

CITY OF DUNWOODY
June 15, 2009
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

The Mayor and Council of the City of Dunwoody held a Special Called Meeting on Monday, June 15, 2009 at 11:45 a.m. The Meeting was held in the City of Dunwoody City Hall, 41 Perimeter Center East, Dunwoody, Georgia 30346. Present for this meeting were the following:

Mayor	Ken Wright
District 1, Post 1	Denis Shortal, Council Member
District 3, Post 3	Tom Taylor, Council Member
At Large, Post 4	Robert Wittenstein, Council Member
At Large, Post 5	Danny Ross, Council Member
At Large, Post 6	John Heneghan, Council Member
Staff Present:	Brian Anderson, City Attorney Warren Hutmacher, City Manager Sharon Lowery, City Clerk Karine Roy, Assistant to the City Clerk Chris Pike, Finance Director

Mayor Wright called the Meeting to order.

ROLL CALL AND GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Taylor announced that Council Member Bonser was undergoing surgery this afternoon and asked everyone to keep her in their thoughts and prayers.

INVOCATION led by Council Member Ross.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Council Member Taylor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Wright requested public comment. There was no public comment. Mayor Wright closed public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance to adopt the proposed 2009 Millage Rate. (ORDINANCE 2009-06-XX): Chris Pike, Finance Director, announced that this was the second of three public hearings for the proposed 2009 millage rate. He said there have been no changes since the first public hearing and the proposed millage rate remains 2.74 mills. Mayor Wright opened the public hearing and public comment.

Mr. Miller – said that he attended previous City Council meetings and wanted to understand why the millage rate is 2.74 when the City promised no more than a 1% increase.

Mr. Goldberg – spoke about the speeding on Dunwoody Club Drive and the bad intersection at Dunwoody Club Drive and Spalding Drive. He asked how he will be affected by the property tax increase and asked why the government can't tighten its belt due to the rough economy.

Betsy Choder – said there is no logical reason to keep the millage rate the same as DeKalb County's was last year. Ms. Choeder commented that after reviewing the budget she does not see a legitimate reason for the City to have a millage rate of 2.74 and urged Council to lower it.

Shirley McAlister – asked if this was an additional tax or part of the same tax from the previous year.

Mayor Wright closed public comment and closed the public hearing.

Mayor Wright exercised executive privilege and opened General Comments from Council.

Council Member Wittenstein explained that there will be a line item on the tax bill that will read "City of Dunwoody" rather than "Unincorporated DeKalb County". He said the City will provide a higher level of service at the same tax rate that was charged by DeKalb County last year. He added that the city Charter establishes a maximum millage rate of 3.08.

Council Member Ross said this is not a tax increase as advertised in the Dunwoody Crier.

Council Member Taylor said the only difference is the re-classification of the millage rate from the County to the City. He explained that the property assessments are done by the DeKalb County.

Mayor Wright encouraged anyone concerned about speeding issues to email the Council or call the non-emergency police number. He explained that the intersection of Spalding Drive and Dunwoody Club Drive is in Sandy Springs city limits.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Wright requested public comment.

Mr. Goldberg - said that he understands that one side of the street at Dunwoody Club Drive is in DeKalb County and the other side of the street is in Fulton County.

Mayor Wright closed public comment.

ADJOURN

Mayor Wright motioned to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Ross seconded. Mayor Wright called for the vote and the motion carried unanimously. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Approved by:

Ken Wright, Mayor

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk