



WORK SESSION  
OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
CITY OF SNELLVILLE, GEORGIA  
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 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, Attorney Kevin Tallant with Tallant Howell Attorneys at Law, Chief Greg Perry, Assistant Chief David Matson, Planning and Development Director Jason Thompson, Public Works Director David Mitchell, Public Information Officer Brian Arrington, and City Clerk Melisa Arnold. (City Attorneys Tony Powell, Jay Crowley were absent.)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bender called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

The agenda was reviewed and discussed. Mayor Bender advised that the Active Adult Center Volunteer of the Year item will be postponed as the recipient won't be able to attend the meeting tonight. The remaining agenda was reviewed and discussed.

**REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE**

Mayor Bender talked about the Gwinnett Chamber dinner being held on February 6, 2026.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Update of Ongoing Projects [Bender]

City Manager Pepper gave an update on The Grove and announced the grand opening of Crooked Can on January 15<sup>th</sup>, gave an update on the other area restaurants and said that the 2026 event schedule for The Grove is in the process of being created. He also gave an update on several other projects including the Community Center, the North and Wisteria Drive intersection project, .gov crossover and reminded everyone about the Work Retreat being held on February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> with a pre-retreat meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Report on Intersection Improvement Discussion with Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)[Carter]

Mayor Pro Tem Carter reported that after research and discussion with GDOT the final decision was that a light was not feasible at Highway 78/SR 10 at Crestview Drive however a median is scheduled to be installed. Discussion was held about asking GDOT to extend the median further

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down Highway 78 in front of the Montessori school. Consensus was to continue the discussion at the January 26<sup>th</sup> work session.

**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).

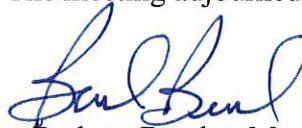
Upon a motion by Council Member Hetherington, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Pro Tem Carter, the meeting was closed, with all Council Members and the Mayor present and voting in favor.

The meeting was closed at 7:25 p.m.

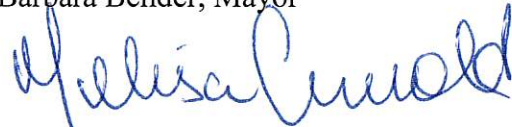
The meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Hetherington made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Hardrick; voted 6 in favor and 0 opposed, motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.



Barbara Bender, Mayor



Melisa Arnold, City Clerk