



**CITY OF FLOWERY BRANCH**  
**Council Meeting**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**Thursday September 5, 2013 6:00 PM**



**OPEN MEETING:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Mike Miller, Mayor Pro tem, Joe Anglin, Council Members: Damon Gibbs, Mary Jones, Fred Richards and Tara Richards. Also in attendance were City Manager Bill Andrew, City Attorney Ron Bennett, City Director of Planning and Community Development John McHenry, City Finance Director Jeremy Perry and Chief of Police David Spillers.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilmember Tara Richards.

**COMMENDATION:** Police Officer Jake Switalski was recognized for his efforts in preventing a burglary at Green's Tavern on August 23, 2013.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion – Draft Council meeting minutes from August 15, 2013

- City Clerk Burney indicated that she had sent out the minutes and received no comments.

Discussion – Intergovernmental Agreement for Hall County to provide a “9-1-1” answering center

- City Manager Andrew stated that this is a renewal of an agreement that the City already has with Hall County to provide 911 services. The service is provided at no charge to the City as it is funded by surcharges on telephones. Chief Spillers has reviewed and approved this agreement.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**City Manager Report**

- There have been some issues with stormwater runoff in the area of Capitola Farm Road reported to the City. The area with the issues is located in unincorporated Hall County and the County has begun work on those issues.

- Pond, the City Engineer, is currently working on a bid package for repairs to be made to roadways over Flowery Branch Creek. The recommendation is to do the work on Spring Street first and to do a bridge instead of a culvert. The preparation of the bid package would be completed as a work order under the current contract the City has with Pond and although a final cost has not been provided, it is estimated that the preparation of the bid package would cost about \$43,000. City Manager Andrew wanted to check with the Council to see if they wanted Pond to come to one of the Council meetings to explain the work to be completed. Currently, the City has \$283,000 in the budget and has also received \$200,000 from the state for flooding repairs. Council Member Gibbs verified that a bridge on Spring Street will be cheaper to build and also more efficient in handling stormwater. The Council is interested in doing all of the necessary repair work at the same time as it would be a savings to the City. However, according to Pond, if all of the design work were to be completed at the same time, it would cause a 5-6 month delay in construction. The previous water study that was completed by Pond does not have very much useful information as it did not take into account changes that were done by the Railroad which caused the data that was used to not be current. Norfolk Southern will be making repairs to their storm drains in conjunction with the Army Corps of Engineers, but the repairs made by Norfolk Southern will still cause a backup of water in Flowery Branch Creek. The Council members agree that the City needs to get a better idea of the repairs that will be made by Norfolk Southern and when the repairs will be made, which would influence the work that would need to be completed by the City. City Manager Andrew will be contacting Pond to see about having them come in for a meeting with a small group of Council members, most likely Tara Richards and Damon Gibbs, to explain the work that needs to be completed and where they are in creation of the bid package.

#### City Finance Director Report

- The City currently has health insurance coverage with Consumers Life, which will no longer be offering health insurance in Georgia after December 31. The City has received information from United Healthcare regarding pricing for a new health insurance plan as they are the preferred replacement provider of Consumers Life. The new plan would go back to a more traditional health insurance plan with copays due for each visit. The City will be meeting with Ty Talley next Tuesday to discuss insurance options. City Manager Andrew will forward the information regarding insurance options to the members of the Council after the meeting with Mr. Talley.

#### City Director Planning and Community Development Report

- Forty people attended the redevelopment plan meeting and expressed that they are interested in better walkability in the downtown area and more retail locations. There will be another meeting for public input on October 22.

- An advertisement will be run in the City legal organ regarding a public hearing and presentation of the Opportunity Zone and the Urban Redevelopment Plan.
- The survey of 5644 Church Street discovered asbestos in the building. A Kennesaw company has submitted the lowest bid for asbestos abatement for \$1600. Upon removal of the asbestos, City public works employees will demo the building. Sketches have been provided by Pond to the City which illustrate 3 different roundabout options to connect Snelling and Lights Ferry Road. Council Member Gibbs indicated that he was interested in seeing those sketches and would come by City Manager Andrew's office to review them.

City Clerk Report None

City Attorney Report None

Council Report

- Council Member Tara Richards stated that the redevelopment meeting was beneficial and she was glad to see community interest.
- Council Member Anglin stated that the landscaping on Atlanta Highway looks good and NewLeaf and the City public works department have stepped up to make it look better.
- Council Member Fred Richards stated that he and Council Member Tara Richards attended the grand opening of Echo Wellness Center on Main Street and that the interior of the building looks great.
- Council Member Mary Jones – None
- Council Member Damon Gibbs – None
- Mayor Mike Miller – None

**ADJOURNMENT WORK SESSION:** Adjourned at 6:31 p.m.



CITY OF FLOWERY BRANCH  
Council Meeting  
Voting Session Meeting Minutes  
Immediately following Work Session  
Thursday September 5, 2013



OPEN VOTING SESSION: Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Draft Council meeting minutes from August 15, 2013

**Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Joe Anglin**

**Second: Damon Gibbs**

**Unanimous**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Intergovernmental Agreement for Hall County to provide a "9-1-1" answering center

**Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with Hall County for a "9-1-1" answering center: Tara Richards**

**Second: Fred Richards**

**Unanimous**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

*Executive Session for Land Acquisition/Disposition*

*Motion to enter Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. for the purpose of Land Acquisition/Disposition:  
Tara Richards*

*Second: Mary Jones*

*Unanimous*

*Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:12 p.m.: Mary Jones*

*Second: Damon Gibbs*

*Unanimous*

ADJOURNMENT:

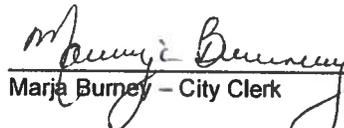
**Motion to adjourn the voting session at 7:12 p.m.: Damon Gibbs**

**Second: Mary Jones**

**Unanimous**

  
James "Mike" Miller - Mayor

September 19, 2013  
Dated

  
Marja Burney - City Clerk