

AGENDA

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 19, 2011

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND INVOCATION

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Mr. Hansford gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting was Mayor Howard, City Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Jo Anna Banks, James Calloway, Desi Hansford, Eric Wilson, and Melvin Lawrence. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton and City Clerk, Janice Hall.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 5, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Wilson offered a motion to approve the minutes as written and Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion. Mr. Dodd stated that the word “progress” on page 1 should be “project” and requested that this change be made. Mr. Wilson withdrew his motion and offered a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, the motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION HONORING JIM COLE

Mayor Howard read the proclamation honoring Mr. Jim Cole that was presented to him during a reception earlier today. Mayor Howard thanked Mr. Cole for his work and dedication.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROVAL OF VARIANCE REQUEST FOR SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSORY BUILDING FOR 318 INDIAN SPRINGS DRIVE – OWNER RALPH BASS

Mayor Howard opened the public hearing for comments for or against the approval of a variance request for the setback requirements for an accessory building for Mr. Ralph Bass at 318 Indian Springs Drive. Mr. Melton reviewed the application stating that a copy of the Planning & Zoning minutes where they recommended approval of the variance request is included in council packets and this matter has been properly advertised in the Reporter. Mr. Bass came before council and stated that 3 years ago he reconstructed the accessory building on his property and now would like to add a kitchenette and bathroom to that accessory building. Mr. Bass stated that due to the

location of the existing portion of the structure, the addition to the accessory building will be too close to the property line and he is requesting approval of the variance request. Hearing no further comments for or against the approval of the variance request, Mayor Howard closed the public hearing. Mr. Calloway offered a motion to approve the variance request. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION ENDORSING AN APPLICATION BY BRENTWOOD PARTNERS, LP, TO THE DCA FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDITS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 79 UNIT APARTMENT COMPLEX LOCATED AT SOUTH JACKSON STREET AND BRENTWOOD PLACE

Ms. Gates Dunaway came before council to review the project that Brentwood Partners, LP, will be submitting to the DCA for low-income housing tax credits. Ms. Dunaway stated that this is the same project that was submitted last year but was not awarded the tax credits. Ms. Dunaway reviewed the project. Mrs. Banks stated this project continues with the City efforts to redevelop this area. Mrs. Banks stated that this application lost a point last year due to the dilapidated houses in the area around the project property. Mrs. Banks offered a motion to adopt the resolution of support for the project. Seconded by Mr. Calloway, the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Dunaway passed out a site plan of the project and stated that if awarded, the DCA will not allow the company to work outside the property lines. Ms. Dunaway stated that Brentwood Place ends approximately 80' from their property line and asked that the City consider paving the roadway from the end of the pavement to the property line. Mrs. Banks stated that the public works committee will need to review this and if the City decides to do the paving we could use the same contractor that Brentwood Partners would be using in the development to pave the 1/3 block.

APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF

Mr. Wilson offered a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, council adjourned into executive session at 7:25 pm.

Mayor Howard called the meeting back into open session at 7:40 pm.

Mr. Wilson offered a motion on behalf of the public safety committee to appoint Mr. David Herndon as Fire Chief. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, the motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Mrs. Banks stated that the public affairs committee conducted two rounds of interviews with five candidates. Mrs. Banks offered a motion from the public affairs committee to appoint Mr. Gil Prado as the Downtown Development Director. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, the motion carried unanimously.

MATT PERRY, EMA DIRECTOR, REQUEST TO CONNECT TO CITY EMERGENCY SIRENS

Mr. Matt Perry, Monroe County EMA Director, came before council to review the severe weather sirens. Mr. Perry stated that the County has been awarded a grant to install additional sirens and with these additional sirens, he can tie the City and County sirens together which will give the system a true redundancy. Mr. Perry stated that the City sirens currently must be activated from the fire department and the redundancy will allow both systems to be activated from either the 911 Center or the City fire department. Mr. Hansford offered a motion to allow the County to connect to the City severe weather sirens and create a redundant system. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MR. DODD

Mr. Dodd reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the garage department committee totals of \$2,367.47 and the street department committee totals of \$20,609.57. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dodd stated that a public works committee meeting will be scheduled for some time next week.

Mr. Dodd asked Mrs. Hall for an update on Streetscape and Mrs. Hall reviewed the latest work. Mr. Dodd stated that G-DOT had submitted a drawing for consideration from the committee as to the left turn lane from Main Street on to Jackson Street and also to move the stop bars back at the intersections to allow large trucks to make wide right

turns. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to leave the turn lanes as they currently are with the exception of moving the stop bars back. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding what omitting the left turn lane from Main Street would mean, the motion carried unanimously.

MRS. BANKS

Mrs. Banks reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the public affairs committee totals of \$1,115.03. Seconded by Mr. Hansford, the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Banks stated that the public affairs committee also needs to meet next week.

Mrs. Banks thanked all those responsible for helping with the activities of today for Jim Cole Day.

MR. CALLOWAY

Mr. Calloway reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the electric department committee totals of \$4,260.97 and the water department committee totals of \$14,325.12. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

MR. HANSFORD

Mr. Hansford reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the administrative department committee totals of \$1,280.56; the court department committee totals of \$277.37; and the cable department committee totals of \$4,838.42. Seconded by Mr. Calloway, the motion carried unanimously.

MR. WILSON

Mr. Wilson reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the police department committee totals of \$947.24 and the fire department committee totals of \$974.61. Seconded by Mrs. Banks, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilson asked that the public safety standing committee meeting be moved to the 1st Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm.

MR. LAWRENCE

Mr. Lawrence reviewed invoices totaling over \$500 for each vendor and offered a motion to approve the parks/recreation/cemetery department committee totals of \$617.93. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lawrence stated that Stroud Street and Powell Streets will be resurfaced by DOT.

Mr. Lawrence stated that the parks/recreation/cemetery committee will meet next Tuesday at 4:00 pm with an advisory board meeting at 5:00 pm after the committee meeting.

Mr. Lawrence stated that the pool feasibility study has been received back from TSW and the committee will meet to review the report.

CITY CLERK REPORT

Mrs. Hall had nothing further to report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton had nothing further to report.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mayor Howard stated that he has received several compliments recently from citizens on city employees and the upkeep of the city parks.

Mayor Howard thanked all those that took time to apply for the various employment openings with the city recently.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Clerk