

The Council of the City of Villa Rica met in a special called meeting on Monday, May 15, 2006 in the Council Chambers at 101 Main Street, Holt-Bishop Justice Center, Municipal Courtroom. Those present were Mayor J Collins, Councilmembers Perry Amidon, Verland Best, Danny Carter, Joey Kelley and Woody Holland; City Manager Robert Zellner, City Clerk Jane Chastain and City Attorney David Mecklin. Approximately 2 people were in attendance.

Collins called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The invocation was given by Best. All recited the pledge of allegiance.

Zellner said that Douglas County has asked for the City's support on the upcoming SPLOST [Special Local Option Sales Tax] referendum. City representatives attended a recent meeting with Douglas County. The County is expecting a five year SPLOST renewal, beginning in 2008 if approved by voters, to generate over \$145 million. Of that, \$45,259,994 is slated for the construction of a new County jail. The City of Austell would receive \$81,444, the City of Douglasville would receive 12,664,653 and the City of Villa Rica would receive \$168,706. The remainder would be used in other Douglas County projects. Zellner said the City received \$479,399 from the current SPLOST. The distribution is based on 2000 census figures which show Villa Rica to have 263 residents in Douglas County. Zellner said that while there is an estimated total of approximately 4000 Douglas County/Villa Rica residents, our voter registrar has reported that there are currently 1691 registered voters in the Douglas County portion of Villa Rica. Council discussed negotiating a higher share of the SPLOST than the proposed amount. Mecklin suggested the Council should authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to sign an agreement with Douglas County for our minimum acceptable amount. Mecklin also suggested that the mayor should consider meeting with the Douglas County Commission Chairman, Tom Worthan, to see if the City can bargain a better amount. After further discussion, Carter moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the agreement for not less than \$168,706, but at the same time to also take action toward negotiating for more money based on 1691 as being the number of registers voters who are Douglas County citizens, seconded by Amidon. Motion carried 5/0. Council discussed how the potential SPLOST funds should be distributed but did not take official action at this time.

Zellner presented the Memorandum of Understanding from the Georgia Department of Transportation for Transportation Enhancement project TEE-0008-00(081) [for the walking trails project]. Holland moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding, seconded by Carter. Motion carried 5/0.

Collins opened the floor for public comment. There being none, the floor was closed.

Zellner updated Council on the status of an industrial prospect on approximately 40 acres of property at Highway 101 and Industrial Boulevard. The prospective industry has narrowed their choices to approximately five sites in the Alabama/Georgia area and will view this site today.

Best asked about the appraisals for the property behind Avanti. Zellner said all three have been received.

Best asked for an update on another prospective industry which may locate in Villa Rica. Zellner said the industry is requesting a tax abatement to include School Tax in addition to the offered abatements of county and city property tax and waver of tap fees. Mecklin said

the City cannot wave School Tax. Best asked Zellner if a previous company in the same industry had been given more or less abatement than what was being offered to this company. Zellner said more. Best said this company should get the same consideration. Mecklin said all should be paying School Tax. Collins asked Zellner to get back with Council on what concessions were given the first company.

Holland moved to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing acquisition of property and personnel issues, seconded by Kelley. Motion carried 5/0. Council adjourned at 9:04 a.m.

Collins reconvened the meeting at 9:55 a.m. Best moved to approve action taken in Executive Session on acquisition of property, seconded by Amidon. Motion carried 5/0.

With no further business, Kelley moved to adjourn, seconded by Best. Motion carried 5/0. Council adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

J Allen Collins - Mayor

ATTEST:

Robert Zellner – City Manager