

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF RICHMOND HILL

Tuesday, April 5, 2016
7:30 P.M.

Richmond Hill City Hall Council Chambers

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

Staff Present: Chris Lovell, *City Manager*; Ursula Lee, *City Clerk*; Ralph Catlett, *Fire Chief*;
Scott Allison, *Director of Planning & Zoning*; Randy Dykes, *Asst. Planning & Zoning Director*;
Mark Long, *Code Enforcement*; Bob Whitmarsh, *Finance Director*

Visitors: Jamie Parker, Greg Rials, Raymond Altman, Charles Webb, Morgan Williams, Ben Bishop, Ron Elliott, Charles Way

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 Catlett.

1. Approval of Minutes of meeting **March 15, 2016**

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the March 15, 2016 City Council Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administration and Personnel: Ursula Lee

Nothing to report.

Public Safety:

Police Department: Chief Billy Reynolds

Nothing to report.

Fire Department: Ralph Catlett

1. Approve/Disapprove a request for SPLOST funds i/a/o \$50,215.75 for the purchase of radio equipment. Chief Catlett stated he was requesting the funds because neither station has a base station, portable radios are 10 to 15 years old and pagers are beyond repair. It's time for an upgrade. Mayor Fowler stated this is an ISO requirement for our rating. City Manager Lovell noted this was approved on the SPLOST list.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the request for SPLOST funds i/a/o \$50,215.75 for the purchase of radio equipment for the Fire Department. The motion was

seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

Public Works: Charles Heino, Enviroworx

Nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation and Culture: Harvey Lashley

Nothing to report

Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement: Scott Allison

1. Approval/Disapproval of a request by **Ben Bishop for 9 Round Richmond Hill** requesting a conditional use to allow a fitness center/gym in a C-1 Neighborhood Commercial zoning district. The property location for this request is 11408 Ford Avenue. Map 054, Parcel 091-01. Mr. Allison stated Council has all information in their packet, this would not be a 24 hour gym; it would be standard business hours. It's basically a 30 minute Kickboxing workout. There was a Public Hearing with no one speaking for or against this request.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the request by Ben Bishop for 9 Round Richmond Hill requesting a conditional use to allow a fitness center/gym in a C-1 Neighborhood Commercial zoning district. The property location for this request is 11408 Ford Avenue. Map 054, Parcel 091-01. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

2. Approval/Disapproval of a request by **Raymond Altman Jr.** requesting a conditional use to allow a tattoo parlor in a C-4 Interchange Commercial zoning district. The property location for this request is 4160 Hwy 17. Map 0474, Parcel 003. Mr. Allison stated a public Hearing was held with no one speaking for or against. This was previously Dr. Burns' office.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the request by Raymond Altman Jr. requesting a conditional use to allow a tattoo parlor in a C-4 Interchange Commercial zoning district. The property location for this request is 4160 Hwy 17. Map 0474, Parcel 003. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

3. Approval/Disapproval of the request by **RH Storage, LLC** for Preliminary Plat approval for Brisbon Village located off of Brisbon Road.

Councilmember Murphy recused himself.

Mr. Allison stated this Preliminary Plat carves out the last two lots in Brisbon Village. Mr. Allison noted this was a 51 acre project. This is one of the beginning processes for this project.

Mr. Charles Webb came forward and explained he was the applicant. Mr. Webb explained the plat and that Bryan County had a drainage easement and where that easement extended to. Councilmember Fesperman asked if Mr. Webb was the developer and if he was the owner. Mr.

Webb stated he was the consultant to the owners. The owners are Johnny & Leslie Murphy, LLC.

Councilmember Bass asked if the road would eventually belong to the city. Mr. Webb replied “yes”, it would be constructed to city standards and be like any other city street.

There was a brief discussion on the future drainage and road easement.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the request by RH Storage, LLC for Preliminary Plat approval for Brisbon Village located off of Brisbon Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, and Bass.

4. Approval/Disapproval of the request by **C'Mere, LLC** for Preliminary Plat approval for Plantation Village to be located off of HWY 144 between Magnolia Manor and Holly Hill Road. Mr. Allison stated we have seen this development many, many times. This is what is remaining of the city's purchase of the 51 acres. There will be a Master Plan revision that will come before Council after a Public Hearing. There was a brief discussion about the drainage and ditches.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the request by C'Mere, LLC for Preliminary Plat approval for Plantation Village to be located off of HWY 144 between Magnolia Manor and Holly Hill Road. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, and Bass.

Councilmember Murphy returned to the meeting.

Finance Department: Bob Whitmarsh

1. Approve/Disapprove financial report for January 2016. Mr. Whitmarsh stated that the city generated more revenue in the General Fund and Water/sewer Fund than expected. We purchased seven police vehicles and a reconditioned street sweeper. The city is doing well. Councilmember Murphy commented that the projected building permits seem to be ahead of schedule. Mr. Whitmarsh stated they were. City Manager Lovell stated that he and Mr. Whitmarsh were compiling the information to show where we were from last year compared to where we are.

Councilmember Bass asked if we were back to normal on permits. Mr. Allison stated we are consistent on the permits.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve the financial report for January 2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Approve/Disapprove Nominations for the Ethic Board as follows: Jake Mullins, Christy Balbo, and Tom Sawyer. Mayor Fowler noted if the nominations were approved they

would be sworn in at next meeting.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve the Nominations for the Ethic Board as follows: Jake Mullins, Christy Balbo, and Tom Sawyer. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

- b. Approve/Disapprove and sign GDOT Resolution and GA Security and Immigration Compliance Act Affidavit for the SR144 @ I-95 Roundabout Lighting Project Agreement. Mr. Allison noted at a previous council meeting we got approval for street lights, Mass Arms was not approved. GDOT requires a resolution in their template to formalize the agreement. City Manager Lovell stated the Roundabout works better than anything else according to GDOT's models.

Councilmember Murphy stated the Roundabout in front of the Bryan County Annex Building works great. Councilmember Carpenter also stated that they have worked wonders in Hilton Head.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve and sign GDOT Resolution and GA Security and Immigration Compliance Act Affidavit for the SR144 @ I-95 Roundabout Lighting Project Agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

CITY MANAGER TOPICS: Chris Lovell

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Fowler stated the only thing he had was Brad Brookshire has resigned his position on the Planning & Zoning Board. We need to be thinking of a replacement for that position.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve/Disapprove request from Greg Rials for Enviroworx to serve **beer and wine only** at an event in the Wetlands Center in J. F. Gregory Park on May 28, 2016.

Councilmember Carpenter made a motion to approve request from Greg Rials for Enviroworx to serve beer and wine only at an event in the Wetlands Center in J. F. Gregory Park on May 28, 2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

2. Approve/Disapprove request from Willie L. Blige to serve **beer and wine only** at an event in the Wetlands Center at J. F. Gregory Park on August 13, 2016.

Councilmember Murphy made a motion to approve request from Willie L. Blige to serve beer and wine only at an event in the Wetlands Center at J. F. Gregory Park on August

13, 2016. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Carpenter, Fesperman, Bass and Murphy.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ron Elliott invited everyone to a benefit run/walk for Police Sergeant John McCain; he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The event will be this Friday night at 6:30 at J F Gregory Park.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 P. M. in a motion by Councilmember Carpenter. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Murphy. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Fesperman, Carpenter, Bass and Murphy.

Respectfully submitted,

Ursula Lee
City Clerk

