



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

**Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
7:00 P.M.**

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

**Present from City Council:** Russ Carpenter, *Mayor*; *Councilmembers:* Jan Bass, Tara Baraniak and John Fesperman

**Staff Present:** Chris Lovell, *City Manager*; Scott Allison, *Assistant City Manager*; Linda Blankenship, *Assistant City Clerk*; Bob Whitmarsh, *Finance Director*; Mitch Shores, *Police Chief*; and John Cook, *Interim Fire Chief*.

Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Chief Shores gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Carpenter extended condolences to the Gill family on their loss of Mr. Carlton Gill on behalf of council and staff.

Approval of Minutes of meeting **February 5, 2019**

**Councilmember Fesperman made a motion to approve the February 5, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Baraniak. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

**Motion to amend the agenda to include approval/disapproval of resolution opposing HB 302 was made by Councilmember Bass. The motion was seconded by Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

Mayor Carpenter presented awards to Sarah Maltby, Camryn Baraniak, and Steven Jones. Councilmember Baraniak presented competition swimming videos of Camryn and Steven.

Mayor Carpenter presented proclamation to Eagle Scout Nicolas Bradley.

Mayor presented Quarterly Spotlight Employee William Bates.

## **DEPARTMENTS**

**FIRE: Interim Chief John Cook**  
**Monthly report submitted, no questions.**

**POLICE: Chief Mitch Shores**  
**Monthly report submitted, no questions.**

Chief Shores asked Captain Jason Sakelarios to explain the State Certification award the Police Department received. Captain Sakelarios noted they would now be inspected every three years by the state.

Chief Shores presented Captain Sakelarios with a Special Recognition plaque for his devotion to the department and his input in receiving State Certification for the department.

Mayor and Council congratulated Chief Shores and his department.

**PUBLIC WORKS: EOM**  
**Monthly report submitted, no questions.**

## **PLANNING AND ZONING: Scott Allison**

1. Downtown Development Authority (DDA) January verbal report

Mr. Allison gave a verbal report on the DDA. Mr. Allison noted there would be 38 Crepe Myrtle trees planted down Hwy. 144 to Parkers. He also mentioned the mural in the park. Mr. Allison noted he would be giving this report on a regular basis.

2. Approval/Disapproval of resolution supporting development of U.S. Bicycle Route 1

**Councilmember Baraniak made a motion to approve the resolution supporting development of U.S. Bicycle Route 1. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

## **CITY MANAGER TOPICS**

1. First reading of proposed charter amendments

City Attorney Ray Smith provided an overview of the charter amendments: To require the vote of four (4) Councilmembers to remove the City Manager and to provide for the final payment of a removed City Manager; to provide that a veto of the Mayor may be overridden only by the vote of four (4) Councilmembers; to require the vote of four (4) Councilmembers to remove the City Attorney and to provide for the final payment of a removed City Attorney; to require the vote of four (4) Councilmembers to remove the City Clerk and to provide for the final payment of a removed City Clerk; and to require the vote of four (4) Councilmembers to remove the City Financial Officer and to provide for the final payment of a removed City Financial Officer.

Mr. Lovell noted again this just some housekeeping to the charter, and the first reading.

2. Approval/Disapproval of resolution authorizing local referendum to activate the City's statutory redevelopment powers and create tax allocation districts

**Councilmember Baraniak made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing local referendum to activate the City's statutory redevelopment powers and create tax allocation districts. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bass. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

3. Approval/Disapproval of South Annexation GEFA Phase I Infrastructure award to Tyson Utilities Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$2,778,429.40

**Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve a South Annexation GEFA Phase I Infrastructure award to Tyson Utilities Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$2,778,429.40. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

4. Approval/Disapproval of resolution opposing HB 302

**Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve a resolution opposing HB 302. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Baraniak. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Bass, Baraniak and Fesperman.**

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Bass announced that March 5<sup>th</sup> would be her last council meeting, she has taken a job in Tennessee.

Mr. Lovell stated that resumes would be accepted for Councilmember's Bass Post #4 beginning tomorrow and going through February 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be an appointed position for the rest of the term. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Lovell or Dawnne Greene.

Mayor Carpenter announced there would be a city softball tournament held on March 23 from 10 to 4 p.m. and come support the team.

Mayor Carpenter noted that due to speeding in some of subdivisions in the city speed bumps have been approved for those subdivisions.

Councilmember Baraniack congratulated and welcomed all the candidates that were running for Post # 1 Councilmember Murphy whom passed away.

Mayor and Council recognized all the candidates present for Councilmember Post 1.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Thomas Byrnes who lives at 8932 Ford Avenue addressed Mayor and Council about the drainage issues between Carter and Camillia Streets. Mayor Carpenter stated that he would have Mr. Allison take a look at this issue and get together with Mr. Byrnes.

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:44 P.M. in a motion by Councilmember Bass. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Fesperman. Motion carried in the affirmative by Councilmembers Baraniak, Fesperman and Bass.**

Respectfully submitted,

Dawnne Greene  
City Clerk