



CITY OF MABLETON, GEORGIA

Riverside EpiCenter
135 Riverside Pkwy, Austell, GA 30168
February 26, 2025 at 5:15 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 WORK SESSION MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Owens called the meeting to order. Councilmember Oladapo arrived a few minutes after the roll call.

2. AGENDA ITEMS AND DISCUSSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Auch and seconded by Councilmember Ferguson to approve the acceptance of the agenda as written. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PRE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA REVIEW

Mayor Owens announced he would preside over the work session. Due to a previous commitment, he could not attend the regular meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Jeffcoat would preside over the regular meeting.

Mayor Owens led in the preview of the Regular Meeting Agenda items:

- **Item 8 a - Appointment** - Mayor Owens announced his recommendation for the City's Finance Director, Karen Ellis. She was present. He provided background of the interviewing process for Ms. Ellis. He stated he was confident in her abilities. Ms. Ellis came up to the podium and thanked the Council and expressed her excitement about joining the City of Mableton. She thought it was very exciting to start a city from the ground up. She thanked the Council for the opportunity to work for Mableton. Mayor Owens added that she lived in Vinings Estates. Mayor Owens officially nominated Karen Ellis as Finance Director. He asked if there were any questions. There was none. There will be a vote at the regular meeting.
- **12 a Willow Oak as Official Tree** - Mayor Owens thanked Sustainability, Waste, and Beautification Director Emily Groth for her work. He added that the Dogwood came up as a potential City tree. Although it is beautiful, it is used a lot. The Maple tree was not selected because of confusion, being close to the Mableton name. The MDJ will have a story on the Willow Oak selection on Friday.
- **12 b - Croy Engineering services** - the City goes live with permitting Monday and Planning and Zoning on the 13th. The City will need engineers to review and stamp

approval on the plans and other environmental services, but primarily land disturbance. Although there will be an IGA with the County for services, Croy will also provide back-up plan review if needed.

- **12 c - Cloudpermit** - Mr. Tanks explained that Cloudpermit will be a back-up plan if Gov Pilot has a gap in service or does not provide adequate features. Staff are looking into Gov Pilot and doing more digging and learning of the system. The approval of Cloudpermit will be to authorize, but staff will not trigger the software unless needed. He commended Mr. Ferrell for getting into Gov Pilot and finding out things staff need to know. Mayor Owens explained how there would be paper in the first few weeks, and if any platform changes, there would be lead time for the change of any platform. Questions and discussion continued about Gov Pilot modules and testing of the Gov Pilot modules.
- **12 d - Laserfiche** - City Clerk Hiott announced the software was used by many cities in Georgia. She explained the platform allowed record storage, including clerk's permanent records, and a lot of the Community Development records. It was a robust record management product. It is cloud-based and is a subscription. The first year's cost was \$26,000 and the subsequent year would be \$13,000. Questions and discussion followed.
- **12 e - Chapter 11, Environment and Natural Resources** - Per Councilmember Auch's question, City Attorney Walker-Ashby replied the ordinance was modeled after the state.
- **12 f MetricOne** - Community Development Professional Services - Mr. Tanks explained Marcus Kellum of MetricOne was a subject matter expert for planning and zoning, code enforcement, and inspections. He would look at all integrated activities, and look at ways to create some efficiencies, fill gaps, and give a full view of what the City needs. Discussion followed about the importance of not having any failures. This would come out of Community Development professional services. City Attorney Walker-Ashby has reviewed the contract and made some changes to the City's advantage. Per Mayor Owens' question, Attorney Walker-Ashby indicated she was satisfied with Exhibit A of the contract.
- **13 a - Resolution Updating the Zoning and Permitting Fee Schedule** - Mayor Owens announced there were emails regarding a change since the last read of the schedule. The matter had been cleared up. He asked if there had been any other changes regarding the fee schedule. City Attorney Walker-Ashby clarified that since the schedule was last seen, the item incorporates rezoning fees initially adopted, supplemental fees provided by Rob Hosack, and a third component of additional fees provided by the Community Development Department. She has consolidated the fees and has changed the document from an ordinance to a resolution. She changed the form to resolution, to be consistent with the code. A lot of schedules are put in resolution because they change and get updated. The majority of fees are resolutions. There would still be a public hearing, and out of abundance of caution, she advertised the hearing as both resolution and ordinance. There is no backyard chicken fee.
- **13 b - Moratorium** - Mayor Owens reported the County has already stopped accepting applications. The moratorium is an extension or a delay of staff's ability to accept Zoning applications until March 13th. The previous date was March 3rd. The extension gives additional time to make sure they are ready and allows time for the public hearing on the 10th.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

5. 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))

There was discussion about whether or not to do an executive session. A motion for executive session was suspended and not voted upon.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Jeffcoat and seconded by Councilmember Ferguson. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Michael Owens, Mayor

Susan Hiott, City Clerk