

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

May 25, 2006

Council Chambers

Germantown Municipal Center

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Aintree Farms, Allenby Lakes, Bavarian Village, Dogwood Creek South, Farmington North, Gardens of Oakleigh, Germantown East, Kimbrough Grove, Kimbrough Woods, Kirby Hills, Mimosa Gardens, Neshoba North, Poplar Estates, Riverchase, Woodshire.

CALL TO ORDER: Edgar Babian called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Edgar welcomed the first time visitors from Bavarian Village, Farmington North, and Neshoba North.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the March 23, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Patrick Lawton, City Administrator, presented a review of the FY07 budget. The final vote on it will be on June 26. The budget is divided into a General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds, an Infrastructure Replacement Program, and a Capital Improvements Program. No property tax rate increases for the coming year. The City is focusing on its service business, community vitality, economic sustainability, and public safety. Under public safety, Patrick mentioned that 7 new officers brought on in the next 2 years would man a new police district in the southeast quadrant of the city. General Fund Revenues are up 5% from FY06 at \$36,407,309. General Fund Expenditures have also increased by 3.3% from the previous year totaling \$36,865,973, with the greatest expenditures going to public safety. The city is saving money by staffing vacancies that occur with current city employees taking on all or part of those assignments whenever possible. For the Germantown Centre, there are several projects and initiatives planned to improve the facility, redesign programs and amenities, better market the programs and the Centre, and improve customer service.

Jim Jetton, CIP Manager, reviewed the numerous Capital Improvements Projects for FY07. These include neighborhood planning initiatives for Arthur/Moore/Riggs and Mimosa Gardens, renovation and reconfiguration of the Court Council Chambers, replacement of a Fire Pumper Unit, construction of a new Civic Club courtyard, exterior repairs for Germantown Community Theater, acquiring professional services to consider and promote the redevelopment of the Heart of Germantown, purchase of an emergency generator for the Municipal Center, and renovation of the Public Services Complex. Additionally there are 7 major roads projects, 3 projects for intersections, 4 projects for drainage improvements, 4 projects for the parks fund, and 4 projects under the utility fund.

Joe Nunes, Neighborhood Services Manager, spoke about the "Going Green for Germantown" program and the solid waste collection agreement. These coincide with the overall Vision 2020 program of the city in maintaining a beautiful, fiscally sound community that provides exceptional services and is responsive to citizen's needs. Under the agreement, All Star Waste will collect household garbage and recyclables. Michael's Tree & Loader will collect yard debris. All collections will be made once a week on the same day and remains the same day as the current schedule. Yard debris (vegetative material only) will be collected in clear bags by a mechanical device then mulched and composted. Merchants are being notified about the change to clear bags to assure availability to residents. A permanent site has been determined for a County hazardous waste facility, but funding on this is delayed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Goldsworthy commented on the creation of the budget package and explained the process of how it got to its current state. She explained that the City is rethinking and redoing how services are delivered. Each department is reviewing its practices and customs, everything in a way not done before. The City is examining methods used by private enterprise, not just traditional governmental means of problem solving and creating. She also mentioned that changes would be made at the Germantown Centre as the City looks at it from the customer's viewpoint.

CONA Special Events Coordinator's Report: In John Johnson's absence, Luci Cromer reported that there would be some kind of activity (not a Neighborhood Fest) the evening of Thursday, October 19 at a place to be determined. The Neighborhood Preservation Commission will present various workshops of interest to neighborhoods and associations. You and any of your members may contact Billy Brown with any issues or topic ideas you would like to see included.

Police Report: Assistant Chief Tom Lott reviewed the crime statistics. He stated that Shelby County and the surrounding counties in TN, MS, and AR are the top 2 or 3 highest ranked crime areas in the country. Violent crime has increased by 23% in this area in the past year.

Neighborhood Services Report: Joe Nunes commended the Remodeled Homes Tour and mentioned that it covered major and minor projects done by contractors and do-it-yourselfers. He also acknowledged the two new neighborhood associations present at the meeting and mentioned that CONA and the City have been working together to facilitate starting or re-energizing neighborhood associations over the past year. The contractor will begin installing the new decorative street signs in July and anticipates completion at the end of September. The demo sign will be installed at the intersection of Val Verde and Poplar in the next few weeks. Decorative Street Sign packets are available at the Department of Development if your neighborhood is interested. The City will split the cost of the pole and installation 50/50 with the neighborhood. 4 neighborhoods have already signed up for FY 07 installation, so pick up your packet and get in your \$50 deposit if you wanted to be on the list for next year.

NEW BUSINESS:

There were no association concerns or updates.

Announcements: Sherrye Rhea noted that the Parks and Recreation Dept. is presenting the "Evening Notes" concert series beginning June 6, and an "In the Garden" series continuing on June 22.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting will be July 27, 2006.