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**CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA**  
**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Mayor Jeffrey A. DeTar**  
**Mayor Pro Tem Jeanell Bridges**  
**Councilman Larry Ferguson**  
**Councilwoman Renee S. Knight**  
**Councilwoman Dorothy Dean**

**July 23, 2019**

**Work Session Minutes**

**6:45 pm**

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**Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** called the Work Session to order at 6:45pm on July 23, 2019. The meeting took place in the Council Chambers of the Morrow Municipal Complex located at: 1500 Morrow Road, Morrow, GA, 30260.

**Facilitator: City Manager Sylvia Redic**

Those present were **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar, Mayor Pro Tem Jeanell Bridges, Councilman Larry Ferguson, Councilwoman Renee S. Knight and Councilwoman Dorothy Dean.**

**General Discussions**

**1. Path System Phase III**

**a. Pond and Company change order**

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** began the discussion so first on tonight's work session discussion is the Path System Phase III, as you all know, we are moving toward the portion of that project where we have to let the, the project out for bid and choose our construction company but before we can do that, there are some documents specifically an environmental document that has to be in a non expired state, it expires every one year. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** continued the categorical exclusion, I think it's called, in fact, we've had recent conversations about construction administration, I want to be clear, this is not about construction administration these are scope of work changes that have to be addressed in order to move forward with the construction of Phase III. **Public Works Director Anou Sothsavath** added for Transportation Enhancement grant through GDOT, we are required to have a category exclusion, it's only valid for one year, we completed ours in September of 2017 it has expired, the nice thing is we will do a reevaluation, not at the full on evaluation that we did in 2017 the work for that is going to be roughly about \$5,500, Pond and Company will be the same group that did the previous one it would do for the categorical exclusions, it's basically just updating environmental work in relation to our plans, we don't see that much change should get pretty efficient and streamlined process, the next thing on there also is the additional construction document, utility coordination service that we have with all of our utility companies, Georgia Power, Atlanta Gas & Line, Clayton County Water Authority, I didn't know how much involvement it was with utilities since I worked with public works, but also working on these grants it's a constant barrage with utilities to try and get the coordination from them.



**Public Works Director Anou Sothsavath** commented we allocated about four month time frame, knowing when we set up the plans to the utilities their allowed 60 days to review, some of the companies we never hear back, so it's a constant communication back and forth, I did get an email earlier this week that Comcast finally for their revisions, so we are hoping for no conflicts on all of them, we should have those out there shortly by end of this week and that was the additional on that as well for that utility coordination you're looking at for both change orders roughly \$10,000 and were politely making a request from the Mayor and Council to approve that so we can move with the let date for the project in September of this year of 2019. City Manager Sylvia Redic pointed out just as a matter of interest on page 5, conditions of the contract dated July 6, 2012, so just to remind us, that's how long it can take sometimes so grant funding is great and it's something we will always try to seek out after but if you signed the contract in 2012, we're letting for just got this construction in 2019 and so that's, nobody knew it was going to take that long, you know, of course the floodplain changing was one of the biggest stalls that we experienced but it's just a reminder that grant funding has a very nice long process.

## 2. SPLOST Fund Expenditure Request- Police Vehicle Replacement

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** reminded Council recently we had a police officer who was on the interstate responding to a call, his vehicle was struck, he was not in the vehicle, so that has to be replaced, now the question I asked Chief, in case it's on your mind, well what is that person driving now when they're driving an older unit? So then my question is, well why do we need to buy a new one if he's in an older one? Because remember, we're understaffed, so when the newer people are hired, we're still going to have to replace that vehicle, he'll have an opportunity to use the older one because we're not fully staffed, but we need to replace the vehicle and obviously it was not anticipated so we are going to be requesting that it is a SPLOST expenditure, but I will let Major Tatroe and share any other details. **Mayor Greg Tatroe** advised what as City Manager alluded to we are full now, so we are full staff so we're very excited about that but yes, the patrol car was totaled no injuries and we received an insurance check from the insurance company representing the driver that hit us, we were not at fault for \$13,900 we've just priced out in a new vehicle totally equipped, we're looking at about \$45,871 for fully equipped patrol vehicle, the \$13,900 was deposited back into the General Fund, we're asking for the \$13,900 plus an offset from the SPLOST to equal out the \$45,800, which would be \$31,971, give or take a few dollars so that's if we're asking for to replace it and be able to put him in a new vehicle on the road. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded so I must have misunderstood in the last few days, it's the, the training officer program, the officer rides with someone else because otherwise, how do we have everybody in a car is, so what you're saying is because we now are fully staffed, we still don't have enough vehicles because those in training officers are riding with somebody? **Mayor Greg Tatroe** replied we have one of our in training officers that is fixing to be cut loose today or tomorrow, we hope based on her evaluations and her testing, she'd be in place in a vehicle that's a 2010, we've had to do some work on it and repaint it to get it roadworthy but it's not a vehicle that we're going to rely on to be driven every day, day after day after day, it's got high mileage, but we do tout you know, take on vehicles with the department, that's how we're able to hire and get people in and we would greatly appreciate being able to replace this car to, to give our new officers that incentive to have taken on vehicle and to replace the fleet. **Councilwoman Dorothy Dean** asked (inaudible). **Mayor Greg Tatroe** responded yes ma'am, they do, rank, does heads privilege. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked so we



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have some additional planned vehicle replacements coming up this year as well, is that correct? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded yes sir.

### 3. Police Department Surplus Request

- Unit # 4 - 2005 Ford Crown Victoria - VIN: 2FAFP71W95X164993
- Unit # 11 - 2005 Ford Crown Victoria - VIN : 2FAFP71W65X164997

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** reminded Council surplus requests or anything over \$500 that we have to request your approval to surplus. **Major Greg Tatroe** explained we have two vehicles currently in the fleet that are not operable they're 2005 or Crown Victoria is very high mileage they haven't moved for about a year in order to get these things roadworthy it would cost way more than what they're worth other than we're asking for those vehicles to be surplus through our normal channels of Govdeals.com and then the proceeds would be a floated it back into the general fund.

### 4. Fire Department Surplus Request-Vehicle Extrication Equipment

**Fire Chief Roger Swint** advised earlier this year we received all new extrication equipment or vehicle extrication through the federal grants and the equipment I'm asking to surplus was purchased in 2006, it's still good equipment, feel like we'll bring a fairly good price on Govdeals, so we're asking the surplus that we no longer need. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked Chief, would this equipment be something we might want to consider donating to another department? There's lots of departments in Georgia, that are understaffed and under equipped with volunteers and underfunded so on here, is this a possibility? **Fire Chief Roger Swint** responded I'm sure another department would like to have that, I would agree, it's you all's decision if that's what you want to do, one reason we were wanting to sell it, is we need to buy a couple of more thermal imaging cameras and we're thinking by selling this we can offset the cost of those cameras. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** asked I suppose we should address your concern even knowing that, would you want to move forward with the donation or would you rather use it? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** explained I don't have someone specific in mind but fire departments across the state are sort of a community and they do converse with each other and there have been recent incidents in the last two years, I know of at least the fire departments that have been in dire straits where donations were inappropriate so I was just wondering if maybe there was a situation where that could be the case with the case of the police cars that wouldn't work, they don't run, so it wouldn't help but if there's equipment that is serviceable and it would be to the benefit of somebody that we can actually help out, that'd be a nice thing and I think Chief Swint would join me we would love that opportunity I think it would be a very good thing for this collaborative community that you talk about, but we just want to make sure that that means an unexpected expenditure would be coming that wasn't budgeted so we would have to address that at a budget amendment or, and that's fine I just want to make sure we're clear. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** explained I would need to know how much is the value of the expenditure that we weren't expecting and so on and so forth. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated we'll get the whole council that information. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated we had a recent donation by the police department of some Taser equipment and that sort of thing is always the best way to get rid of surplus property,



different service, so if there is a lifespan in this equipment, then it could be used for actually what it was intended for.

## 5. Potential Saturday & Sunday Voting and Dates

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** began the discussion the next issue is about voting dates and whether or not we want to extend our voting days and dates and I'm going to let Yasmin lead this conversation. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** advised currently we have an IGA with the county and the City of College Park is also trying to do an IGA with the county, which means our, if the \$30,000 costs or the costs of the election will be split just like we did with Riverdale in the previous election, we, the city has a choice of Saturday and/or Sunday voting dates if we would like, we don't have a huge turnout during the weekdays, I personally feel one Saturday should be sufficient and College Park if they do join in, has also stated to their City Clerk, their interest in having a Saturday voting day as well, so it is my recommendation that we do have a Saturday voting day, just as an option, just one day instead of having it two Saturdays or a Saturday and a Sunday. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked but we would also have voting during the week, correct? **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** confirmed correct, this is just an addition, the advanced voting typically is during work hours, it's usually we can at nine to four during the weekdays, so this is an additional option to have a one Saturday voting for people who just cannot make it during the weekday and then the regular election day is 7am to 7pm on November 5th. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated so what I want to make sure we're clear on, which I wasn't clear on if, no, when I talked to some of you earlier, is that we currently don't have a Saturday option, even though our, we have very low turnout at the polls, maybe our, maybe our opinion and why do we need another day since there is no Saturday option, I could see some value in offering a Saturday in case it's the one day of the week somebody can get there and you would have the opportunity to choose the hours like eight to four, eight to five, eight to seven, whatever but so that again, that's what our staff recommendation is to add at least one Saturday. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked and again, since it's early voting that means it's open to more than just Morrow other voters from around the area who come in and use the precinct and it's only on that Saturday. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** mentioned Clayton county does not have their own election, so if College Park does sign the IGA, which they're supposed to be signing this upcoming week, then it will be the same as Riverdale, people would be allowed to vote here if they lived in College Park, they'll be allowed to vote here and our people who may work in College Park are allowed to vote over there as well as voting at the main office in Clayton County during advanced voting on election day, they can only vote at their actual site, which means here at this location. **Councilwoman Dorothy Dean** asked like the main voting election office are they open on Saturdays. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** explained that location I believe will also be open on Saturday because all of the advanced voting locations, will be open the same time, we all have to come together and compromise on a time and the date, College Park was more interested on having it on the 26th instead of the 19th of October, so it's a little bit closer to the election date however, while we were conversing, I did not know at the time that they had not signed the IGA as of yet, Shauna, I'm from the elections office advised me they have not officially signed the IGA, however, all of the information, the estimate, the invoice, everything is coming across as if they had already signed it, so there could be a potential that they don't approve it and it's just all us on us and we get to make the decision all on our own and the cost for adding a Saturday is, so it would depend because they would have to pay an assistant, they would pay





the manager, they would pay employees, so I got the dollar amount, however, the hours would determine how much it would be, so if we chose the number of hours, then I would have to calculate how many people, but I can explain here that for the managers is \$225 a day, assistant managers is \$170, and then the clerks are \$115 per day. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked that's an eight hour day? **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** explained that right, that's for a whole eight hours, if you don't, you have less hours than I'm sure the rate may change. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked otherwise the \$30,000 in costs, we're going to split a \$30,000 costs would College park, am I interpreting that? **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** replied correct but that also includes, you know, additional managers for their location, additional clerks for their location, and a manager for their location, if they come out, we won't have the additional costs to split, but we'll be paying pretty much for everything else, the advertising, all of that would just solely under us it's not going to be necessarily \$15,000 just cause we're splitting the overall cost but the employees that are working their poll sites are pretty much, if you split it, it's the same that's the only difference. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked now that were talking about voting and all that, what are the dates and registration to run for office at Morrow? **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** responded it's the 19th of August, which is a Monday through the 21st, 19th through the 21st so Monday through Wednesday. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** asked are you all in agreement of the 26th as a voting date and then we can come back and discuss the time? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated I have no problem with the 26 yes, I am in agreement. That sounds like about \$600 for one day. Is that correct? They only need three people. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** advised potentially, it's the number of people who are registered to vote in the area that determines how many more people they have work that day and the time will also determine, so if you only want to do four hours, if you want to do six hours, if you want to do an extended, it may be more just, but that's not something that we would need to make a decision on right at this moment. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked does the County wish that to be consistent between all three of the parties, **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** explained it has to be consistent because they have to have their workers work consistently, correct. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked all three of the areas would open at the same time and close, correct? **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** replied correct, and we're looking at from 9 to 4 during advanced voting and then the Saturday voting, you know, if you have a recommended time, I could recommend that to College Park but they are very open since College Park have some in Fulton County some in Clayton county, their Fulton county locations are not going to have Saturday voting and they were very upset about that and that was not their choice, so they are proponents of having a Saturday voting here in the Clayton County side. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** commented I don't know if this work would work out, but it seems like when I come here to vote, I'm the first in line, you know, and there's not a waiting, and I'm wondering if we do open on a Saturday, if we could just get the bare basic crew of three people, four people, whatever it takes to run it, I don't know if that has to be consistent with the same number of people College Park as on their Saturday. **City Clerk Yasmin Julio** responded no, it doesn't have to be consistent in that case but the elections office would determine the number of people that must be present to work because they have to have a manager and they, you know, an assistant, right, so they have to be present so that's guaranteed that they have to be here and just the number of hours, if you all have a recommended time that I could recommend to them. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** stated 9am to 3pm. Consensus reached for time of 9am to 3pm.

## 6. Personnel Policy- 3.04 Employment of Relatives

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** explained this is just a policy that I want to get rid of because there's a reality in my mind that you can't address every issue with a policy and we went through a phase as a city where we developed a lot of personal rules and regulations that I don't think are important enough for us to cling to because once there's a policy, it's like open records where the City Clerk, if you kept the record, somebody gets to ask for it, if you destroy it when you were supposed to. We don't have to worry about it when they ask for it, so it's like, I'm just not an advocate for having policies for the sake of having a thicker policy book and I just, I think that especially with the recruiting for the police and fire, you know, what if Chief Swint who has a cousin, who has a son and now we can't hire him, even though he was, his lifelong dream is being a firefighter, we're going to have to send him to another city, even though we know we need firefighters and so I will say that, I'm assuring you that I'm never going to put us in a position to hire people that are getting favored different than they should and so I think that this is one of the policies that reflects a level of trust and I just don't think it's necessary, so I'll be advocating to remove it and through the years or weeks, months as we talk about things as departments, there may be other ones that we just don't think are necessarily there, they're just outdated or they aren't relevant or they aren't serving a purpose because again, I have learned so much from our attorneys to have a policy that you don't subscribe to is, is not smart, it's better to address an issue when there's no policy regulating it then to have a policy if you're out of step with it and again, I just feel like it's collaborative was, it was we are as a community and as many board members as we have, why would we ever put ourselves in a position to never consider people that have some blood relation to the people that we already trust because they've proven themselves on our staff and, but we're not going to take somebody that they know based on this policy and to the Mayor's point, I'll shut up now, if there are any questions, certainly I'm happy to entertain them and this is just what you'll see on the next agenda. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** advised Council I fully agree with the city manager. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked so Sylvia, you're saying this is the current policy that's been in effect since 2010? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded yes, sir.

## 7. Barton Park Concept- Georgia Department of Natural Resources Grants

- a. Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Program
- b. Recreational Trails Programs

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** advised so in July of this year, the state passed new legislation that created a new grant funding arm called the Georgia Stewardship Program and so we don't often get the opportunity to apply for monies directly to the state, we often have to apply to the federal government and the state is used in is a pass through, so as in every grant situation you know, the money comes from somewhere this comes from an vehicle fuel tax so they have to use this money on projects that basically alleviate the impacts of vehicles on the environment, which is why it's all specific to trails and recreation along trails so it's the development of, or the enhancement of current or new trail systems, which may include property acquisition, you know, we're not going there yet because one of the things..., I went to a



workshop about this last week and one of the things that the state is paramount to them in the rating of the grant is it has to be what is now called shovel-ready, so when might say, okay, well what does that mean? That means that by the time you get the money, by the time the notice to proceed is signed, that all of your engineering would have to be finished, all of your decisions from the council would have to be done, so if for example, I applied in September, which is when the grant will roll out, the application will roll out and they in November notify me that you have been selected as a finalist for the second stage, which, and they tell you you're going to get the money in the second stage if we just do everything we tell you to do, so at that point I say, oh, we won the grant, I need to get this thing, you know, maybe we've gotten some engineered plans that we've already had, we're going to get them updated and maybe it's not building a new path, maybe we want to get trash cans along the path, those kinds of things, then we'd have to be ready to sign the check to whomever come when we get that money in April of the following year, so that's the grant cycle September is the application, November is the notification that you're a finalist, the following April is when you get the notice to proceed. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** continued okay, there are two programs that then that's why the there, there are two programs underneath this money, actually there's three but the ones that we're talking about are the recreational program, that RTP and this stewardship program and so, you know, I have been the grants administrator here for many years, there's only two grants that I've never won and this is one of them the RTP, cause remember when I said wasn't it? And I just, I don't understand like I don't understand, but it's about they want to know things about what your outreach beyond your 7,000 members who do you, who serve, who, who are you serving? it's not about usage and I'm, I don't have to count and say I have a hundred people that walk on this trip, but who has the potential to use it? That's one of the big things with this money the good news is we have Clayton State University, so say for example, we wanted to apply to build the connection of the path system, the underpass and the existing trail system under the power line our argument would be, and they always say get creative but not too creative is that we are outreaching to all those 32 countries, we just heard about earlier branding because that's the potential for the use, so that may be one thing we look for in the RTP, the smaller so I spoke to the Mayor before, this was on the agenda to say, so are we interested in expanding our ideas to something that maybe we haven't considered before? and I'm just going to throw one out there that I was thinking about in class. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** asked what if we had a public fishing call and you have a place where you go down into the water? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** explained we would have to dig some sort of hole but it's along the creek, it's along the trail and we stock it with fish, right? That's just an idea out of the blue I'm picking out, but, and we have an avid Fisher among us and I was asking her about it, of course, you know, and I appreciate that when is something is something that we do or is important as it's easy to be enthusiastic about it so, that's why we don't give the decision to one person, including myself. And so what if we had a dirt bike trail because we had dirt bikes in this community they're using our trail system anyway, I don't know. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** asked do we try to stop it? Do we create a place where they can go and be? So these are all of the things and the reason I put Barton Memorial Park, which is I know, because they spoke to me, hello, it's a reminder not that that what you see in that Barton Memorial Park, if you notice the day, that was something we designed almost 10 years ago Right? It, that's not what, I'm just reminding you that that space is there and a lot can be done there, there's a creek that runs through it, there's 40 acres and so if we are going to apply for this grant, I just need to sort of hear from the Council, are we interested in doing something different than we've ever done before or do we want to stay the course and just develop more of the 12 foot wide concrete trail



either decision has wisdom. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** interjected or what if we created a pedestrian plaza at North Lee Street and South Lee street that had a component of recreational activities. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded because it's not on the trail system. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** continued okay but we could connect it to Clayton State in some form or fashion. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated while you could make sure that we're clear, sidewalks are not considered trails, but if we wanted to do a trail down the middle of something totally like, wow, yeah, **Councilwoman Renee Knight** advised were throwing out ideas. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** commented absolutely. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked the trail system, does it have to be contiguous because we can add existing improvements or improvements to the existing path that's in Barton and it's not part of the past system that we have on the other side of City Hall, so could, does it have to be contiguous to be considered part of a system? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated well, let me say first, I don't consider that we have a trail system in Barton, do you? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated there's walkway through the park. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** mentioned okay, okay, so it, it absolutely doesn't, now with the RTP, it cannot be like a ball field and you're building a track around it, it cannot be self sufficient as a trail system but with the Georgia Stewardship program it can be and so like the RTP was one of the things that, you know, I tried to get more of that mulch stuff to connect, you know, down to Grayson circle and over behind it just again, I miss my life's mystery but so yes, but only through the Georgia stewardship program and there's \$1.3 million currently available, 40% of the money will go to motorized only motorized projects, 40% will go to non-motorized stuff, the opposite and then there is another percentage that goes to education, so my question was during this training, well, what if we had like a no litter campaign? Don't litter on the path, is that considered education? Well, that was actually something that we're going to have to get back with me on because they weren't sure if that would be considered as remember it's brand new, everybody's writing the rules as we speak, all they have is the legislation so it could be stuff we do on the existing trails, it could be stuff we do, you know, like I said under the power lines, it's just that when grants are, you know, it's a no brainer part when you can get a police car, cause we're always going to buy out police cars, it's a no brainer application if we have an opportunity to buy a Fire truck cause we buy that but when we start talking about doing things that we've never considered before, I don't, I don't want to ever be perceived as some rogue city manager who hasn't had even a foundation discussion we don't have to decide tonight but did you hear what I said? The application is due September 1st and it's a lot of work so I don't want to spend the next two and three developing an application if at your heart you already know what direction you want to take so that's really sort of why we're discussing it and remember the only reason I included that Barton memorial park is just because, just to remind us there's, we've got 40 acres out there we never purchased it with the intention of leaving it alone. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** asked so back to the first question, if we did put a rubberized, the pathway through the middle of the Barton park and tried to do a fishing hole, would that be covered under the same grant? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** replied yeah, it would both be under the Georgia stewardship program. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** questioned okay so you said there's about 1.3 million, is that going to be covered over several winning projects or good the city get all of that? No. Well, if we were the only winning project, no, well that's not true because there would have to be a motorized component too, that 1.3 covers motorized uses. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** explained I don't know if you're aware, but over 30 years ago there was a dirt bike path in Morrow. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** asked Where was it? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** replied behind my house. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** commented really cool but now they're doing it over in Freedom Fest field and on the past system so





they're here. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated if we put them into place so we could regulate that would be different. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** asked so a motorized component is a group of grants that can be awarded? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded it's a subset of the Georgia stewardship program, motorized trails, so ATVs or jeeps or motorbikes, because remember it's a gas tax so it promotes the usage of vehicle gas. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** asked so with the motorized components, is there a possibility or a way or an imagining of connecting, you know, we haven't really talked about it, but Clayton state and e-scooters? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded so e-bikes or not considered motorized cause they don't use gas, **Councilwoman Renee Knight** asked okay, so it has to be something that consumes gas? okay. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked can we take the sidewalks that evidently are in the process of being designed on Lake Harbin and increased those to like eight feet wide. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded no because they're still serving as sidewalks but remember the sidewalks absolutely no, the gas consumption yes but there's another subset of that same grant where it doesn't have to consume gas, same grant. 40% goes to motorize, 40% goes to non-motorized and the other goes to the 20% goes to education. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** commented I guess I'm trying to find a way to connect Clayton State to what we call the City hall campus in some form or fashion that also connects to the trail system. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded and so while I, so off the bat, what I'll tell you is next year's grant cycle we would not apply for, but that's fine because right of way acquisition, to be shovel-ready we would have to vet that out a little bit more and we can apply every year, so maybe in the 2020 grant cycle we could apply if we have come up with some design for that and there are a couple of grants that allow you any money you've spent on engineering within 18 months you can still get reimbursed for after you win the grant but most grants, anything you purchased before, they told you win, you can't get reimbursed for so it does acknowledge an 18 month window for engineering. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** questioned on the current pathway we have and I'm thinking of the property what's the name of that subdivision that runs off of a Phillips drive? It's got the steep... **City Manager Sylvia Redic** replied Beverly Hills **Councilman Larry Ferguson** continued Beverly Hills at the end of that pathway, has an entrance there and then directly in that area is a potential field at one time when the pathway was developed in that area that, that was cut down as basically a very close to being a field, what if we were to convert that into a field, whether it be at another dog park, our soccer field or just a activity field, is that eligible for something? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded well, dog parks no because I already asked about the dog park, but the recreation field, it would the way they're explaining it and of course like as I will call to make sure because they're very encouraging us to call because it's all new to everybody, the field because it serves in and of itself, in other words, you could put that field anywhere, there's nothing about the trail that, if that makes that, that that field was a relying upon so that's the way you have to look at it is if you could put that field somewhere except on this trail it's not, that's not what we're talking about because imagine the beltline, it's huge, hugely successful this is about trying to get communities the opportunity to build in a way that creates their own little beltline in a way that is always working to connect with everybody else's, a little belt line so that's sort of their overseeing in and improvements to that so like I say trash cans or benches or whatever and it was funny because I was sitting at the table with somebody who represents the Atlanta beltline, she said, well I'm not as well not even applied because little communities like you are going to get all the money and I was like, Huh, I thought I might as well not even apply because the beltline is going to get all the money so there's no trend there's no what we see because it's brand new so but I think I'm just trying to get feedback and again, tonight, give me feedback and in the coming couple of weeks certainly



gave me feedback, but it's just a lot of work. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** continued it requires like say if we were going to do the under the power line, we would have to get a commitment letter from the entire board of Commissioners, not from one commissioner that says they would be willing to sign the easement necessary, it doesn't have to be executed yet, but they have to show, that's a lot, that could take me three months to with some of your help to get the right people in place to get that done, in fact, that piece alone may keep us from getting it until 2020 but then so that the, there's some political pieces to this that we can't wait till the last minute to change. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked and in that example, you're talking about extending on the sidewalk from the tunnel all the way down to the end of Westwood? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded the trail, yes, the cement trail, yes sir. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked and that would be under the stewardship program? Under the recreational trails. I think you covered it earlier and there's possible money there, what kind of trail is that? What's the material? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** explained so it could be, the pool of money is just smaller, so we would never apply for that, under recreation trails, they'll give us this much, of this much, whereas the Georgia stewardship is a larger pot so we may get more money out of it. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked okay, so that's where you're going to focus your attention? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** advised we will apply for both, but like the recreational trails program, let's just say we wanted to create a connection between our, where we'd come in at the, the trail comes out of the nature preserve, right and picks up on the other side of the street, let's say we wanted to do a street improvement there with a speed table and some new lights that that would be what we'd go for there because the price tag would be smaller, but it's very much a connection in the trail system. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** asked is there any need to have some small pavilions? Say something like that. 16 by 20? **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded now if we put a pavilion along the trail that, that we could apply for that, but we couldn't put a new pavilion out here. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** responded so I was thinking maybe like as Navajo entrance comes down, that little circle area maybe one right there, maybe a one near the bridge that goes over toward where the Freedom Fest field, the Huie Park, I guess I should say, perhaps one over at the rock park over that area, I don't know if we can put it in that area though, because I'm... **City Manager Sylvia Redic** interjected well, you could because you've got a new trail head coming button in and of itself right now, no but so. **Councilman Larry Ferguson** continued some of that might be environmentally sensitive, some of those areas. **Councilwoman Renee Knight** mentioned so it sounds like we would like to proceed with maybe... **City Manager Sylvia Redic** responded more of the same, there's wisdom in both, but I feel like what we're saying is we're not ready to branch out into the dirt bike or the fishing hole arena. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated probably not the fishing hole, I'd be interested in talking about the dirt bike, it keep them off our streets. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** commented yeah and it of course, you know, when I was talking to a Councilwoman Dean, her point was, well then you'd have to put enough parking in to have a trailer cause can't drive the bike over there, I was like, well they're driving the bike over there now, but to your point, were trying to create a situation where we can regulate it better. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated frankly they do like to play with them and there is no reason they should not be able to, I'm not sure if there's a place in Morrow where they can exercise dirt bikes, yeah so that was a concept, the ideas are good. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** mentioned but if you, if you look at Barton Memorial Park too say for example, if all you were doing was building a trail around the 40 acres, that's RTP money, but it's not enough of it, so we would never apply for the stewardship program that if you were trying to, if you were creating a trail along the creek that crossed the street and somehow connected over here or we don't have any path on that side of



the streets so I'm not even sure, you'd have to make an argument that you're starting a process, a phase one of future phases, and we would be applying for that money every year to build a new phase, but you would have to hire an engineer to at least draw a concept beyond the first phase or else you couldn't make that argument, so anyway, I talked to me more about it, come by and see me, call me, email me, whatever but, and just remember going under the power lines and getting some easement agreements, that's going to take collaboration from you guys. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** stated yes and this morphed into something slightly different than we started thinking about what I do want to make sure that everybody has to say something, anybody else wants to contribute to the conversation? **Resident Mr. Whitehead** I'd like to know if anybody has heard bikes in condensed area as that Barton Park is, riding around and around and all that noise, that there's something you're not going to put in down there? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** commented no, no, that's not what we want to go. **Resident Mr. Whitehead** continued now, what about the parking area, where are you going to park that are going to park in the park. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** advised the idea behind the original concept was to have walking throughout the 40 acres and if we'd had had parking on one end or the other and that was not addressed, it's a concept at this point and it needs some work in here, so we would definitely have to find some work with in cars yet. **Resident Mr. Whitehead** asked that would be only a walking path is that what you are saying? **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** responded yes, no vehicles over inside the park. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** interjected hold on, hold on, what we're discussing to be clear is that's my question is would you be interested in putting a dirt bike path in the Barton Memorial area? And to your point, yes, we know what it sounds like because we see it all the time and the five acres of Freedom Fest, but to the Mayor's point, maybe Morrow was in a place for a dirt bike track, but I just don't want to feel like we're committing to people that it's never going to be anything or we don't know what it's going to be yet because you haven't collectively decided. **Resident Mr. Whitehead** commented well, I can make a suggestion to go up here at that great big field right there is a great big huge field right there and just put a round track right there for dirt track, money out of it, charge people to ride the dirt bikes there. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** explained in all fairness, the field you're talking about is only five acres, the property, but you're just saying the Barton Memorial Park, which is 40 acres is too small. **Resident Mr. Whitehead** interrupted but there again we are going to have all the noise from it. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated well there are people who live around that field though, it's going to be somebody argument, absolutely. Right.

## 8. Branding Presentation

**City Manager Sylvia Redic** stated first of all, I thank everybody who came to see the branding presentation and I hope, you know, at least some of you walked away some enthusiasm I'm pretty excited about it because again, we've heard too many times, you know, how are we identified? We need to have a better image, we need, you know to put a better foot forward with this, the brand helps us do that, creates a platform that we can do that in a unified way.

## 9. Mauldin & Jenkins Engagement Letter



**City Manager Sylvia Redic** advised we just got this, just FYI you'll be seeing it on the work session at the next meeting and then hopefully to address should the Mayor content at the following meeting for the vote and this is just to officially engage them for this year's audit Mauldin & Jenkins.

**Councilwoman Renee Knight** stated I did want to throw something that before we wrap it up, just maybe something to add in a future conversation, I had the opportunity to go to a Bisnow event regarding the future of the Aerotropolis and listening to some of the conversations about the interest of development on the south side, whether it be commercial, industrial, residential or retail, the importance of the CID, the Aerotropolis alliance CID, that was also a little bit of the conversation as well and I know that there was a study done by Nickelworks with regard to the possibility of that being a tool for attracting development in the area and I, we should revisit that study with what I had the opportunity to read about the results and the recommendations that it may not have been recommended for a collaborative partnership between the cities that invested in the initial study but it may be something that Morrow should go alone and, and lead in the, in Clayton County and, and create an a vehicle for improvement and development and attracting interest so I would like us to kind of revisit that conversation for maybe a South Lake 75 CID. **Mayor Jeffrey DeTar** added so I'll throw out there that the Marta thing happened over and over and over until we won so did the CID concept, yes then that can be done, I do know talking with some of the people who were involved in that first time that some opinions have changed since then and here is more support for it then there was, so yes, there's always the possibility of revisiting and looking at it, I'm not sure how soon that we want to strike that, but yeah, it's something that we didn't want to look at again. **City Manager Sylvia Redic** advised so I'll circulate the summary study to the council officer so you don't have to go back and find it, I guess we should, since it's July, remind everybody of the qualifying dates in August, which are 19th through the 21st.

### **Announcements/Updates**

1. Movies in the Park- Aquaman Saturday, July 27th @8pm- Bob & Becky Huie Park
2. Beauty Inside Grand Opening- July 27, 2019 @ 10am- 1865 Mt. Zion Rd
3. Back to School Giveaway- Aug 3, 2019 @10:00am-2pm- Walmart
4. Good Shepherd Clinic Tomato Sandwich Party- Aug. 3 2019 @5:00pm-7:30pm- Morrow Center
5. 1st Day of School for Clayton County Public Schools- August 5, 2019

### **Attorney Invoice for Review**

1. Attorney Fincher Denmark LLC invoice #4640, dated July 9, 2019 in the amount of \$9,975.60, for the period of June 1- June 30, 2019

The Work Session ended at 7:23pm.

Approved this 13th day of August, 2019.

**Attest**

**CITY OF MORROW, GEORGIA**





**come to morrow**  
MORROW, GEORGIA

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Yasmin Julio, City Clerk

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Jeffrey A. DeTar, Mayor

