

SOUTH FULTON CITY COMMISSION
SOUTH FULTON, TENNESSEE
October 5, 2005

AGENDA

- A. Police Department Personnel Vacancy
- B. Resolution 2005-9 (Severn Trent – Temporary Emergency Contract)
- C. Consumer Connection Group Presentation
- D. FY 2005/06 Budget Workshop

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor David James on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in the South Fulton Municipal Complex.

ROLL CALL BY RECORDER

Roll call was taken by Recorder Debbie Beadles. Present were D James, R Haskins, W Kane, C Moody, T Pettigrew, C Martin. Present were six citizens and one media personnel.

BUSINESS

POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL VACANCY

Ms. Dillon stated a police officer has quit, making a vacancy in the police dept. She stated she can make a budget on every scenario, but needs direction from the commission. Commissioner Haskins stated he does not feel the position can be filled at this time. Commissioner Pettigrew agreed, cuts have been made in other departments. Commissioner Kane stated the position was in last year's budget, not enough law enforcement capabilities with one officer per shift, no secret that crime is up when department is short-handed and should not cut personnel in this area.

Commissioner Haskins moved to not fill the position and if required to fill, bring back drug task force officer. Commissioner Moody seconded the motion. In roll call vote, Commissioners Haskins, Moody, Pettigrew and Mayor James voted aye. Commissioner Kane voted nay. Motion carries with 4-1 vote.

Commissioner Moody moved to authorize City Manager to make decision whether to bring drug task officer to work a shift. Commissioner Haskins seconded the motion. In discussion, Commissioner Haskins asked that Chief Crocker approach the podium. Chief Crocker stated his department has seven officers through a COPS Grant and stated the Department of Justice should be notified if the officer is not to be replaced. There was discussion regarding the county providing a patrolman in the city. Chief Crocker stated the sheriff's department has a resource officer at the high school, but they do not patrol inside the city limits. It was mentioned that a mutual aid agreement exists between the twin cities emergency departments for backup. It was questioned who the

drug dog officer is and why there is a vacancy in the police department. Chief Crocker stated Rusty Singleton was certified and trained in Princeton as drug dog officer and reason for vacancy is from a disagreement over a vehicle for the drug dog. There was discussion regarding the funding of the drug dog and Chief Crocker stated the only expense is dog food. There was also discussion of shift coverage and overlaps. In roll call vote, all voted aye. Motion carries.

SEVERN TRENT – TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CONTRACT

Ms. Dillon stated her first opinion regarding the wastewater treatment plant operation was to bid out for contractual services, Attorney General's opinion was that professional services do not have to be bid out, MTAS response was yes/no/not sure. Ms. Dillon stated Severn Trent has proposed to operate wastewater treatment plant at a cost of \$12,000 per month for ninety-day temporary contract with two revisions – no capital cap investment and fifteen days to report rather than ten days. She also stated the board will have to make decision as to what tasks contractor will be required to perform such as start-to-finish water, wastewater, lift stations, length of contract.

RESOLUTION #2005-9

Commissioner Kane moved to adopt Resolution #2005-9 (resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a 90-day contract for the operation of the municipal water and wastewater systems). Commissioner Haskins seconded the motion. In roll call vote, Commissioners Moody, Pettigrew, Haskins and Kane voted aye. Mayor James voted nay. Motion carries with 4-1 vote.

CONSUMER CONNECTION GROUP PRESENTATION

Ms. Dillon stated Consumer Connection Group (local group to market community) requests contribution from both cities not to exceed \$2000 each for supplies, materials and other marketing tools. She stated she has tried to keep contributions in the budget for local organizations. Commissioner Moody stated South Fulton does not have anything to offer and can't afford the \$2000. Ms. Dillon stated the monies would help to create a nice brochure which will be distributed in Atlanta at TVA Convention. She stated South Fulton fits demographics of Perkins (cafeteria-style restaurant) and Goody's (clothing store) without I-69. Commissioner Kane stated if commission has no vision, they have no reason to sit on board.

Commissioner Haskins moved to donate \$2000, one-time donation, to Consumer Connection Group. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. In roll call vote, Commissioners Pettigrew, Haskins, Kane and Mayor James voted aye. Commissioner Moody voted nay. Motion carries with 4-1 vote.

FY2005-2006 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Ms. Dillon stated she has been working with Morgan Keegan & Company regarding a 30-year debt reduction plan to finance the \$2,059,000 deficit in the general fund. She stated the city does not qualify for a 30-year non-taxable bond. She stated the city could get out of debt in one year or finance \$1.5 million with TML over twelve years. She stated the capital improvement project should be financed over the life of the building. She stated if the city does not make decisions, the state will come in and adjust rates with no regard to the residents. She stated this commission has some hard decisions to make.

Tommy Legins, auditor with John R Reese, recommended the city finance \$3.3 million bond which includes \$2.059 million deficit in the general fund, payback TML \$600,000 loan. He stated he would contact Morgan Keegan as to why the city cannot get a non-taxable bond. He stated the city could not continue to operate in a deficit.

Ms. Dillon stated Scott Gibson, Morgan Keegan, informed her that this transaction could be handled quickly and he could be at the regular commission meeting on October 20th if city agrees to proceed in this direction. She stated interest rate would be between 5% and 6.25%. She stated commission still needs to set rates at a profitable level and encouraged commissioners to talk to residents in their ward.

Ms. Dillon stated options in the Water Fund are to request bids for contracting out water treatment plant operation or selling the water system.

Commissioner Haskins moved to authorize City Manager to make formal request to Union City Commission to buy City of South Fulton water system. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

Commissioner Haskins moved to cancel special called meeting to be held on Friday, October 7th. Commissioner Kane seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

Ms. Dillon announced a meeting with the Railroad Board to be held on Monday, October 17th at 10 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor James moved to adjourn at 5:05 p.m. Commissioner Moody seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carries.

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED BY: _____
RECORDER MAYOR