

MINUTES

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING

NOVEMBER 04, 2015

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order at 6:00PM and led the pledge of allegiance. Bobby Melton gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting were Mayor Howard, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Julius Stroud, Greg Goolsby, Jimmy Jones, and Melvin Lawrence. Also present were City Attorney, Bobby Melton; City Manager, Janice Hall; City Clerk, Kristal Dunn.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 20, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$260,595.18

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5000

a. COX INDUSTRIES – RESTOCK WOODEN POLES - \$5387.29

Mayor Howard read the Consent Agenda. Mr. Jones offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence).

AGENDA ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

APPROVAL TO ALLOW FUTURE CURB-CUTS ON EAST JOHNSTON FOR INGRAM TIMBER ENTERPRISES, LLC

Mrs. Hall stated that this was part of Streetscape Phase III, and is the lot behind Farmers Furniture. The Engineer suggested that we allow for two (2) curb cuts. Mr. Jones offered a motion to approve for future curb-cuts on East Johnston for Ingram Timber Enterprises, LLC. Seconded by Mr. Stroud. Mr. Dodd asked if there was any limitations of location. Mrs. Hall stated that if Mr. Ingram decided not to do it at this time, he would have to do it at a later date at his own expense and he would have to submit plans for approval. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence).

REQUEST TO HOLD 21-GUN SALUTE DURING VETERANS DAY PROGRAM ON NOVEMBER 11, 2015

Mrs. Hall stated that the City has an ordinance that no Firearms may be fired in the City limits. Mrs. Hall stated that there was a Veterans program planned for the November 11, 2015 for Veterans Day and they would like to have a 21-Gun salute if it can be arranged in time. Mr. Stroud offered a motion to approve the request to hold a 21-Gun salute during the Veterans Day Program

on November 11, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Dodd. Mr. Stroud asked who would do the salute. Mrs. Hall stated that the National Guard 48th Brigade from Forsyth. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence).

APPROVAL OF VEHICLE PURCHASE AT ADESA AUCTION ON NOVEMBER 19, 2015 WITH NOT TO EXCEED LIMIT OF \$30,000

Mrs. Hall stated that this was for approval for Steve Butler to go to the Ades Auction and look at truck for purchase. Mrs. Hall stated that we have two (2) 1994 pickups that are in very bad condition and need to be replaced. Mrs. Hall stated that Mr. Butler would have to pay that day, so we would have to send a check with him. Mrs. Hall stated that this would different than anything we have every done before. Mr. Jones offered a motion to approve the vehicle purchase at Adesa Auction on November 19, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence).

APPROVAL TO CANCEL DECEMBER 1, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING AND HOLD CALLED COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 2, 2015

Mrs. Hall stated that Council needed to approve to cancel the Council meeting for December 1st, due to the runoff election for Post 2 that will be held on December 1st and hold a Called Council Meeting on December 2, 2015. Mr. Jones offered a motion to approve the canceling of the December 1st meeting and hold a Called Council Meeting on December 2nd. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence).

ELECTON RESULTS

Mrs. Hall stated that there were 2800 registered voters in the City and 2200 active voters. Mrs. Hall said that out of the 2200 active voters only 994 voted. Mr. Stroud stated that if the citizens have faith in us, they will get out and vote. Mrs. Hall stated that early voting for the runoff will begin on November 16th, that she was not sure how the Holiday would be handled. Mr. Jones stated that he knew a lot of people had trouble finding the building and why we could not hold voting out at the Recreation Department. Mrs. Hall read the unofficial results:

MAYOR –	John T. Howard II (I) – 467 votes - 47.35%
	Eric S. Wilson – 519 votes – 52.64%
CITY COUNCIL POST 1 -	Jimmy L. Jones (I) – 432 votes – 45.09%
	Dexter King – 525 votes – 54.80%
CITY COUNCIL POST 3 -	Melvin Lawrence (I) – 698 – 98.87%
CITY COUNCIL POST 4 -	Nikia Davis – 463 – 48.28%
	Greg Goolsby (I) – 494 – 51.51%

CITY COUNCIL POST 2 SPECIAL – Chris M. Hewett – 348 – 35.99%

Tye Duncan Howard – 199 – 20.58%

Alleta Mays – 419 – 43.33%

Mr. Goolsby asked if the City could send notice to all Citizens that Election is coming. Mr. Melton stated that yes the City could as long as they don't mention any names and is just a reminder of the day voting is to be held.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Skate Park - Mrs. Hall stated that she had meet with someone about a Skate Park and that we could probably use the existing tennis courts. Mrs. Hall stated that she knew very little about skate parks and would like to get additional info about types of ramps. Mrs. Hall stated that we would not have to do an RFP.
- Budget Billing – Mrs. Hall stated that she had made some updates on the applications based on feedback from the Council and that the only hold up was taken care of the internal process. Mrs. Hall stated that she needed to have a meeting with Charles Grinstead and then we could let people start signing up. Mrs. Hall stated that she had talked with John Hewitt, our Utility Consultant, about true ups and that he stated that we needed to do true ups. Mr. Hewitt said that if we owe the customer we would need to credit back and that if the customer owes additional that they must pay. Mr. Dodd stated he was concerned that this could create a hardship on the customers if they had some high bills. Mrs. Hall stated that it would be up to City Hall to make sure that the customer was aware if there looked to be any true ups. Mr. Stroud asked if there was any way possible to run some numbers and look at them, he would feel more comfortable if we could see some numbers. Mrs. Hall stated that we would put all of Council on budget billing as a trial and see what happens. Mr. Jones and Mr. Lawrence both said that they would volunteer to be put on Budget Billing and see how it goes. Mr. Dodd asked if it was residential only. Mr. Jones stated that we could study and use as an economic development tool for commercial.
- Property Tax Bill – Mrs. Hall stated that the property tax bills from the county went out incorrectly. Mrs. Hall stated that it did not affect the City, it was the County mileage rate that was incorrect and that the new due date would be January 4th.
- EPD-Old Brent Rd – Mrs. Hall stated that we would be moving ahead to clean up the Landfill as an emergency to get it completed as quickly as possible.

- 2016 Budget – Mrs. Hall stated that the 2016 Budget would be mailed out tomorrow, November 5th.
- Tank Maintenance – Mrs. Hall stated that the copies of the bids will be mailed out tomorrow, November 5th.
- Mrs. Hall stated that she and Anita Cauthen were working on the park issue. Mr. Stroud stated that he was not opposed to sitting down to discuss the issues. Mr. Jones asked about the gas meter. Mrs. Hall stated that the Gas Company has been her twice to locate the main line. Mrs. Hall stated that once that was done, Utility Partners will take down the house at no cost to the City and if we pick up debris and take to the County Landfill, we will not have to pay a tipping fee.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton had nothing to report.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Howard had nothing to report.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Goolsby stated that the Train Festival was this weekend, and encouraged everyone to go, because it will give you an idea of what the Train Museum could be.
- Mr. Goolsby stated that they had a DDA retreat and discussed about getting bike trails and grants.
- Mr. Jones asked about Advanced Disposal and yard waste pick up. Mrs. Hall stated that it would be discussed in the upcoming Work Session.
- Mr. Jones asked about the key stroke software. Mrs. Hall stated that the Regional Commission was working on amending the policy and it will be brought to the upcoming Work Session.
- Mr. Dodd stated that they were waiting on Mr. Goolsby to set up a meeting concerning the Train Museum.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mr. Stroud asked for a status on the police cars. Mrs. Hall stated that the cars are being outfitted now. Mrs. Hall stated that we would be discussing at the Work Session if we should purchase a 4th new vehicle or two (2) used ones. Mrs. Hall stated that she was getting ideas from the Chief Corley. Mr. Stroud stated that we need to coordinate the delivery of the cars with the Reporter to get pictures and do a write up, because the taxpayers need to see what their money is going to.

- Mr. Lawrence stated that he had attended the ECG Conference and that he had some info for the Council on Solar Power.
- Mr. Lawrence stated that he would be attending training at the Health Department for the Health Inspection position.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments

ADJOURN

There being no additional business to discuss, Mr. Jones offered a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Stroud, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Jones and Lawrence). The meeting adjourned at 7:12PM.

Submitted by:

Kristal S. Dunn

City Clerk