

**COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS**  
**May 24, 2012**  
**Germantown Municipal Center**

**Call to Order:** Billy Brown, President of CONA called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Neighborhoods represented: Allenby Lakes, Allenby Westfair, Cedar Lake, Duntreath Park I and II, Germantown Heights, Grove Park, Kimbrough Woods, Mimosa Gardens, Neshoba Plantation, Rowan Oaks, Village at Germantown, Village of Wicklow, ValVerde.

Welcome and Introductions: Alderman Marcum and Alderman Drinnon were welcomed to the meeting as was Carolyn Stein from Kimbrough Grove as a first time attendee.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March 22, 2012 meeting were approved as written.

**Guest Speaker:** Patrick Lawton, City Administrator, presented the budget for fiscal year 2013. For details please refer to "City of Germantown Proposed Capital Improvements Program". There has been one budget reading already, the second reading will be Monday, June 11, and the final reading will be June 25, 2012. No wide variance per capita over last year exists, so property tax will not be increased. The municipal schools ordinance is on the ballot for August 2, with a 0.005% sales tax increase to help fund the school system. This should generate \$1,600,000 from November to June. If it is passed the budget would be amended. Estimated start-up costs for municipal school system, salaries for school board etc. would be just under \$500,000.

Questions were raised about progression of road projects: Widening of Poplar is controlled by TDOT and should be finished with the west part of the project by September. The Farmington project was undertaken at this unfortunate time because Germantown would have lost state money. Germantown controls the progress, so it should be finished by the end of June. Railroad crossing work is done at the will of the railroad companies. Wolf River Extension is projected to be completed by the summer of 2013.

**Old Business:**

**Police Department Report:** Lieutenant McGhee reported that there has been vandalism in parks, and there is now an officer on foot in parks. Always lock cars and keep valuables out of sight. If your neighborhood needs an extra patrol, email Lt. Steve McGhee or call police, also if you need vacation check while out of town. See enclosed flyer about identity theft.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sharon Goldsworthy discussed current status of municipal school situation. There have been two readings of the ordinances to set up the referendum to allow citizens to vote on two questions in the August 2 election: "Do you want to seek formation of a municipal school district in your city?" "Will you accept an increase of a one half cent local option sales tax to fund the school?" The City of Germantown thinks it is in total compliance with State Election Commission but won't be surprised if there is legal action against it. If the referendum passes in August, the plan is to proceed with electing a school board in November during the General Election. August 16 will be the deadline to petition for a position on the school board. If municipal schools have to buy the existing buildings the scenario would change.

**Special Events Committee Report:** Sherrye Rhea reported that the Home Tour was a great success

with fabulous weather, six homes being shown. Wonderful for Germantown Preservation and residents who want to improve their homes, 300 people attended.

Other Special Events were noted: The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Extravaganza, Fishing Rodeo, great summer camps coming up ,”Evening Notes “ on Tuesday evenings at Municipal Park.

**Neighborhood Services Report:** Recycle volume needs to be increased. Large cardboard can be a problem. It can be broken down or taken to Agni-center. If lids pop off either the recycle or the trash bins, call Joe Nunes and they will be repaired or replaced.

Announcements: Billy Brown said that an anonymous donor will donate two books to be given away as door prizes at each CONA meeting to some lucky attendee!

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Billy Brown at 8:37pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda H. Waltz