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WORK SESSION  
DRAFT MINUTES

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**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:04pm by Mayor Martin

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA APPROVAL** *A motion was made by Jackson to approve the agenda with no changes, seconded by Lawson, and all voted in favor.*

**REPORTS BY MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF** *Reports were discussed as included in the packet, plus the Mayor, Councilmembers, and the City Manager shared takeaways from the GMA Convention in Savannah.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. Amendment of the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Hoschton, Georgia, to Adopt an Update to the Capital Improvements Element and Community Work Program (i.e. required annual update) [Planning & Zoning Commission Recommendation: Approval]**

*Dr. Weitz highlighted adjustments to the proposed reduction in the service standard for the police department from 0.95 square feet per functional population to 0.60 square feet. The initial standard was established before there was an operational police force. We now have better information to identify the necessary scope of the police department for the next 20 years. The reduction in required space should save the City approximately \$2.4 million when the new City Hall (housing city administration, police, planning, etc) is constructed.*

- 2. Amendment of the Comprehensive Plan of the City of Hoschton, Georgia, to Amend the Future Land Use Plan and for Other Purposes [Planning and Zoning Recommendation: Approval]**

*Dr. Weitz explained that the Jackson County GIS department is currently updating the map to reflect all changes approved to date.*

- 3. Resolution 2024-25: Water First Rebates**

*Mayor Martin explained that the estimated annual cost of the program is \$4,000.00. A rebate of \$100.00 will be offered as a credit to city residents' water bills toward replacement of a high-volume flush toilet with a low-flow model. (residents must provide a receipt)*

- 4. GDOT Supplemental Sign on I-85**

*Mayor Martin shared that she reached out to Senator Ginn who contacted GDOT on Hoschton's behalf. GDOT has agreed to replace the missing sign on I-85 at no cost to the City.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Police Policy Update**

*Chief Brad Hill explained that the proposed changes include updates to a few areas regarding safety and firearms.*

### **2. Police Department Housing and Booking Contract with JCSO**

*Chief Hill explained that the maximum cost to the City would be \$80.00 per arrested party. The cost has not increased from the last contract.*

### **3. Police Department Memorandum of Understanding with JCSO for Extraterritorial Assistance**

*This agreement allows the HPD and the JCSO to provide assistance to one another upon request.*

### **4. Public Works Building Color Scheme**

*Jennifer Harrison explained that the staff recommendation was "charcoal" walls and "gallery" for all gutters and trim. Mayor Martin tasked resident Rodney Cato (who lives in the vicinity) to poll neighbors on their color preferences.*

### **5. Public Works Building Contract Addendum**

*Jennifer Harrison explained that the design process was more costly than planned because of many redesigns.*

## **CITIZEN INPUT**

*Rodney Cato, 140 Hawthorn Way, asked if low-flow toilets are required in new construction homes. [Yes.] He also suggested that the Public Works building colors should blend in with its wooded surroundings. Mr. Cato then asked why the county put a sign on the fence of the new basketball court if the City paid for it.*

*Ace Acevedo, 100 Powell Court, praised the Council for keeping an eye on money and asked if there is an update on the multi-use golf cart path. [The City is still waiting on more easements to add additional sidewalk.]*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)** *A motion was made to enter executive session to discuss real estate at 7:10pm by Martin, seconded by D. Brown, and all voted in favor.*

*A motion was made to exit executive session at 7:24pm by D. Brown, seconded by Lawson, and all voted in favor.*

**ADJOURN** *A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:24pm by Lawson, seconded by D. Brown, and all voted in favor.*

**Announcements:**

**July 19<sup>th</sup> Back to School Bash—Downtown on City Square 6:00-9:00pm**

**Present**

Debbie Martin, Mayor

David Brown, Councilmember

Jonathan Jackson, Councilmember

James Lawson, Councilmember

**Present by Phone**

Christina Brown, Councilmember

Fredria Sterling, Councilmember

**Absent**

Scott Courter, Councilmember

**Also Present**

Dr. Jerry Weitz, Consulting City Planner

Abbott S. Hayes, Jr., City Attorney

Jennifer Harrison, City Manager

Brad Hill, Hoschton Police Chief

Jen Williams, Assistant City Clerk

Media