important role played by the city government in our lives; and

WHEREAS, this week offers an important opportunity to spread the word to all the citizens of Georgia that they can shape and influence this branch of government which is closest to the people; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Municipal Association and its member cities have joined together to teach students and other citizens about municipal government through a variety of different projects and information; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Cities Week offers an important opportunity to convey to all the citizens of Georgia that they can shape and influence government through their civic involvement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL DECLARES APRIL 23-29, 2017 AS GEORGIA CITIES WEEK.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL ENCOURAGES ALL CITIZENS, CITY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT THIS WEEK IS RECOGNIZED AND CELEBRATED ACCORDINGLY.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City of Richmond Hill on April 4, 2017.

Councilmember Fesperman made a motion to approve the Georgia Cities Week resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

Georgia Cities Week: Legislative Breakfast on Monday, April 24 and Employee Recognition Luncheon on Wednesday, April 26.

Public Safety:

Police Department: Mitch Shores
Nothing to report.

Fire Department: Ralph Catlett
Nothing to report.

Public Works: Charles Heino, **EOM**

Clean-up of debris from Hurricane Matthew is complete. It was anticipated that grinding would take several weeks but it was completed in five days. Staff was commended for spectacular job by Mayor Fowler and Chris Lovell.

Park & Tree: Harvey Lashley
Nothing to report.

Planning, Zoning, and Code Enforcement: Scott Allison

1. Approval/Disapproval of the building sign for **Allstate Insurance** to be located at 3745 US Highway 17

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the building sign for Allstate Insurance to be located at 3745 US Highway 17. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

2. Approval/Disapproval of the building sign for **El Potro** to be located at 2459-C US Highway 17

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the building sign for El Potro to be located at 2459-C US Highway 17. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

3. Approval/Disapproval of the **Richmond Hill Town Centre Signage Program and Master Plan**

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the Richmond Hill Town

Centre Signage Program and Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

Finance Department: Bob Whitmarsh

1. Approve/Disapprove financial report for February, 2017

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the financial report for February, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

CITY MANAGER TOPICS:

1. Approval/Disapproval of Patrol Division Command Officer (Captain)

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the Patrol Division Command Officer (Captain) position. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

2. Approval/Disapproval of Training Coordinator / IA (Lieutenant)

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the Training Coordinator / IA (Lieutenant) position. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

3. Approval/Disapproval of elimination of a Major position and two Watch Commander positions

Councilmember Fesperman made a motion to approve the elimination of a Major position and two Watch Commander positions. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

4. Approval/Disapproval of organizational chart for police department

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the organizational chart for police department. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

5. Approval/Disapproval of vehicle purchases for Public Works

Four trucks budgeted from water/sewer for a total of \$167,387:

2017 Ford F-250 Crew Cab	\$26,354	O.C. Welch Ford
2017 Ford F-250 Regular Cab	\$21,668	O.C. Welch Ford
2017 Ford F-250 Mechanic Body 4x4	\$29,300	Wood Folsom Ford
2017 Ford F-250 Mechanic Body With Crane	\$90,065	J.C. Lewis Ford

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve vehicle purchases for Public Works. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Murphy, Bass and Fesperman.

NEW BUSINESS:
Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Gene Brogdan: He is concerned about the progress on Richmond Hill Town Centre and continuing the city's sprawl further out. He feels that Richmond Hill never got a real downtown area, and asked Mayor and Council to consider continuing to focus on Crossroads area that has approximately 100 businesses. Brogdan stated that more effort to make the area pedestrian-friendly and continue the same fencing, landscape and sidewalks would increase traffic for businesses in that area. He stressed making Richmond Hill a more urban environment.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to take a recess for refreshments only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion was carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Murphy, Carpenter, Bass and Fesperman.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M. in a motion by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Fesperman, Carpenter, Bass and Murphy.



E. Harold Fowler
Mayor

Attest:


Dawnne Greene
City Clerk