



City of Roswell

38 Hill Street
Roswell, Georgia 30075

Meeting Minutes Community Development and Transportation Committee

Mayor Jere Wood
Council Member Nancy Diamond
Council Member Rich Dippolito
Council Member Kent Igleheart
Council Member Jerry Orlans
Council Member Betty Price
Council Member Becky Wynn
City Administrator Kay Love

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

8:00 AM

Room 220

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Jere Wood; Council Member Nancy Diamond; Council Member Rich Dippolito; Council Member Kent Igleheart; Council Member Jerry Orlans; Council Member Betty Price and Council Member Becky Wynn

Staff Present: Kay Love – City Administrator; Michael Fischer - Deputy City Administrator; Alice Wakefield – Community Development Director; Steve Acenbrak – Director of Transportation; David Low – Deputy Director of Transportation; Clyde Stricklin – Deputy Director of Community Development; Brad Townsend – Planning and Zoning Director; Bob Hulsey – Assistant City Attorney; Stefanie Dye - Community Development Program Coordinator; Bill Keir – Economic Development Director; Police Sergeant Ken McRae; Andrew Antweiler - Transportation Planner; Chris Chovan - Transportation Planning Manager; Franco DeMarco – Engineering Design Manager; Robert Del Ross - Senior Transportation Engineer; Mike Elliott – Traffic Operations Supervisor; Jennifer Erdmann - Grants Specialist; Angel Stark – Community Development Administrative Assistant; Kim Weber - Transportation Administrative Assistant; and Marlee Press – Executive Assistant to Council

Minutes of the September 29, 2010 committee meeting were approved.

Addendum to the Agenda

- *Kay Love requested that an item be added to the agenda. It is "Consideration of a Special Event Permit for Caroling on Canton Street on Friday, December 3, 2010."*

Committee approved adding this item to the agenda.

Transportation

1. Consideration to sign a Change Order to the Crabapple Road at Rucker Road Intersection Improvement Project Construction Contract with Urey Construction Company in the amount of \$57,951.72

- *A Change Order to the Construction Contract in the amount of \$57,951.72 is requested for this Intersection Improvement project. The Change Order is a direct result of additional striping and quantity changes in the asphalt and concrete required. This is a result of the conditions in the field being slightly different than those anticipated during the design process, which is common with projects of this magnitude and complexity. Construction on this project is complete. This Change Order is needed to complete the construction contract.*
- *Steve Acenbrak said staff does their best to provide the best information to Mayor and Council and sometimes things change. They need to expand the contract amount by exactly that amount (\$57,951.72). The contract cost is a function of two elements. One is the waterline and one is the roadway. The amount of this increase is due to the waterline and not to the roadway. The only reason this is a change order is because of the elements of the waterline that were not original contract bid items. This is technically a change order but the good news is that Fulton County will be reimbursing the city 100% of this amount since this is due to the waterline element of this project and not the roadway element.*
- *Councilmember Dippolito said the reason for going ahead and approving it, is that details are still be worked out with Fulton County but staff needs to get the contracts paid for the work.*
- *This change order will bring the new construction contract amount to \$671,950.72. Funds of approximately \$443,208.31 are approved and available in the Impact Fee Account.*

A motion was made by Mayor Jere Wood, seconded by Council Member Rich Dippolito, that this Change Order for \$57,951.72 be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orleans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

2. Consideration to sign an agreement with Georgia Power for pedestrian lighting on the Holcomb Bridge Road (SR 140) at Alpharetta Highway (SR 9) intersection project in the amount of \$182,613.04

- *Georgia Power will install thirty-two (32) 100 watt high pressure sodium black Main Street lighting post top fixtures and thirty-two (32) 10 black Hapco breakaway aluminum poles. All poles, fixtures, cable, boring, trenching and installation costs are included in this amount. Georgia Power will be responsible for the maintenance of the poles, fixtures and cable. The City will be responsible for the additional electricity payment of \$310.40 per month.*
- *During the design process the City of Roswell approached GDOT to add pedestrian lighting to the project in order to maintain continuity with the Midtown Streetscape Project. The City's request for the lighting was denied by GDOT and was therefore not allowed to be a part of the construction contract. A request will be*

made for the monthly energy cost in the FY 2012 budget. Funding is available in Impact Fees Fund and Capital Projects Fund for the upfront costs (installation, etc).

- Councilmember Orlans asked if these are LEDs (energy efficient) being put in and staff said they are not. He asked if staff will be looking into those lights. Steve Acenbrak replied yes and there is movement in the industry but he added that they will save money and last longer, but they will look different. He added that some of the cities that have tried them, do not like them because they are intense lights. Steve said staff will be looking at putting some kind of frosted globe around there to try to create a less intense light.

- Councilmember Price asked about the difference in the lights on Holcomb Bridge and the lights at the Grimes Bridge Roundabout that will be discussed later and why the lights at Grimes Bridge are about \$1,000 cheaper. Steve Acenbrak said they are different light fixtures and different wattages and they are doing different things. He said the one on the Holcomb Bridge Corridor already has supplemental lighting while this will be the only lighting at the roundabout. Councilmember Price added that the roundabout is a higher wattage but still a cheaper light. Steve added that they are different fixtures. Councilmember Dippolito asked if at both locations the lights used need to be GDOT approved, why is the city not using the cheaper ones. Steve replied it is a lighting design issue. This one is a state route and the roundabout is not. Steve said he can't explain it. He remembered looking at the lighting design that came to staff. They had a separate contract to do this. Mayor asked if it is the light or the fixture that cost more. Steve replied that it is both. They are different wattages at the two locations, but because of the design requirement in the two different situations the costs are different.

- Councilmember Igleheart asked what is the timeline for these lights to be installed because he wanted to know if there was time to look at LEDs. Steve Acenbrak said these will probably be one of the last things that go in. Since this is at least a 6-8 month project, there is time to work through those details. Staff was concerned primarily in the location of the bases, the conduit, the wiring, etc. He said if Council wishes staff to explore different alternatives, they have time for that.

- Councilmember Wynn asked about the pricing of the lights since the letter from GA Power states the pricing is good for 45 days. Steve said it is standard language that GA Power uses with their commercial customers in their form letters but staff has verified that GA Power will hold that price.

A motion was made by Council Member Rich Dippolito, seconded by Council Member Kent Igleheart, that this agreement with GA Power for the pedestrian lighting be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. Committee approved the light posts but staff was requested to look into the LED possibility and possibly using less expensive fixtures for this location. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orlans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

3.

Consideration to grant a permanent easement to Georgia Power regarding property owned at 1030 Grimes Bridge Road for utility work needed in conjunction with the Grimes Bridge at Norcross/Warsaw Intersection Improvement project

- As part of the right-of-way agreement for the Grimes Bridge / Norcross / Warsaw Roundabout construction project, The City of Roswell purchased the property at 1030 Grimes Bridge Road. Since the property is now owned by the city, Georgia Power is therefore asking the City of Roswell to provide the necessary easements needed for the relocation and placement of the new power poles. There is no cost associated

with this agreement.

- Councilmember Dippolito was a little concerned about where the utility wires are. He doesn't like the idea of running the wires over the house or over the roundabout. Steve Acenbrak said there is a trunkline that runs east and west along Norcross/Warsaw. There is another one that runs generally north and south along Grimes Bridge. As you go out there today, you will see a number of poles all over there with all sorts of things all over them. Steve said they have tried to do their best to minimize the wire impact to the roundabout right now. Steve said they are exploring with GA Power the option to perhaps put a 4th pole up so the wires are not impacting so much. If Council elects to go forward with that pole, GA Power will have to design that pole and design the wiring connections and it may delay the project. Councilmember Dippolito said that is a good idea. He likes the idea of not running wires over the roundabout but he also doesn't like the idea of running wires over the house because it will make it more difficult to sell. If we need a fourth one, he is in favor of adding a 4th one but putting it around the perimeter of the property and not going over the property. He requested that staff look at some other options. Staff told Council they can have that alternate design within the day or two. Kay Love said this doesn't have to come to a Mayor and Council meeting because there is no cost associated with this. Steve said this is just the formality of understanding that the city property will have these easements on it which is a pretty standard issue.

Committee approved granting the necessary easements needed for the relocation and placement of the new power poles to GA Power. Since there is no cost associated with this agreement, this does not have to go to a M&CC meeting for approval. Councilmember Dippolito added that staff will look at an alternate design later. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orland; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

4.

Consideration to sign an agreement with Georgia Power for pedestrian lighting on the Grimes Bridge/Norcross/Warsaw roundabout project in the amount of \$33,126.60

- Georgia Power will install seven (7) 150 watt high pressure sodium black copper Avenue post top fixtures and five (5) 18 black Hapco Glenlake aluminum direct burial poles. All poles, fixtures, cable and installation costs are included in this amount. Georgia Power will be responsible for the maintenance of the poles, fixtures and cable. The City will be responsible for the additional electricity payment of \$98.70 per month.
- Pedestrian lighting is a sole source item that can only be provided by Georgia Power. A request will be made for the monthly energy cost in the FY 2012 budget. Funding is available in Capital Projects Fund for the upfront costs (installation, etc.).
- The original lighting design had 13 lights all around there. Staff worked with GA Power to minimize both the lighting requirements while still maintaining safety and also the power requirements. Staff said it was agreed to do these 7 locations that will do a good job for the lighting of the intersection. They are only doing the fixtures at each of the yield locations. The conduit will be under the roundabout.
- Councilmember Price asked if there is adequate light for someone barreling down the road to know they can't stay on a straight course. She said if they analyzed the accidents at other roundabouts, she thinks a lot of them are at night because drivers don't know they have to veer right. She asked if there are any lights in the central portion of the roundabout. Steve said there are lights along the roads as you approach it. There are no lights in the intersection now but that is why they are adding these. It will be more illuminated than it is right now. There will be signs in

each approach indicating to the driver that they are approaching the roundabout. There will be plenty of notification for the motorist.

- Councilmember Wynn added that this is a church and a residential area so the city needs to be very cognizant and help mitigate the bleeding of the lights going into any of the houses. Steve Acenbrak said these lights will be the same as what is on Canton Street.*

A motion was made by Council Member Jerry Orlans, seconded by Mayor Jere Wood, that the agreement with GA Power for the pedestrian lighting be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. Georgia Power will install seven (7) fixtures and five (5) poles (two of the poles have 2 fixtures on each). The motion passed by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orlans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

5. Consideration to award a contract to JJE Constructors, Inc. for the Crabapple Road Sidewalk project in the amount of \$179,563.87 and consideration of a budget amendment to transfer \$214,516 from 2000 Bond - HBR Sidewalks from Old HBR to GA 400 to 2000 Bond - Sidewalk Connectivity
- Twelve (12) bids were received with costs ranging from \$143,617 to \$294,054.70. JJE Constructors, Inc. was the lowest responsive, responsible bidder in the amount of \$179,563.97 which is still below the budgeted amount. Staff said they also have a good relationship with this company. Two bids were rejected from the process.*
 - This project will connect a 1265-foot sidewalk gap along the west side of Crabapple Road from just North of Canton Street to Elizabeth Lane.*
 - The low bidder, The Dickerson Group, Inc., is currently working on the Opal Drive Water Main Replacement project. As of October 6, The Dickerson Group had not met the required substantial completion date of September 14 and was in danger of being charged with liquidated damages. Also, The Dickerson Group exhibited poor communication with the City by failing to attend meetings, failing to respond to requests for information and failing to install proper Erosion and Sedimentation Control measures. They also did not do well on the reference check. Staff has decided to reject Dickerson Groups bid as non-responsive to the requirements.*
 - The #2 low bidder, Pinnacle International, Inc., failed to include a itemized bid schedule. The bidding instructions clearly state that the bid schedule must be complete and submitted or the contractor will be deemed non-responsive and be rejected.*
 - Councilmember Price said that this just happens to be a stretch of road that their family does for the Adopt a Road. She wanted to know what kind of impact it will have putting that sidewalk there with those trees there. Steve Acenbrak said there is not a lot of clearing of trees and grading that is going to go into this project. They are doing the minimum amount so there will be minimum impact. There is a guardrail right there. They are putting the sidewalk in front of the guardrail.*
 - Councilmember Price asked if staff has a goal of having sidewalks on both sides of the road everywhere. Steve said they have a goal of having sidewalks within a 1/4 of a mile of schools and parks. This area has a lot of pedestrian activity.*

A motion was made by Council Member Rich Dippolito, seconded by Mayor Jere Wood, that awarding the contract to JJE Constructors and the budget amendment be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and

City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 5 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito;
Council Member Igleheart and Council Member Orlans

Abstain: 1 - Council Member Price

6. Consideration to sign a Change Order to the Holcomb Bridge Middle School Sidewalk Project Design Contract with Mulkey Engineers and Consultants in the amount of \$103,785.62
- *A Change Order to the Design Contract in the amount of \$103,785.62 is requested for the Holcomb Bridge Middle School Sidewalk project. The Change Order is a result of the approval of a concept change from a standard five (5') foot sidewalk to an eight (8') to ten (10') foot multi-use trail along the south side of Holcomb Bridge Road. This change order will bring the new design contract amount to \$165,486.78.*
 - *This project will provide 7,000 LF of eight (8') to ten (10') foot wide multi-use trail along the south side of HBR/SR 140, beginning from Steeple Chase Dr to Nesbit Ferry Road. Due to funding constraints, this project will be constructed in phases. Phase I, about 1,970 linear feet, will start from Steeple Chase Dr. to the Horizon at Roswell office condominium complex (opposite side of East Village/ Super Target). Staff said the ultimate goal is to go down to the Holcomb Bridge Middle School and to keep going down to Nesbit Ferry. Because of the cost increase involved in making this an 8 to 10 foot multi-use trail, Steve wanted to bring it to Council's attention.*
 - *Steve Acenbrak said when the sidewalk went in, the vision for the sidewalk was that it was going to be within the right of way. They would like to do a 10 foot trail all the way but there are places where it is just really going to be expensive so there are places where they are going to leave the right of way. He said right of way plans need to be done and because of the topography there are things like retaining walls that will need to be designed and those drive the cost of the design up. Councilmember Igleheart wonders if it is worth that cost to go from 5 to 10 foot. Steve said the issue is you can't ride a bicycle on a 5 foot sidewalk. Since they didn't have any other option to get down to Garrard landing, this is going to be part of our trail system. Councilmember Orlans added that long term he would rather see the multi-use trail get all the way to Garrard and doing it one time would be best.*
 - *The \$103,785 design cost is available in the Sidewalk Connectivity budget but staff said they do not have money budgeted for the construction. Steve Acenbrak said staff will have to come back at another time once they have the design completed and the right-of-way and easement cost all documented and ask for the money for the construction.*
 - *Councilmember Price asked if this is a continuous 8-10 foot. Steve said it will be tapered. Councilmember Price asked how many transitions will there be. Steve said there will be several but the tapers are very gradual so they probably won't even be noticed. He added that there is an economic argument also. Some of the areas are probably just not worth spending the extra money to keep it 10 feet. They are trying to be economical as well as providing a useable facility.*
 - *Councilmember Dippolito said this is part of the system that they have been discussing about having loops to connect all the parks with multi-use trails. It is also part of the North Fulton Comp Transportation Plan. He asked if it would be eligible for funding for construction with that. Steve said they can put it in Tier 2 and that could be eligible for the SPLOST funding if HB277 passes.*
 - *Mayor said speaking on behalf of the bicyclists, he said they are trying to make Roswell a complete bicycle community. He said there is no effective alternate to get from one part of town to the next other than riding on HBR or this multi-use trail so this is also a safety issue also. It is a matter of really creating access for bicyclists*

community wide. A multi-use trail is the only real feasible way to do it.

A motion was made by Council Member Rich Dippolito, seconded by Council Member Jerry Orlans, that the change order for this sidewalk project be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. This change order is for the design of Phase 2. Staff was also requested to look at the funding for this project since it will be eligible for funding since this project is part of the North Fulton Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orlans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

7. Discussion of Holcomb Bridge Road over GA 400 Pedestrian Improvements - Guidance

- *The pedestrian improvements at the HBR Bridge over GA 400 is a multi-modal safety improvement to install sidewalks and pedestrian accommodations along HBR adjacent to and on the bridge over GA 400. Funds in the amount of \$500,000 are available in the MARTA Fund Grant Cost Center. The design consultant, PB Americas Inc., has met with GDOT to discuss the project and has begun the design of the pedestrian improvements.*
- *Upon further study, staff has identified one additional traffic safety improvement that could be added into the project. The additional improvement is to extend the eastbound left-turn lane to turn northbound onto GA 400. The improvement also includes extending the median and providing a pedestrian refuge in the crosswalk. This will improve a major congestion bottleneck for eastbound traffic and improve pedestrian safety. The RTOP (Regional Traffic Operations Program) project manager and GDOT support this new improvement concept. Staff recognized that extending the left-turn lane would result in removing 5 Bradford Pear trees in the median. Staff is aware of previous concepts to remove the Bradford Pear trees and replace them with crepe myrtles between Dogwood Road and GA 400. Crepe Myrtles are a species of tree that is approved by GDOT for this application. Additionally, there was a pedestrian fatality in early 2010 involving a pedestrian running across HBR mid-block to catch the MARTA bus and the pedestrian was struck by a vehicle. Pedestrians routinely cross mid-block.*
- *To address these issues, staff further identified three improvements that could complement the pedestrian improvement project since staff is continually looking at ways to improve the corridor.*
 1. *Relocating the eastbound MARTA bus stop from Old Dogwood Road closer to the GA 400 On-ramp. This would move the bus stop closer to the crosswalk across HBR, thus discouraging mid-block crossings and encouraging pedestrians to use the crosswalk. Councilmember Wynn said that is a good idea but they have to make sure that the bus is not impeding that continual flow going on southbound. Steve Acenbrak said they can talk to MARTA about a bus turnout.*
 2. *Consider installing a 4-foot high decorative fence along the median between Dogwood Road and GA 400. This would further discourage/restrict pedestrians from crossing mid-block and requires little maintenance. Councilmember Dippolito suggested he would like to see additional landscaping in the median instead of a fence. Councilmember Diamond liked the fence idea.*
 3. *Re-landscape the median between Dogwood Road and GA 400. Add new landscaping west of SR 400.*
- *Staff believes these improvements would improve pedestrian and vehicular safety as well as improve the visual appeal of this area. Staff anticipates construction of these improvements could start before summer 2011.*

- *The MARTA Fund Grant can only be utilized for pedestrian and transit improvements. Staff recommends using Road Safety Program funds for the design and construction of extending the eastbound left-turn lane. Staff estimates the cost at \$60,000. Staff also recommends using Road Safety Program funds for the design and construction of a fence in the median and design of the landscape plans. Staff estimates the cost at \$40,000. Funds in the amount of \$275,000 are available in the Road Safety Program.*
- *Staff recommends using Tree Planting Program funds for installation of landscaping. Funds in the amount of \$61,685 are available in the Tree Planting Program.*
- *Staff will coordinate with MARTA on the relocation of its bus stop. If approved, staff will attempt to negotiate a cost share. The city's portion of this could be funded with the MARTA Fund Grant.*

A motion was made by Council Member Rich Dippolito, seconded by Mayor Jere Wood, that staff allow the consultant to come up with some concepts to add some additional traffic safety improvements as discussed to this project. This will come back to a committee meeting for further review. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orleans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

Community Development

8. Discussion of Movie Theater Reader Boards and signage - Guidance

- Staff was requested to draft a text amendment to the sign ordinance to allow changeable copy boards for movie theaters. The Committee requested staff to review the City of Alpharetta's current sign code for Cinema changeable copy boards as a starting point. The City of Alpharetta's limitation for ground sign is not to exceed 20 feet and 120 square feet of copy area. A wall sign is not to exceed one (1) square foot for each linear foot of building frontage.
- Councilmember Price requested that staff draft a proposed ordinance with text that would allow most of the requested signage from the owners of the Roswell Town Center Aurora Cineplex. Some of the additional signage they are requesting are: 1) The sign on Commerce Parkway to be replaced with a larger sign that has changeable reader board as well as established signs; 2) The two signs on Alpharetta Highway and HBR to be replaced by a reader board sign; and 3) The signage proposed is to be about 2,600 square feet.
- Brad Townsend said that two of the signs they are requesting are not on the premise and are not approved by the current code and something would need to be written in the code to allow those signs.
- Councilmember Orlans asked if the area where this Cineplex is located has a separate zoning designation that allowed the first movable signs in there. Bob Hulsey said when he looked back at the minutes when Star Time came forward, Council did not create a zoning district. Council gave them conditional zoning but nothing was actually implemented. When the zoning code was redone there was not a separate zoning district designated. Bob Hulsey said those are non-conforming signs that exist out there now but the city did work with the owners of the property so they could keep the signs they have.
- Mayor asked staff what is the best that can be offered to these property owners based upon the current code and how can it be changed without changing the off-premise rules. Brad replied the current code allows a 12 ft ground sign 96 square feet one per road frontage.
- Councilmember Diamond said the issue about these signs might have more to do with large multi-use projects. She added that a larger tract of land project should not be penalized because they own a bigger parcel, so maybe the answer is to adjust the sign per frontage depending on the size of the property. Councilmember Dippolito added that there would have to be minimum dimensions to get a second sign.
- Mayor suggested for staff to go back and look at what the property owners have proposed and look at this center and others and how it would work out and do some analysis as to how many sites would qualify, what are the consequences and come back to Committee.
- Councilmember Orlans asked about the sign that is presently there. He asked if they can make any kind of changes to it without moving it or taking it down. Bob Hulsey replied they can maintain it as is. Council tightened that after the billboard company got to take their whole sign down and put it back up, so none of that can be done anymore. They are able to maintain what they have but they can't make structural changes to it, and that is what they are requesting. Bob Hulsey added that when Legal looked at adopting what Alpharetta has, they found a weakness in theirs. If you adopt something specific for movies you are then regulating the content of signs, which the courts have said you cannot do.
- Councilmember Orlans asked if they can go back now and create a separate conditional zoning. Councilmember Wynn said her concern is if another movie theater comes on board, they are going to ask for the same thing. Bob Hulsey

replied creating a separate zoning district isn't going to solve the problem. It was confirmed that whatever is decided about these reader boards could apply to churches, gas stations, etc.

- Councilmember Price said she asked staff to check on some other places around town like, Merchants Walk and the Park Twelve in Cobb because those look fine to her. It gives the information needed on the signs and that is what we should be all about is helping our citizens decide what they want to do.
- Councilmember Price said the property owners discussed the poster signs. They have requested every current movie and every coming attraction, which if they have 12 movie theaters that would mean 24 posters. Brad replied they also included a request for 4 for special advertising, so they were asking for 24.
- Councilmember Dippolito said he still likes the Alpharetta ordinance because he feels it is fair and is generous. He feels cinemas should be allowed to have a separate monument sign so they can show what their movies are. Councilmember Igleheart mentioned that the Alpharetta ordinance doesn't have anything about poster signs. Brad Townsend said since those signs are not seen from the street, they don't consider them and they don't have language that controls them.
- Councilmember Price said she would prefer to see the aesthetically pleasing signs. She doesn't know why they can't get there. She added that just to say we can't do that is not acceptable. If the proposed sign is aesthetically more pleasing and more useful to the owner, why can't we get rid of what is there and replace with something else. Bob Hulsey said because of court precedence. The whole sign issue is trying to balance free speech, commercial speech and what cities and towns want to do to control sign clutter. The ordinance Roswell now has was crafted to accommodate all those things and works. It only takes a little bit to have it attacked in court. He told Council that they can accommodate the business owner and some of these things discussed can be done but it opens up all kinds of things across town and then the city would not be able to control the billboards.
- Councilmember Price asked if they can specifically address in some sort of ordinance the movie theaters. Bob Hulsey said that is what they are trying to do but that opens it up to other issues.

Staff was requested to go back and relook at Alpharetta's sign ordinance and do some further research. Councilmember Dippolito also asked for staff to find out how long Alpharetta's ordinance has been in effect and find out if they have had any legal challenges. This item was deferred to the 11/22/2010 Community Development and Transportation committee meeting.

9.

Discussion of barriers for abandoned subdivisions - Guidance

- There are subdivisions that are currently blocked off due to illegal dumping issues. Council has the power to close roads and this can be done by a resolution.
- A few of the subdivisions in the last couple of weeks have been taken over by other builders. The only ones left that staff would recommend approval to close off the streets with barricades to control the access into these locations are the following two (2) due to no activity: 1) Cochran Farms - Off Chaffin Road & Coleman Drive and 2) Pine Grove Estates - Off Pine Grove Road. Once there is activity again and the houses are no longer abandoned, the barricades can then be removed.
- Councilmember Price asked what constitutes a barricade and Bob Hulsey replied anything blocking the public road is a barricade. She asked what kind of barricade is staff talking about. Bob Hulsey said if it is blocking access it is a barricade but it needs to be clearly visible.
- Bob Hulsey added that if any other roads need to be closed another resolution would need to come forward for approval because the specific roads need to be identified in the resolution and why the road is being closed.
- Councilmember Dippolito asked if Council can specify the kind of barricade used.

He said this came up in the first place because of visibility. Mayor said it would be best for the Transportation Department to decide that.

A motion was made by Mayor Jere Wood, seconded by Council Member Becky Wynn, that the Resolution to close streets of partially built subdivisions be approved for the Regular Agenda and placed on the Mayor and City Council agenda for 11/8/2010. This resolution will be for Cochran Farms Drive and Pineridge Way. Legal will add language that allows the Transportation Department to come up with how best to close the road. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orleans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

10.

Consideration of a Special Event Permit for Caroling on Canton Street on Friday, December 3, 2010

- *Mayor requested to bring this forward. This is for a Road Closure on Canton Street from Norcross Street to Woodstock Road from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 3, 2010 for Caroling on Canton Street. Mayor said this will be a city sponsored event.*
- *Councilmember Price asked if there are objections to having outside vendors. Mayor said this would be a non-commercial Christmas event. There will not be any outside vendors or tents set up. There will be different choirs in different areas along the street. Mayor added that businesses will supply hot drinks along the street. Jennie Bushey said the residents were also fine with doing this but they did have some concerns about coming home from work on a Friday during the holiday season. Mayor said accommodations can be made to allow some local traffic in but it would be closed to thru traffic. He said the Police will know how to deal with that.*
- *Sally Johnson from the Merchants Association and owner of the Chandlery said there is a lot of enthusiasm from the business owners. She said there was no negative feedback from the merchants.*
- *Councilmember Igleheart still questioned why they are willing to close off the street on a Friday at rush hour time and probably with less people but they don't want to close part of the road during Alive After Five. Sally Johnson answered that Alive After Five is such a great event and they don't want to change anything about it right now with the way the economy is. She said maybe closing the road during this small event in December will change the merchant's minds but she doesn't want to change it now.*
- *Councilmember Dippolito liked the idea and said it is a nice touch and it fits Roswell.*

A motion was made by Council Member Kent Igleheart, seconded by Council Member Becky Wynn, that the road closure on Canton Street from Norcross Street to Woodstock Road from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. be approved. This will also be a city sponsored event. The motion carried by the following vote:

In Favor: 7 - Mayor Wood; Council Member Diamond; Council Member Dippolito; Council Member Igleheart; Council Member Orleans; Council Member Price and Council Member Wynn

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

