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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
December 15, 1998 -- 4:35 P.M.

A meeting of the Economic Development Committee was called to order by Councilman Hakeem, Chairman, with Councilmen Lively, Hurley, Taylor, Franklin, Rutherford and Eaves being present. City Attorney Randall Nelson; Management Analyst Randy Burns; and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

Others present included Adm. Marcellis and Mayor Kinsey.

ROB TAYLOR

Mayor Kinsey asked for about 90 seconds before the agenda item for this meeting was discussed. He stated that Rob Taylor had left RiverValley, and he was able to work out an arrangement with Rob to oversee the Conference Center for us; that he would see the Conference Center through and make it possible; that it was important that we have him for continuity and his ability. He stated that Rob had been involved in the development of the Resource Center, and he was not going to be working on this, and he had secured the services of Bob McNutt to get this building done.

GENIA CRITTENDEN DURHAM REZONING FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION

Dr. Jim Little, the purchaser of the property, spoke first. He stated he had spoken to the neighborhood people and did not have the minutes from the last meeting until yesterday. He stated that four dwellings have families and essentially they all touched the road, and he made note of the fact that he had prepared a sketch using squares and rectangles. He stated a couple of these buildings needed to be modified, mentioning that there are families living in them, and one is listed as a barn. He went on to say this was a very beautiful, big house, and they were looking at integrating 5.01 acres of the total 55

acres, which is about 9%.

Councilman Lively stated that he had been talking to other Council members about the need to create a new zone for Bed and Breakfasts; that they are usually in exclusive areas and need their own classification. In addition, once this Bed and Breakfast Zone is created, it would actually revert back to this new zone.

Attorney Nelson maintained that it would have to be put into some zone tonight. Councilman Lively asked if conditions could not be placed on this R-3 zoning that once the Bed and Breakfast Zone is created, it would revert to that zoning, which would protect the neighborhood.

Dr. Little clarified that it would be changed to the new zone once it was put in place. Councilman Lively explained to him that it was up to the City Attorney to add the conditions. Attorney Nelson noted that it was R-1 now--that in any new zone you may not have all the uses available in R-1 or there could be more uses; that it would need to be reviewed at that time.

Charlotte Parton was present speaking for those who spoke in opposition at the last Council meeting. She stated they had met with Dr. Little and looked forward to having him in the community; that he would be an asset; that one resident was concerned about there being 100 houses on this tract; that they would like to have some attention focused on this area, as it was beautiful, and they wanted to keep it natural and have an agreement among themselves. She stated that Dr. Little fits in perfectly; that this area lacked a lot of City services, Fire Protection being one, and they hoped this would quicken these services.

Councilman Lively stated he felt good about this; that he thought the best decision had been made on this one; that the Council could have voted this down, but this was a good move for the community.

Attorney Nelson noted that Dr. Little had mentioned modifications and asked if this would be in the same footprint, indicating that they did not need to go beyond this footprint. Dr. Little stated they understood they had to stay within this footprint or come back before this Body. Attorney Nelson stated they still did not have a written description of the area. If it was not here by the Council meeting time, then this issue would have to be put off until the next meeting.

Councilwoman Rutherford moved to move forward on this. This was seconded by Councilwoman Hurley.

Attorney Nelson stated that the Ordinance for closure and abandonment for Koch Foods needed to be taken off tonight's agenda. On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilman Franklin, this will be removed from tonight's agenda and placed on the agenda for December 29th.

Former Councilman Ron Littlefield was present in the interest of a Resolution that he wished to have placed on tonight's agenda. He explained that this was simply a Resolution that would endorse the Atlanta Regional Commission as an applicant for Development of Magnetic Levitation Technology in the United States (MAGLEV) funding. He explained that this was a highly competitive situation, but we were

going to take our best shot at it; that a number of communities were competing for this designation; that it would be submitted to the Federal Rail Authority and six would be selected (one had already been chosen, leaving five); a study would be made of the dollars available after this had been whittled down to six; that the ultimate prize was a \$950,000,000 project, which would be the first built in the United States. He stated this was not the only avenue we were exploring, but this was an opportunity we should take; that we would know after January if we were one of the selected few.

Councilwoman Rutherford asked how many other communities were in competition for the five slots. Mr. Littlefield responded 10-12.

Councilwoman Rutherford stated then we had a reasonable chance. Mr. Littlefield noted that this was a rather ambitious program. On motion of Councilwoman Rutherford, seconded by Councilwoman Hurley, this will be placed on tonight's agenda.

Councilwoman Hurley asked about a story she had seen in the paper and the mood in Atlanta concerning this. Mr. Littlefield responded that the mood in Atlanta was very good; that they did not want to offend the communities around them; that there was a lot of competition. He made mention of Piedmont through the Carolinas with two rails--one going to Savannah and one going to Atlanta. He stated, however, that there is still commitment to the one downtown. Councilwoman Hurley asked how the new governor felt about this. Mr. Littlefield responded that he seemed committed; that he spoke favorably of this during his campaign; that Atlanta was committed to a rail connection as they can't build enough freeways; that he was continually surprised at how committed Atlanta was. He noted that the population count was stronger along I-75 than I-85, and we could not get many more trucks on I-75 and still get passengers back and forth; that it was said there would be 250% more trucks on the highway.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.