

**MAY 21, 2007
CITY OF SENOIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
IMMEDIATELY AFTER PUBLIC HEARING**

VISITORS: Liz Camp, Sam & Suzanne Helfman, Paul Lombardi, Paul & Ann Price, Sue Wells, Aime Scarbrough, Alex Tye, Mark Mitchell, Bill Roy, John Thompson, Scott Tigchelaar, Bob Werner, Gail Downs, Sarah Campbell and Rebecca Neill.

FULL COUNCIL PRESENT

1. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME VISITORS

Mayor Belisle called the City Council meeting to order and welcomed all.

2. APPROVAL OF MAY 7, 2007 PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

C. Grover made motion to approve the May 7, 2007 Public Hearing minutes as presented & was 2nd by C. Harrison. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MAY 7, 2007 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

C. Owens made motion to approve the May 7, 2007 City Council meeting minutes as presented & was 2nd by C. Grover. Motion carried unanimously.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

A. 2nd Read-Adoption of Ethics Ordinance

Mr. Ferry stated that the suggested verbiage discussed at the May 7th meeting regarding complaints not being dismissed has been added to the ordinance. C. Owens made motion to approve the 2nd read of the Ethics Ordinance with the addition mentioned & was 2nd by C. Graham. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Update on Clean Up Senoia

Bob Werner informed Council that Clean Up Senoia was a huge success, stating that 47.36 ton of debris was collected, 300 tires and a total of 8 dumpsters were filled. Mr. Werner added that his response from the residents was very positive. Mr. Werner then informed Council that he has been monitoring the builder in Ivy Ridge and said that is 98% cleaned up. Mayor Belisle thanked Mr. Werner for all of his hard work.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Demolition of Brantley Institute

Mr. Ferry stated that the Brantley Institute has been used recently as a public works staging point and storage. Council had previously requested that RFQ's be requested for the building demolition and Mr. Ferry informed Council that 5 were received. Of these, Crawford Grading was the low bidder at \$21,500 with \$700 additional for re-grassing. Mr. Ferry also reminded Council that this is an unbudgeted expense and suggested recovering the costs of demolition upon the sell of the land. After short discussion, Mayor Belisle made motion to award the demolition to Crawford Grading without the re-grassing (this will be done by City

crews), with funds taken from reserves. Motion was 2nd by C. Graham & carried unanimously.

B. First Baptist Church-Johnson Street-Temporary Sign Appeal-Cancelled-Not Needed

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on New Library

Coweta County Library Board Attorney Mark Mitchell informed Council that the County is fully committed to the \$500,000 in SPLOST funds allocated for Senoia and additional State funds will be available in the F/Y 2008 budget for Coweta libraries. An application was made for a portion of these funds on behalf of the City in 2005. One requirement for the grant is that State representatives come down and look at the proposed site. After their visit the County Board was notified that the State has two issues with the City Park site. The first being the proximity to the overhead power lines and the second is the proximity to the railroad tracks. Mr. Mitchell suggested the options of appealing to the State, selecting a new site or convince the State the site will work. C. Harrison asked if the City would need approval from the State for funds over \$500,000 and no approval if under and was told by Mr. Mitchell that is correct but reminded all that if the site moved, the State funds cannot be used for the purchase of another piece of property. Mr. Mitchell continued to state that no one has said that the Library will not be built but the issues will need to be addressed. The original site plans are currently being reviewed by the County and the architectural are 90% complete. Mr. Mitchell stated that the work will be done by County labor but does not know with County planned projects where the Senoia Library sits in priority. C. Harrison asked that the County Board obtain the items needed to get us priority and report back. Mayor Belisle asked when was the decision made to apply for the State grant and was told by Board Member Liz Camp the application was made before she began to serve. Mayor Belisle then asked why the City was not informed of the visit with the State representative and was told by Ms. Camp "I can't answer that". Ms. Camp then informed all that the initial application was signed on June 15, 2005 and the site was to be located on a Main Street empty lot. C. Graham asked what conversations were held prior to the inspection & was told those were unknown if any. Mayor Belisle asked Mr. Ferry if the County didn't ask Senoia to stop the grant process & was told yes, about 6 months into the work. Mr. Ferry added that he was later contacted by Senator Seabaugh, asking if the City was interested in State funds for Library expansion & replied yes. Mr. Ferry was then contacted by Coweta Librarian Barbara Osborne Harris asking if the City was still interested & told her as long as the groundbreaking stays planned for April 28th. According to County Administrator Theron Gay, no date was ever mentioned for groundbreaking and Mr. Whitlock of Coweta Public Works says an estimate for groundbreaking will be fall 2007 with construction Spring 2008. C. Graham asked if the formation of the new Library Board caused building delay &

was told no. Mayor Belisle suggested the County be notified of these issues as the design was specific to the site and the design may have to be “scratched”. Mr. Ferry then asked Ms. Camp who will decide the options & was told she views it as a team effort, adding that she would have invited the County Commission if she had known there would be questions that couldn’t be answered. Mayor Belisle again asked who was directly in contact with the State & was told by Ms. Camp that she assumes the County Librarian. C. Graham asked if Ms. Camp could get a definite answer & was told yes. Council agreed that there is an ongoing issue of lack of communication. C. Owens added that the City should have been aware of these issues beforehand. Mr. Whalen stated that there is a bigger issue to this and that is where does the County stand in all of this? Ms. Camp suggested that the Mr. Whalen, Mr. Mitchell the Library Board and Council sit down and iron all of this out. Mayor Belisle wants a meeting with the State and the Coweta Librarian. Mr. Whalen suggests meeting with the County representatives first. Senoia Library Director Aime Scarbrough informed Council that she had no knowledge of the State visit until the representative arrived with County Librarian Barbara Osborne Harris and continued to say that the gentleman she talked with at the State informed her that Senoia had not met any of the deadline dates but is still willing to work with the City and would like to see the Library remain in the park but to date has yet to see any drawings or actual plans. Paul Lombardi asked Ms. Camp how much the State grant is for & was told 1.2 million. Mr. Lombardi finds it hard to believe that all of a sudden there is 1.2 million available and asks that in the future, communication is better. Ms. Camp assured all that it would be as we are currently transitioning from a Regional to a County Board and reminded all that Mr. Ferry is our representative on the County Board. Mayor Belisle then stated that a lot of these specifics have not been discussed at the meetings and therefore, the City wasn’t aware of any of this. Mr. Mitchell assured all that the City will be well informed in the future.

B. Resident Incentive for Employees

Mayor Belisle made motion to move forward with the resident incentives for employees living inside the City limits as listed & was 2nd by C. Graham. C. Harrison asked for explanation of the first, listing a bonus paid year end for taxes. Mayor Belisle stated that this would be paid 12-31 as a bonus. Mr. Whalen stated that this must be based on an objective standard and asked that Council hold off on action until he has had a chance to review (absent from meeting where initially discussed). C. Harrison made motion to table issue to the June 4th Council meeting & was 2nd by C. Owens. Vote to approve was 3-2. To oppose: Belisle & Grover

C. Infill Subdivision Ordinance (Small Subdivision)

C. Graham made motion that no action be taken on the Infill Subdivision Ordinance & was 2nd by C. Owens. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Proposed Golf Cart Ordinance

C. Owens made motion to approve the 1st read on the Golf Cart Ordinance & was 2nd by C. Harrison. Vote to approve was 3-2. To oppose: Belisle and Graham.

6. APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

Citizen comments should relate to specific agenda items, not listed on the agenda for a Public Hearing, or to a concern within the jurisdiction of the City. Council meetings serve the purpose of conducting city business and are not a forum for the unlimited expression of opinion. If an item is listed on the agenda for a Public Hearing, you will have an opportunity at that time to comment on the particular matter. All comments should be limited to three (3) minutes. The Mayor reserves the right to limit comments to matters germane to city business and may refer speakers to the City Administrator or other staff for resolution. Comments shall be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to individual councilmen or staff. The Mayor shall maintain decorum and unruly behavior will not be tolerated.

Rebecca Neill of Pylant Street informed all that she had recently made a request for open records and not only did she receive in her opinion illegal records of citations, she was given documents that she had not been requested and was overcharged. Ms. Neill asked Mr. Ferry for a refund on May 8th of which still hasn't been received. The City Clerk informed Ms. Neill that checks are only processed twice a month. Mr. Whalen reviewed a document that Ms. Neill stated was not an open record and was told by Mr. Whalen that it in fact was and suggested that in the future Ms. Neill set up a time to view the documents first and decide which will be copied.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Memorial Day Festivities-May 28th 10:00-5:00 (fireworks @ dark)**

8. ADJOURN

Mayor Belisle made motion to adjourn the May 21, 2007 City Council meeting & was 2nd by C. Owens. Motion carried unanimously.