

Special Council Meeting
Economic Development Driving Tour
Senoia and Suwanee
March 28-29, 2015
10:00 a.m. 03/28/15 – 6:00 p.m. 3/29/15

Mayor Harley, Councilman Andrews, Councilman Nichols and Councilman Tucker present. City Clerk Bedingfield, Director of Operations Brumfield, City Accountant Harrison and City Attorney Tydings, staff members, also present. All met at City Hall and departed at 10:00 a.m. after a word of prayer for safety by Councilman Nichols.

The first stop of this tour was for lunch and a walking tour of the City of Senoia, GA – the group arrived in Senoia 11:45 a.m. Saturday, 03/28/15. Following a group lunch at McGuire’s in Senoia – everyone went on a walking tour of Senoia led by Scott Tigchelaar. Much of the discussion focused on the history of Senoia’s development along with the need for quality development and planning and design work related to infrastructure (parking and storm water) as well as aesthetic controls through zoning.

The group departed Senoia at 3:00 p.m. and arrived at Pappadeaux’s in Norcross for dinner at approximately 4:45. After dinner, the group traveled to Suwanee and checked into the Marriott, Suwanee at approximately 7:00 p.m. – all retired to their rooms for the evening.

The second stop of this tour was for a walking tour of the City of Suwanee, GA on Sunday, 03/29/2015. After breakfast on our own at the Marriott (included with lodging), the group departed for Suwanee City Hall at 10:45 a.m. for a walking and driving tour of Suwanee, led by Denise Brinson, Assistant City Manager for the City of Suwanee. The group met Ms. Brinson in Town Center Park at 11:00 a.m. Led by Ms. Brinson, the group walked and drove to tour residential and commercial development, the community garden and multiple parks and residential areas. Discussion included how Suwanee’s “transformation” all got started, how revenue was raised to pay for the development, how group events are handled related to use of the park, how the arts are incorporated into the development and the functionality of Suwanee’s City Hall. Of particular interest was Suwanee’s 9-11 memorial, located in Town Center Park. Following a late lunch with Ms. Brinson in Suwanee, the group toured the City Hall building and then departed Suwanee for Centerville at approximately 4:00. The group arrived back in Centerville shortly after 6:00 p.m. – all went home.

The agenda item “Round table discussion of tours” at Suwanee City Hall – Sunday 03/29/2015 1:30 – 2:30 Mayor & Council/Staff did not take place. Tours and discussion led by Ms. Brinson were thorough and included questions and answers from Mayor & Councilmembers and staff.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date