

**EVERMORE COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
January and February Combined Meeting  
Held at  
2795 Main Street, West, Building 28, Suites A&B, Snellville, GA 30077  
On  
February 28, 2024**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Chris Garner, Diann Baker, Warren Auld, Dwight Harrison, Fred Dawkins, Ron Harrison

**Not In Attendance**

Brad Williams  
Mayor Barbara Bender

**Additional Officer**

Bill Gower

**Staff**

Jim Brooks, Executive Director  
Tammie Martin, Executive Assistant  
Lois Love, Financial Manager

**Board Counsel**

Lynn Rainey, Rainey & Vaughan, LLC

**Call to Order**

Chairman Garner called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

**Ceremonial Matters**

**Public Comments**

Major Brookins provided an update on crime. A Task Force comprised of the Community Response Teams from the Southside Precinct, Westside Precinct, and Central Precinct have been working the commercial burglaries that have been so prevalent recently and making significant arrests over the last 4 weeks. Major Brookins relayed that as a result we are seeing commercial burglaries and entering autos trending down. Over the weekend Harbor Freight was the victim of several shoplifting incidents. Someone was arrested outside of a stolen car who was actually good for one of the shoplifting incidents, there were also several juveniles arrested for entering autos. The offenders are not local people, they are mostly coming from other counties.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion for approval of the Minutes of December 13, 2023, was made by Mr. Dwight Harrison, seconded by Mr. Ron Harrison, and unanimously approved.

### **Presentations**

#### **Action Items**

- a) Mr. Rainey presented the 2024 Election Schedule, which was included in the electronic package and in the Board Book. Motion to approve the schedule for the Caucus of Electors was made by Mr. Dawkins, seconded by Mr. Ron Harrison, and unanimously approved.
- b) Mr. Brooks requested the board's approval to spend \$25,000 for educating the community relating to the Transit Referendum Gwinnett County. Mr. Dwight Harrison moved, seconded by Mr. Ron Harrison, to contribute \$25,000 to Inform Gwinnett, Inc. to be used in nonpartisan factually neutral and accurate voter education activities regarding the proposed 2024 Gwinnett County Transit Referendum provided no portion of our funds may be used in a political campaign to advocate the passage or defeat of a referendum or ballot question.
- c) Mr. Brooks asked Ms. Love to address putting the funds in place to issue the check to Inform Gwinnett, which was just approved. Ms. Love stated that the request for this funding was received after the budget for 2024 had already been approved. Ms. Love requested a budget amendment to increase our funds carried forward an additional \$100,000 and set aside \$25,000 for the Transit SPLOST request. The other \$75,000 will be moved to contingency. This will not create a new line item for SPLOST education as there is an existing line item for this item. In response to the chairman's request for a motion, Mr. Dwight Harrison moved to approve the budget amendment as Ms. Love explained it. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ron Harrison and was approved unanimously.
- d) Mr. Brooks requested board approval of the MOU between the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Evermore CID for the purpose of installing street lights along US-78. The lights will be incorporated into the lighting district previously adopted by the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners. Dianne Baker made a motion for the Chairman to sign the MOU. Mr. Ron Harrison seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

#### **Discussion Items**

- e) Mr. Rainey presented SB26 which has been passed into law regarding open meetings. This law allows groups including CID's to meet totally remote. The change is Board Members may now vote remotely. The condition is that the public has to be given equal access to tune in remotely as well. If the Board chooses to exercise this option, the public has to be given 24 hour notice, and the legal organ MUST be notified.
- f) Mr. Brooks has been through all sections of the Strategic Plan during previous meetings and the updated full Strategic Plan is printed for each member to take with

them. It was also included in the electronic package. Board members not in attendance will be able to get the hard copy at the next meeting.

- g) Fūsus is a core that links cameras that interface with the GC real time crime center. The suggestion from all CID's is that we set aside a certain number of these cores to give to the key businesses. All the CID's that the key businesses that need to be prioritized first would be provided by the police department. The police department will contact the business and offer this core to them at no cost. The CID would pay the first year of the core and the first year of the subscription. The CID's feel it is a great opportunity to assist the police departments and officers. Mr. Brooks would like the board to consider giving away 10 cores and 10 1-year subscriptions. Mr. Rainey is working with CID's about legalities.

#### **Board Reports**

- h) Mr. Gower presented the Treasurer Reports for November, December, and January, which were in the electronic package.
- i) Mr. Brooks reviewed his Executive Director Report which was included in the electronic package. The biggest news is that on February 8, 2024, the Georgia Department of Transportation issued the Notice to Proceed for the Hewatt-Parkwood-Britt project. Mr. Brooks asked the visitors from Partnership Gwinnett to introduce themselves. Kendyl Lewis, Manager of Research and Community Development and Bella Cruz, Research Assistant. Alex was also here and talked about a development meeting she had been to today. The new Division Director of Economic Development, Randall Toussaint started this week.
- j) There were no additional board member remarks.
- k) Chairman Garner communicated that Mr. Williams older brother passed away on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The memorial service will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Adjournment**

By acclamation, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M. The next Board Meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 2:30 P.M., at 2795 Main Street West, Suites A and B, Snellville, GA 30078.

Approved by the Board this 29 day of April, 2024.

  
Secretary-Treasurer