

**CITY OF MOUNTAIN PARK
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
FEBRUARY 26, 2021
COMMUNITY BUILDING
4:00 P.M.**

Mayor Still called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Amendment to Public Safety Services Agreement Between City of Mountain Park and City of Roswell, as proposed by City of Roswell. Present were Mayor Jim Still, Jr., Council Members Don Carlson (by phone), Linda Dixon, Lloyd Hendricks, Mark Murphy, and Carol Silver, City Attorney, Brandon Bowen (via Zoom), and Clerk/Administrator, Karen Segars.

Still stated the current proposal from Roswell was \$242,000 annually for Police, Fire and 911. He explained Cherokee County could not provide us service and Fulton County had expressed concern regarding the logistics and delayed response time. Still advised Roswell had given 90 days notice in December with the current agreement expiring March 1. He noted all previous alternatives presented to Roswell by Mountain Park had been declined. Still explained some citizens think the city should accept the offer, some think the city should dissolve its charter and be annexed into Roswell, some think the city should file an injunction, while others think the city should continue to negotiate. Bowen stated he had talked to Roswell's city attorney to discuss. Still explained the mayors and attorneys had agreed to meet the following week to request extension of service and that filing an injunction was premature.

Silver stated the charter should be preserved and the city was in very sound financial condition. She acknowledged a tax increase would be inevitable but strongly recommended increasing user fees. Silver stated status of MPVFR needed to be determined and noted the possible sale of city hall with staff being relocated to the existing fire station. She also pointed out Roswell, if the city was annexed, could widen our roads and/or establish commercial zoning.

Murphy stated he would support keeping the charter if the city could afford to do so. Dixon stated the city could not take of herself and opposed filing an injunction.

Gigi Gill asked for clarification of the cost. Steve Goldsmith suggested selling off property and asked for fairness. Still stated Roswell was requesting over \$242,000 which is one third of the existing budget. Eddie Mathis stated he did not understand why the amount was no longer equitable and, further, it would be cheaper to subsidize that to annex. Bill Moon asked for further clarification. Terry Wenham asked why Roswell was allowed to attend the meeting. Bill Kolbrener suggested we pay per month and he expressed his support for

keeping the charter and recommended selling the 100 city lots.

Mary Carey asked for a comparison to the millage rates. Dana Shields suggested paying ourselves than paying Roswell. Keith Ridgway stated Roswell was a well run city and that Mountain Park would not lose its uniqueness. Daria Pardue suggested allowing a few businesses. David Craig stated the calculation was an apple to orange calculation. Still advised he felt a third party might be more objective. Marvin Penick asked what the city would receive for the \$242,000 and encouraged keeping the charter.

Scott Read stated he did not understand Roswell's calculations and at most, it seemed disingenuous considering the sales tax revenue that went to Roswell from Mountain Park citizens. Trish Hill recommended preparing a perform to present with our own costs. Murphy stated the proposed per capita math does not work. Kolbrener noted the city should control its own destiny. Shields asked what would dissolving the charter look like. Elise Sutton asked if there would be a vote, would the Fire Department's assets be liquidated and the exact options Council was proposing.

There being no further comment, Still advised Council would convene a Special Called meeting for further discussion as more information came forward.

Murphy moved to adjourn. 2nd by Hendrick. Approved 5-0-0. 5:08 p.m.

Jim Still, Jr., Mayor

Karen Segars, Clerk/Administrator