



**WORK SESSION
OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
CITY OF SNELLVILLE, GEORGIA
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026**

Present: Mayor Barbara Bender, Mayor Pro Tem Norman A. Carter Jr., Council Members Richelle Brown, Catherine Hardrick, Kerry Hetherington and Shaunt'e Pitt. Also present City Manager Matthew Pepper, Assistant City Manager Mercy Montgomery, City Attorney John J. Crowley with Tallant Howell, Chief Greg Perry, Captain Zach Spahr, Code Enforcement Officer Johnny Greene, Planning and Development Director Jason Thompson, Public Information Officer Brian Arrington, Public Works Director Javier Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Director Lisa Platt, Deputy Parks & Recreation Director Will Smith, IT Administrator Erika Fleeman and City Clerk Melisa Arnold.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bender called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

(Discussion Item "a" was moved to the top and discussed first.)

Discussion on Joint Sewer Project with Gwinnett County [Bender]

City Manager Pepper proposed using \$2.2 million in projected 2023 SPLOST overage funds to partner with Gwinnett County on a sewer expansion, focusing on two main goals: upgrading a future 4,800-foot pipe from 18 to 24 inches and moving the long-term project up on the county's schedule. After discussion the consensus was to present the proposal to the Gwinnett County Commission for their review.

**REVIEW REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA
ITEMS**

The agendas were reviewed. Planning Director Thompson gave a brief overview of the public hearing items and Mayor Bender explained the procedure that will be followed for the public hearings process. Mayor Bender explained the purpose of the Georgia Fund 1 resolutions and City Manager Pepper gave a brief overview of the Georgia Fund 1 program.

REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE

None

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Crowley said an Executive Session will be needed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion on Joint Sewer Project with Gwinnett County [Bender]

Discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

Update of Ongoing Projects [Bender]

City Manager Pepper reviewed the 2026 millage rate information, explaining that we will stay at the current rate of 4.00 mills and the required public hearings will be held on August 10 at 7:30 p.m. and on August 24th; at 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

He gave updates on The Grove events, the Community Center, and the North Road and Wisteria Drive intersection.

Discussion about the Highway 78 Wall [Hardrick]

City Manager Pepper contacted the Georgia Department of Transportation and was told an encroachment permit would be needed to do work on the wall which takes about 45 days. Mayor Bender explained that there are no funds in the budget for a mural but it may be covered by donations received for art in The Grove. She further explained that there may need to be a code review regarding murals.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bender read the closed meeting notice into the record as follows:

- To discuss pending and/or potential litigation, settlement claims, administrative proceedings or other judicial actions, which is exempt from the Open Meetings Act pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 50-14-2(1).

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carter, 2nd by Council Member Hetherington, the meeting was closed, with all Council Members and the Mayor present and voting in favor.

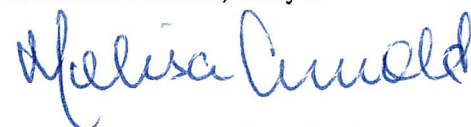
The meeting was closed at 7:02 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Hetherington made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Council Member Brown; voted 6 in favor and 0 opposed, motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.


Barbara Bender, Mayor


Melisa Arnold, City Clerk