

For the purpose of this I will refer to 5509 Main Street to mean 5509 and 5511 Main Street and 5512 Main Street to mean 5512 and 5514 Main Street.

I must say, when I was first informed about the possible purchase of 5509 Main Street, I was blown away.

Many of you may not know that we were leasing this space up until the council approved a new lease agreement for 5512 Main Street. Now, after moving many of our offices from 5509 to 5512 Main Street, we are buying the building for \$300,000.

Where does this make any sense?

Well, the timetable of events and waste of Flowery Branch taxpayer dollars, that I am about to tell you, are both interesting.

Lets start with the timetable.

During the November 21, 2007 council meeting, the lease agreement of 5509 Main Street, where a number of Flowery Branch's personnel are housed, was on the agenda and after some discussion; this was postponed until December 5, 2007. (Per the adopted November 21, 2007 minutes)

During the December 5, 2007 council meeting, there was nothing on the agenda about the postponed discussion of the 5509 Main Street lease agreement. What was on the agenda was a lease agreement for 5512 Main Street. There was no discussion and this lease agreement was postponed until the December 18, 2007 council meeting.

During the December 18, 2007 council meeting, the 5512 Main Street lease agreement was on the agenda and, at that time I was a citizen, I prepared comments that I wanted to state, for the record, to the city council about the 5512 Main Street lease, and not seeing any public comments on the December 18, 2007 agenda, I asked the Mayor for time to speak. At first, she was gracious enough to say yes, after other members of the council opposed this, and I heard someone say that allowing this would set precedence, meaning that this is not the norm and would have to be allowed in the future – I was then informed I could not speak. This action made me look into past Voting Session Minutes. I found one, October 3, 2007, and there were public comments during that Voting Session. Well anyways, per the adopted minutes, the vote on the 5512 Main Street lease agreement was 4-1 – motion carried.

Now for the waste of Flowery Branch taxpayer dollars.

The lease of 5509 Main Street was \$1,000 per month. The new lease for 5512 Main Street is \$2,200 per month – a 120% increase. Which is a 3-year lease. Over the course of a year that is \$14,400 increase that the taxpayers are burdened with, and over 3-years, it is over \$43,000.

Now it is my understanding that with the purchase of 5509 Main Street, we will now be landlords to the karate studio with an income of \$900 a month. Still, with a \$2,200 expense for the lease of 5512 Main Street less the income from the 5509 Main Street rent, we are still paying \$15,600 per year to lease 5512 Main Street or \$3,600 more per year had we stayed in 5509 Main Street and not purchased the building. If we stayed in 5509 Main Street, and purchased the building, we would now have a \$10,800 increase in revenue.

I hope this was not a campaign quid pro quo for the one of the owners of Hortman and Dobbs Developers, LLC, which is the company who owns 5512 Main Street, who recently ran for a seat on this city council and was publicly supported by 4 of the 5 previous council members.

Questions:

Have we moved into 5512 Main Street yet? No. And if so are we paying 2 leases? Yes.

What are the plans for 5509 Main Street to not use taxpayer dollars to pay for a vacant building? I do not know.

If we do not find a tenant by January 1, 2009, I assume we can end our lease with Hortman and Dobbs Developers, LLC and move our offices back our building and add \$26,400 dollars back to our general fund for other important city items?