**Minutes**

**Forsyth City Council Meeting**

**February 5, 2024**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Rufus Whatley, and Roll Call.**

Mayor Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Rufus Whatley gave the invocation. In attendance at the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Josh Hill, Chris Hewett, Lois Allen, Greg Goolsby, Charles Wilder and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance at the meeting was the City Manager, Craig Mims, the Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie, and the City Attorney Bobby Melton. Six members of council were in attendance for the meeting, all unanimous votes will be six votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, Wilder, and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mr. Wilder, the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the council meeting held on January 16, 2024.**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the minutes from January 16, 2024, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Workers Compensation Vendor Update Review- Richard Russell, Oakbridge Insurance**

Mr. Richard Russell stated he’s the broker the City’s property, liability and workers compensation coverages. He advised we have a vendor change after being with GMA for many years. Mr. Russell advised GMA came back with a large increase this year due to an adverse claims’ history over the past five years. A competitive renewal quote was provided for the city through National Liability and Fire for $100,000 lower than last year.

**Approval of a service agreement with Linxup**.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the agreement with Linxup. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of bid award to 120 Water for the lead service line inventory.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the bid award to 120 Water for the lead service line inventory. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of bid award to Renfroe Construction for Country Club Park.**

The council voted unanimously; however, no motion was made. This agenda item will be on the next agenda, 2-19-24, for a proper motion and approval by the council.

**Approval of MEAG Trust Signatories & resolution related to.**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to appoint Mayor Wilson and Mr. Craig Mims for the two officials of the MEAG Trust Signatories & resolution related to. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of temporary permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages by Her Majesty, LLC on February 14, 2024.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the temporary permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages by Her Majesty, LLC on February 14, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of temporary permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages by Fox City Brewing Co. on March 8, 2024.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the temporary permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages by Fox City Brewing Co. on March 8, 2024. Seconded by Mr. Hill, the motion carried unanimously.

**Walter Goodson**

Mr. Walter Goodson advised that he had some discrepancies with the plat and deeds for the property from Sharp Street to Powell Street.

**Library Board Appointment Discussion.**

Mr. Wilder advised that the county stated fees have not been paid and they feel we shouldn’t have an appointee on the board. Mr. Wilder advised that he like the city attorney to formally address the situation with the county attorney to see what needs to be done to resolve the issue.

**Approval of requisitions Greater than $6,000**

1. **Industrial Chemicals, Inc. $14,998.50**
2. **Calibration Controls, Inc $9729.40**
3. **GoForth Williamson $27,320.00**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve requisitions as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager Report**

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager advised that:

-Chief Blue received an unofficial notification while at the that the department will receive an $50,000 grant from the Georgia Office of Highway Safety and commended the Chief and staff.

-We have received and deployed the new police department speed trailer.

-He thanked the council and senior staff members for a great retreat held on January 31, 2024.

-Pleased to announce the hiring of two new staff members Mr. Will Campbell, the Project Manager and Mr. Adam Adkerson, the Public Works Superintendent.

**City Attorney Report**

Mr. Bobby Melton, the City Attorney, had no business to report.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor advised we had a great council retreat. The first half of the day was spent with staff and the second half of the was spent with the flip chart and coming up with ideas for the year and years to come. He advised some of the top priorities are blight, youth (children’s day), visioning for H&H, sidewalk projects, a beltway, expanding college careers, and downtown traffic light studies. He congratulated Malik Herring on participating in the Super Bowl. He also advised that he had a request to announce that the Monroe County Reporter was doing advertisements for Herring.

**Council Board Reports**

Mr. Dodd advised that the golf board meet they will be getting new golf carts. He advised they discussed the club house issues with plumbing.

Mrs. Allen advised that friends and the community either have already given or are going to give to for the advertisement for Herring.

Mr. Hill advised he was unable to attend the prior DDA meeting.

The Hospital board is looking for a candidate for the permanent CEO.

Mrs. Allen advised that he had spoken with Mr. Mims regarding the space at the CVB being used for meetings.

Mr. Mims advised that Gilda plans to put together a presentation for the council.

**Additional Business**

Mr. Wilder advised that the sewer coverage had been knocked off and open. He advised that they temporarily fixed cover and the concrete is cracked. He advised he would like to come up with a comprehensive plan in areas like Kynette, Blount Hill, Willis Wilder and all the neighborhoods where those things were improperly done. He advised these areas need more sidewalks and roads need to be widened in those communities. Mr. Wilder advised that Gloria Colbert is still suffering with water nightmares and that she has a sizeable water bill. He advised the situation needs to be fixed quicker than that.

Mr. Mims advised that the sewer infrastructure problem over the weekend has been marked and it is going to require a concrete apron to placed. We are going to work to rectify the issue. He advised in terms of a comprehensive plan to look at the sewer infrastructure, he is yielding until the council gives permission.

Mr. Wilder offered a motion to give Mr. Mims permission to get a comprehensive plan for the sewage in the Willis Wilder community. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the offer carried unanimously.

Mr. Mims advised that the installation of the water main on Jenay Court is estimated to cost around $105,000.00.

Mr. Hill requested an update on the signs for state championship and gameday cheerleaders.

**Public Comments**

Ms. Linda Hampton stated she was happy to hear that someone had been hired in public works. She advised that at the city cemetery when it rains the backside floods. Ms. Hampton also advised that Rest Haven Cemetery needs work.

Ms. Gloria Colbert advised that when she had the busted waterline, she came to the City Hall and inquired if she could get an adjustment off her water bill. She stated she was told that she could not get an adjustment on the water only the sewage.

Scott Bogulski advised that a couple of meetings ago Mr. Green came in regarding leaves in a storm drain from a problem tree. He questioned if anything had been done to help Mr. Green find out if the tree was his or the city’s. He stated he visited City Hall to inquire about the process for a liquor license. He was told that he couldn’t get the forms that he had to meet with Mr. Mims. He advised that he came back to view plans and was again told that he could not see the plans without setting up a meeting. He stated he requested information regarding a variance for Junk King and could not get an answer from the receptionist or the administrative assistant. He advised that when Mayor Wilson cut the ribbon for the City Hall, he stated it was the citizens building. He requested the job description for the receptionist and administrative assistant.

Mr. Walter Goodson questioned how sewage is done. He advised if you had a line broken water would not go through the sewer.

*Mr. Hill offered a motion to consider a round up program for the City of Forsyth for water. Seconded by Mr. Wilder, the motion carried unanimously.*

*Mr. Hewett offered a motion to reduce Ms. Gloria Colbert bill to her normal bill amount. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion passed unanimously.*

Mr. Earnest James, at Juliette Crossing, questioned if it was an ordinance for a subdivision that only has one entry/exit way.

Mr. Noah Harbuck questioned if a special condition could be considered for a neighbor that was in the hospital and had 80,000 gallons of water pouring out of his house.

**Executive Session**

No executive session needed.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes submitted by:**

**Shayla Furlow, Executive Administrative Assistant**