



CITY OF MABLETON, GEORGIA
Riverside EpiCenter
135 Riverside Pkwy, Austell, GA 30168
August 14, 2024 at 6:30 PM

The Honorable Michael Owens, Mayor
The Honorable Ron Davis, District 1 Councilmember
The Honorable Dami Oladapo, District 2 Councilmember
The Honorable Keisha Jeffcoat, Mayor Pro Tem/District 3 Councilmember
The Honorable Patricia Auch, District 4 Councilmember
The Honorable TJ Ferguson, District 5 Councilmember
The Honorable Debora Herndon, District 6 Councilmember

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

City Clerk Hiott conducted the roll call and a quorum was present.

3. INVOCATION

Led by Councilman Davis.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Ferguson.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Jeffcoat and seconded by Councilmember Ferguson to approve the agenda as written. Discussion followed. City Manager Tanks recommended that Item 13b be tabled until the executive session. Councilmember Auch asked if there was a reason, and Mr. Tanks stated because of possible litigation. Councilmember Auch asked if the purpose of public discussion was for the public to be privy to witnessing the discussion. City Attorney Walker-Ashby explained the Executive Session was needed because of certain threats and certain executive session parameters that the law allows conversation be taken back privately. Councilmember Herndon explained the purpose of the item was so the public would have an understanding of the questions recently raised about the issue. She did not understand why was being removed. Mr. Tanks stressed his recommendation was to move item 13 b off of public discussion and bring it to an executive session and not publicly discussed. Mayor Owens confirmed the item was to be discussed in the executive session. There was no vote taken on the motion made by Councilmember Jeffcoat and Councilmember Ferguson. Another motion was made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Davis and seconded by Councilmember Jeffcoat to move Item 13b of the Regular Agenda to an Executive Session. The vote did not

pass. Yeas: Davis, Jeffcoat, and Owens Nays: Oladapo, Auch, Ferguson, and Herndon

A motion was made again by Councilmember Ferguson and seconded by Councilmember Oladapo to approve the agenda as written. The motion passed 7-0.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. City of Mableton Comprehensive Plan 2045 Public Hearing - John Funny and Allison Stewart-Harris of Grice Consulting Group

Mayor Owens announced the item and recognized Mr. John Funny of Grice Consulting LLC to present a PowerPoint kick off and overview presentation on the Comprehensive Plan 2045 . Mr. John Funny, President and CEO, thanked the Mayor and Council for selecting Grice Consulting team to develop the inaugural Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Funny was the project director, and he announced Allison Stewart-Harris as the assistant project director. He shared information about the Grice Consulting Group. The firm was established in 1995 and the corporate office is in Atlanta. Grice Consulting Group does projects throughout the world focusing on city and urban planning, transportation planning, transportation engineering, intelligence, transportation systems and program management. He spoke about his background. He has 37 years of experience in the planning and engineering area. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from South Carolina State University and a Masters in Public Policy and Urban Planning from the University of Southern California. Grice Consulting has worked on over 50 comprehensive plans collectively with Tunnell Spangler Walsh (TSW) and over 100 special area plans. Locally, Grice has worked for City of Atlanta, Cobb County, DeKalb County, Fulton County, Spalding County, Sandy Springs and the Atlanta Beltline. Nationally, Grice Consulting has worked with cities such as Washington DC, Prince George's County Maryland, Arlington County, Virginia, Columbia, South Carolina to name a few. Internationally, Grice has worked on planning in Saudi Arabia, Jamaica and Amsterdam, to name a few.

The presentation is available in the agenda packet. Highlights of the presentation included:

- The Comp Plan process brings the community together to give input into the vision that is being created for the city.
- Since Mableton is a new city, this is an opportunity to create the footprint of how the City would look, touch, and in feel twenty years.
- The Project Team was named.
- The Comprehensive Plan sets the long-term community goals related to all elements that a city is responsible such as land use, transportation, economic development and housing..
- The plan recommends future land use policies for the entire jurisdiction.
- The plan provides a work program for all city-led tasks within five years of the plan's completion.
- The plan is required by the State of Georgia.
- The Department of Community Affairs serves as the gatekeeper.
- The plan is an advisory document. It is not a regulatory document (Zoning Ordinance, Ordinance Map).
- The benefits to the City were addressed.
- The Comp Plan opens access to state and federal funding opportunities by obtaining

the Qualified Local Government (QLG) status.

- There are five special area studies that will be going to a lower level to provide more detailed specific plans. That will be the specialty of Noell Consulting Group to make sure there is a right fit for the specific area.
- The five special areas are: Veterans Memorial Highway Corridor, City Center, Historic Main Street, Riverside Parkway and the Six Flags District.

Mr. Funny recognized Allison-Stewart-Harris of TSW who provided the project schedule. Highlights of the schedule included:

- The process is a little over one year long. The adoption process would be from September to October 2025.
- August - October 2024 was background and goal setting, digging into existing conditions and talking about where the City wants to be.
- November - June will be looking at needs, opportunities, and strategic identification and making sure to create the foundation plan.
- In July - August 2025 there will be a work program, a requirement of the Comprehensive Plan, focused on the next five years.
- This will be the first step towards the 20-year program.
- The Community Engagement process was explained. There will be an interactive website, project banding, social media updates, emails, and newsletters
- There will be stakeholder interviews.
- There will be a steering committee. This is a requirement of the state.
- There will be a series of public meetings.
- Mr. Funny added there will also be pop-ups at city events.

Mr. Funny continued to explain the next steps:

- There are a lot of plans already made and Grice will collect data and extract meaningful and relevant pieces of those plans.
- Grice will begin initial existing conditions analysis.
- Community Engagement - every voice and input are important. Grice will submit a community engagement to the City for approval.
- Grice will be building and launching the Comp Plan website. There will be a lab field including definitions, so everyone will understand and be engaged.

Questions followed:

- Councilmember Herndon inquired if Grice Consulting had looked at areas that Cobb County had in place and if there were impediments. Mr. Funny stated there was a Cobb County plan, and some of their priorities may not have raised to the top. The Comp Plan will take a different look and be more granular than the Cobb's county-wide look.
- The Comp Plan will include land use plans.
- Councilmember Jeffcoat inquired about the website timeline. Mr. Funny stated he was looking at having a draft website in early September. The earlier the information was out, the better the process will go. Grice was working with staff to

get the meeting schedules.

- Councilmember Jeffcoat asked if the City would meet the deadline to submit to DCA. Mr. Funny stated the DCA needed to see progress and he would keep them informed and take guidance from DCA the dates are approached.
- Councilmember Oladapo inquired about the strategy for picking out the steering committee. Grice Consulting has asked for a list from the mayor and council. Mr. Owens stated everyone would have someone to add to the steering committee. We want to have those names in the next couple of weeks.
- Mr. Funny stated the mayor and council will also be interviewed, one on one.
- Mr. Owens stated people have signed up online and staff has been calling those who signed up. Every person on council should have an appointee.

Mr. Owens stressed the City has got to accelerate some of our CABS. The City needs somewhere between 16–19 people and includes representatives from some of the City's non-profits. Mr. Funny expressed appreciation that the City is making sure there is a good representation from businesses, residents, non-profits, religious organizations to represent the City. Grice Consulting was very careful to include all groups. He appreciated the City opening up to all to serve on the committee.

- Ms. Stewart Harris added the state requires that there should be one appointment from the Economic Development area and one elected official. There will be lots of opportunities for all to be involved, not just for those that are on steering committees.
- Councilmember Auch asked to see the slide with the five specific study areas and inquired if there could be others representing the other Council districts such as the East West Connector and the Historic Covered Bridge area. Mr. Funny replied, of course if the City desired to modify their contract to include additional areas, but they had responded to the five noted in the RFQ.
- Councilmember Ferguson asked about the testing process and Ms. Stewart-Harris explained how there was an informal type of process that Grice goes through to ask how policies apply to specific areas. Feedback was important.
- Councilmember Ferguson inquired about the plan adoption process. The plan would be presented and the public involved. Once Council says approved, it is sent to DCA who will review the plan and will send comments back within the 45 day period. It is sent back to Grice Consulting and the Mayor and Council will adopt.
- Councilmember Davis asked how he could help Grice Consulting. Mr. Funny answered Grice Consulting asks the Council to champion the project and engage the community. Grice Consulting works collectively with the policymakers as well as the community, businesses, and visitors. Grice Consulting will be sending mayor and council to push out to their constituents. It was important to hear from the input and have support from the mayor and council.
- Councilmember Herndon asked for additional information about what each of the team would do during the comp plan process.
 - Grice Consulting Group - urban and transportation mobility planning
 - TSW - leading land use element
 - Contente Consulting - public engagement and meeting logistics
 - Atlas - Transportation and back check - quality control
 - Noell Consulting - market and economy studies to understand the existing

- lay of the land - have detailed data
 - Shelia Edwards - supporting Contente Consulting with meeting logistics and communication matters
- Mayor Owens announced the Atlanta Regional Commission and they will have a representative on the Steering Committee.
- Mr. Funny added an engineer with Atlas lives in Mableton, Julie that runs the Department of Communications Comp program lives in Mableton, and Contente Terry used to live in Mableton.

Mayor Owens opened the public hearing for the Comprehensive Plan. Those who spoke:

- Tre Hutchins stated he was excited to see the City move forward with the Comp Plan. He appreciated the five different areas mentioned and recognized the areas mentioned by Councilmember Auch regarding the East West Connector and its big boxes. The East West Connector was 30 years old. He was satisfied with Grice Consulting and had heard great things about Grice Consulting.
- Derrick spoke about the City of Mableton "being the best place to live" list. He was looking for collaboration in the South Cobb area. There were other supporters within the County.

Mayor Owens asked for additional public comment. There was none. He closed the public hearing. Mr. Funny thanked Mayor and Council for their involvement on the Comprehensive Plan. He looked forward to working with everyone and the neighboring cities.

7. PRESENTATIONS/ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS

8. APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Owens explained the appointment for Greg Fuller to be a member of the Mableton Development Authority. The Mableton Development Authority was previously the South Cobb Redevelopment Authority. Legislation was passed by the house and senate of the General Assembly to rework the South Cobb Redevelopment Authority. State law changed how the appointments were to be made. 5 members will be appointed by governing body of City of Mableton and two are appointed by State delegation.

Mayor Owens nominated for appointment of Greg Fuller, who was the general manager of Six Flags Over Georgia. Mr. Fuller was not present. Mayor Owens acknowledged Jason Gaines, the MDA Chair, and Sam Culbert. This was the first appointment for the City of Mableton.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ferguson and seconded by Councilmember Davis to appoint Greg Fuller to the Mableton Development Authority . The motion carried 7-0.

a. Resolution to Appoint Greg Fuller to the Mableton Development Authority

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - 2 minutes per speaker - no more than 30 minutes for all speakers. Anyone wishing to make a public comment should complete and submit the public comment card to the City Clerk prior to the start of the meeting.
Those who spoke were:

Tre Hutchins spoke as an alumni of the Regional Leadership Institute, Class of 2023. He attended with James Hammond, who does a lot for the City. He congratulated Mayor Owens and City Manager Bill Tanks who are selected for the 2024 year. He spoke about how much they will learn, and how working with the Atlanta Regional Commission on the Comprehensive Plan and being on the Regional Leadership Institute will be beneficial to the City of Mableton moving forward.

Mayor Owens asked if Jason Gaines of the Mableton Development Authority had any comments. Mr. Gaines commented about how it was a long time coming for City of Mableton's start-up and how he was looking forward to the Comprehensive Plan and working with the City.

10. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Consideration and Approval of Design Services Proposal, Scope of Work, and agreement between GTS Consulting and City of Mableton for Architectural Services for future city hall office space at 1245 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hawthorne Plaza - \$14,950**
- b. **Approval of July 24, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Owens announced the Consent Agenda items and explained that Item (b) was for the architectural services for the administrative offices for the City of Mableton. The location is 1245 Veterans Memorial at Hawthorne Plaza. Currently, the administrative offices are at the EpiCenter. The City will have operational offices for Planning and Zoning at 6116 Mableton Parkway.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ferguson and seconded by Councilmember Jeffcoat to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 7-0.

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

12. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the Year 2024 Regular Meeting Schedule and Other Purposes - First Read - City Manager Bill Tanks**

Mayor Owens announced the item and recognized City Manager Bill Tanks. Mr. Tanks conducted the First Read of the ordinance. The ordinance amends the Council's meeting calendar to reflect added work session dates to give Mayor and Council more time to discuss upcoming transitional steps. A work session for August 26th at 6:30 p.m. was already posted. The additional work sessions will take place on September 9, October 7, and December 9th. The work sessions at 5:15 pm held at the first meeting of the month

will still occur.

b. Consideration and Approval of Funding to the Mableton Development Authority for Economic Development Services - City Manager Bill Tanks

Mayor Owens announced the items (b) and (c) and recognized Mr. Tanks who stated there were some personnel matters to be discussed in executive session.

Motion was made by Councilmember Oladapo and seconded by Councilmember Davis to to move Items (b) and (c) to after the Executive Session . The motion passed 7-0.

c. Consideration and Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement between Mableton Development Authority and City of Mableton for Economic Development Services - City Manager Bill Tanks

To be considered after the Executive Session.

13. OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION

a. Commissions, Authorities and Boards - Mayor Owens

Mayor Owens announced the item and provided an explanation of the roles and components of the commissions, authorities, and boards (CABS).

The City was moving toward selection of members to the Commissions, Authorities, and Boards (CABS) He asked citizens to go to the website and reach out to their councilmembers. If not selected for a CAB, there will also be opportunities for volunteering.

Mayor Owens and Councilmember Ferguson provided website address and location instructions: <https://mableton.gov/get-involved>

b. Mableton Day Anniversary - Financial Benefit to the Mayors Educational Impact Fund - Councilmember Herndon

Mayor Owens announced the item and provided background. He explained the Mayor's Educational Impact Fund was started a couple of months ago in conjunction with the City's One-Year Anniversary Celebration. It was one of the non-profits that participated during the event, primarily with the golf tournament. The reason for the Mayor's Education Impact Fund was that a city can be no stronger than its schools. There are gaps currently within the City's schools, and there are non-profits doing some work for the schools. Mayor Owens stated he hears every day from people asking what the City was going to do about the schools. There's not a lot that the City can do for the schools because the City does not over the schools. People choose not to live in Mableton or leave the City because of the state of the schools. He stated he loved the schools and had two kids in the schools.

Mayor Owens explained he started the Mayoral Educational Impact Fund to help make sure there are people committed to assisting the schools. There are questions about the financial benefit that went to the Impact Fund in consideration of the One-Year Anniversary Celebration. He reported there was \$7000 raised as part of the golf tournament. It was disclosed that the Educational Impact Fund would be the beneficiary. The golf tournament was well attended. Money did not go to the City's funds, Donations received at the golf tournament went directly to the Educational Impact Fund.

Councilmember Herndon explained that she asked for the issue to be placed on the agenda. Many people had a good time at the One-Year Anniversary. After the event, there were questions about the money raised regarding the Educational Impact Fund and there were questions about whether there was a conflict of interest and in line with Charter 2.14 c, d. She thought it was important in the interest of transparency to discuss. She asked the City Attorney if she could address and asked if any other councilmembers would like to discuss the issue.

Councilmember Auch thanked Mayor Owens for his explanation and Councilmember Herndon for placing the discussion on the agenda. She stated that the Charter has provisions to address conflicts of interests and the Charter states that if an elected official has a conflict of interest, whether directly or indirectly, the conflict must be disclosed on record and the official is to disqualify himself as the decision maker for that issue. The Mayor did not disclose his interest. This was the first time that she had learned about the Mayor's Educational Impact Fund. That was also when she saw the advertisements for it asking for \$100 per registrant. It was initially in the email from Mayor Owens to the Council that if any fundraising was to be done in the future it would be to offset the cost to the city. It wasn't mentioned that it would be a fundraiser at all, let alone a fundraiser that would go to a non-profit that the mayor set-up himself the day before collecting funds and advertising for the event. The question is, does a conflict of interest exist? Does the council want answers of what the council does going forward? Is any councilmember allowed to set up a nonprofit and collect monies from City sponsored events? She thought that would be a conflict and there was enough concern to be discussed. She added in the email the event would not exceed \$17,000 and the last numbers she saw was \$26,000. There was a resolution passed that the Mayor can authorize expenditures up to \$5,000, there were expenditures such as the event consultant that exceeded that amount. She would like to know why the amounts were not disclosed. Why didn't the provisions in the Charter stop this from being a question to begin with?

Mayor Owens explained the activities of the first year Anniversary Celebration. He felt the citizens deserved to have a celebration. It was a fantastic weekend. He named the activities of the weekend. He stated an email went out well before the event took place. The agenda and budget and non-profits involved were in the email. He pointed out there were several non-profits. All benefited and some wrote checks directly to help fund some of the events, especially the Fun Run. There was disclosure in the emails including line items in the City Budget. No money was exchanged from the City to any of the non-profits. There was disclosure sent to Council of who would benefit as well as expenditure. It was clearly spelled out in line items. If any overages, that was across the entire weekend. This was discussed in a previous meeting, regarding budget items. The City Managers made decision to add third line items. There was no personal benefit. The non-profit was started to help close a gap of needs for the schools. The reason was a non-profit. The effort was to help the schools.

Mayor Owens asked City Attorney Walker-Ashby to comment on whether there was a conflict of interest regarding the Charter. Attorney Walker-Ashby stated that based upon the information provided to her and the conversations she had, she saw no conflict of interest. The basis of her opinion was that the entity was a non-profit. A non-profit belongs legally to the general public. It is a body owned by the public. Based on other documentation reviewed, 100 percent of the proceeds went to the education fund for the

benefit of Mableton residents. She stated she had not seen any evidence of any funds being misappropriated. She inquired and asked if any taxpayer dollars had been allocated and donated to the fund. She was assured that no taxpayer funds or proceeds were given or donated. All sponsors who contributed to the fund were made aware that the funds were going to the Mayor's Educational Fund. She had not seen any evidence whatsoever in any capacity of any financial benefit to the mayor or councilmembers. Her opinion was she found no conflict of interest.

Councilmember Auch asked how she knew no money was misused, or it was based on the mayor's words. Ms. Walker-Ashby explained how she had looked at the evidence and of the evidence presented to her, she did not see any evidence whatsoever of misappropriation or financial benefit; she could not in fairness to mayor or any councilmember attribute or acclaim other than speculation or guess work. Councilmember Herndon asked if according to the charter, is it OK to have an event and the mayor could have a non-profit. Ms. Walker-Ashby explained the mayor is not the owner. The non-profit is owned by the public at large. The two sections brought to her attention related to having a financial interest. There was no evidence brought to her that there was any conflict of interest. There was no evidence that the mayor received a personal financial benefit. Ms. Walker-Ashby commented this is not a legal issue related to the Charter, but a policy issue. Ms. Walker-Ashby further commented It appears that some of the council may not be comfortable with the council having non-profits. She opined the way to cure this, is to have a policy.

Questions and discussion continued. Councilmember Auch expressed she would like to see a policy in place. Councilmember Ferguson discussed the importance of having better processes and a policy in place. Mayor Owens expressed he wanted the City to continue to partner with non-profits. Councilmember Auch stated it was important that Council have the discussion. She stated she would like to see a policy put in place. Councilmember Jeffcoat commented on how important it was to make sure there were diplomatic discussions. There have been conjectures and suspicions and the City needs to make sure going forward that there is concrete evidence to support any claim. If there are discussions, the Council should be respectful, have guard rails in place, and checks and balances. The City was in transition and there were going to be some hiccups along the way. She addressed how the City was learning and could correct. She agreed with Councilmember Ferguson that the mayor had events with good intentions. The attorney has confirmed there was not any conflict of interest.

Councilmember Herndon, summarized the conversation already spoken, that if there is another fundraising for non-profit, to advertise, then report on what was accomplished. She stated the discussion came forward because of constituent's inquiries.

Councilmember Oladapo stated as an action item from this long conversation, she asked that a policy be solidified and adopted. Mayor Owens explained how not only policies, but a Special Events Commission could help with this also. Councilmember Ferguson stated there could be multiple policies for the Procurement Department that need to be worked out and implemented.

14. CITY MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

City Manager Tanks asked the Council to have an Executive Session for litigation, real

estate, and personnel.

15. CITY ATTORNEY/CITY CLERK/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

City Attorney Emilia Walker-Ashby asked Mayor and Council to consider for a vote for the mayor to have authority to extend and waive business license penalties, on a month by month basis, through the remainder of the year. Mayor Owens asked if the Business License Department was reaching out to businesses that have not renewed as of this year with the City of Mableton. Ms. Walker-Ashby replied yes and that she had spoken with Admin and the Business License service provider the following day, and those businesses that have not renewed them will be notified. Mayor Owens stated he had no problem waiving those fees through the rest of the year because he wanted those businesses to have the opportunity to renew them without any undue burden. It would be through December 31st.

Motion was made by Councilmember Ferguson and seconded by Councilmember Jeffcoat to give the mayor discretion to waive business license penalties through the remainder of the calendar year. The motion carried 7-0.

16. MAYOR AND COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

Summary of comments by Mayor and Council:

- Mayor and Council expressed their gratitude for everyone that attended the meeting.
- Councilmember Davis spoke about the City being a new city, and the City wanted to always be transparent and accountable. However, he didn't want to see ordinances and policies created based on gossip, rumor, and innuendo. He commented that there was a lot of integrity in the Council and a great group of people. If there was anything questionable, he would be first to say something. He had not seen anything so far and he looked forward to making a great city.
- Councilmember Oladapo commented about the process group development practice, which included forming, storming, and norming. The City was experiencing storming, so it will take a while, and asked the City to be patient with the Council and give it some grace. She reported on the back-to-school-back pack event. It was really successful.
- Councilmember Jeffcoat hoped children would have a great start at school and encouraged everyone to support the local schools. She reported on the tour of girl scouts of Greater Atlanta. There was a corporate office and Camp Timberridge in Mableton. She thanked those who helped them for the warm welcome of the incredible organization. She reported details about the upcoming First Christian Church of Mableton and the Bartow Family Resources Medical Mobile Unit to bring essential free high quality care to women in South Cobb. Visit bfr.com.
- Councilmember Jeffcoat reported on the ribbon cutting event of Johnny's Pizza. Councilmember Jeffcoat and Councilmember Herndon attended.
- Councilmember Jeffcoat encouraged everyone to vote early and vote.
- Councilmember Jeffcoat spoke about not being accusatory and being investigative and how the Council disagree at times. A planned retreat was coming up in the next couple of months.
- Council Auch announced details of the upcoming Adopt A Mile event on Hicks

Road.

- Councilmember Ferguson commented about missing a true Mableton person who was a ray of sunshine at the meetings. She sat in her wheelchair at the meetings and her presence gave him a calming spirit. She had great thoughts. Ms. Teresa Bailey passed away. He asked others to please keep Ben in their prayers.
- Councilmember Ferguson commented about partnering with the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta and expressed his excitement about the new appointment of Jai Ferrell as CEO.
- Councilmember Ferguson commended and thanked City Clerk Susan Hlott for getting the new agenda management software in place and ditching the paper. He provided information about how to locate the link on the City's website - the Civic Plus Portal (<https://mableton.gov/city-clerk>).
- Councilmember Debora Herndon encouraged everyone to attend the new Johnny's Pizza local business at the shopping center where the Hobby Lobby is on East West Connector. She reminded everyone to sign up for CABS.
- Mayor Owens spoke about the fine person that Teresa Bailey was and asked everyone to pray for Ben.
- Mayor Owens spoke about how he looked forward to joining the Regional Leadership Institute (RLI). He and City Manager Tanks will be participating in the program. He announced how Senator Osoff was standing up and serving the City of Mableton. He was excited about of partnerships on local and federal levels.
- Mayor Owens announced he had a meeting with HUD the past week. HUD was going to do all they could to help Mableton. He spoke about the pathway of home ownership, FHA funding, down payment assistance. He spoke about partnering with the Trust for Public Land Organization which has donated a lot of money along the Chattahoochee. The proximity of Mableton is in a sweet spot, bordering the Chattahoochee River. The goal was to bring more access to the river.
- Mayor Owens spoke about he and the City Manager were participating in the ATL Link Committee and technical committee.
- City Manager Tanks spoke about plans for a bridge crossing over I-20, funding availability, the need for the Mableton citizens to have input.
- Councilmember Davis brought material for everyone. It was important to have input for the area.
- Mayor Owens commented about the other ways the City was involved and advocating for Mableton.
- The Mayor and Council make sure to be at the tables of agencies to represent Mableton.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED) FOR LITIGATION (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(B)(1)(A)) REAL ESTATE(O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (B)(1)) PERSONNEL (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (B)(2)) AND MISC. EXEMPTIONS (O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 (B)(4)&(5))

Motion was made by Councilmember Jeffcoat and seconded by Councilmember Ferguson to go into Executive Session for litigation, real estate, and personnel. The motion passed unanimously. Yeas: Davis, Oladapo, Jeffcoat, Auch, Ferguson, Herndon and Owens (9:12 pm)

Motion was made by Councilmember Auch and seconded by Councilmember Davis to close the Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously. Yeas: Davis, Oladapo,

Jeffcoat, Auch, Ferguson, Herndon and Owens (11:05 pm)

Motion was made by Councilmember Oladapo and seconded by Councilmember Jeffcoat to authorize the mayor to negotiate funding and an IGA for the Mableton Development Authority up to the amount of \$100,000. The motion passed unanimously.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at p.m.

Dr. Michael Owens, Mayor

Susan Hiott, City Clerk