

## **MINUTES**

### **FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DECEMBER 16, 2014**

#### **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mayor Howard called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Present for the meeting were Mayor Howard, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Greg Goolsby, Eric Wilson and Melvin Lawrence. Also present were City Attorney, Bobby Melton; City Clerk/Administrator, Janice Hall; and Administrative Assistant, Stacy Ladson.

Mr. Julius Stroud arrived toward the end of the meeting and Mr. Jimmy Jones was unable to attend; therefore, all unanimous votes will be five (4) votes (Dodd, Goolsby, Wilson, and Lawrence).

#### **COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

##### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Wilson offered a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2014 Council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

##### **APPROVAL OF ALCOHOL CATERING PERMIT FOR THE ANVIL ROOM FOR DECEMBER 21, 2014 AT 51 WEST ADAMS STREET**

Mrs. Hall explained the Anvil Room currently has a City Alcohol Catering License and State Alcohol License; however, the State requires a catering permit for each catered event. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the alcohol catering permit for the Anvil Room on December 21, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

##### **PAM HELTON – UPDATE ON GMA**

Ms. Pam Helton provided an update on current projects of GMA as well as information regarding upcoming conferences and training classes.

##### **APPROVAL OF CHANGE OF CARRIER FOR HEALTH INSURANCE**

Mrs. Hall reviewed the changes in the employee insurance plan that would come with changing carriers from the current provider to Blue Cross Blue Shield. The change in carrier will provide each employee better coverage with savings to the city of approximately \$100 per employee per month. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the change of carrier for health insurance. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF STREETS FOR THE 2015 LMIG**

Mrs. Hall reviewed the list of streets for improvement for the 2015 LMIG. Mr. Wilson offered a motion to approve the list. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET**

Mr. Melton stated this was the first of the required public hearings for the proposed budget; that the matter has been appropriately advertised; and will come back before council at the January 6, 2015 council meeting for a final public hearing and adoption. Mayor Howard opened the hearing for public comments for or against the proposed 2015 budget. Mrs. Hall reviewed the increases and decreases for each department in the proposed 2015 budget. There were no public comments at this time. A second public hearing will be held in January. Mayor Howard closed the public hearing.

## **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES**

Mrs. Hall reviewed invoice totals for each department for a total of \$197,621.50 for general payables, \$629.79 for SPLOST payables, and \$91,316.15 for seized funds; for a grand total of \$289,567.44. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the invoices. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Hall reviewed a purchase order to Utilities Solutions of America for the replacement of water meters at the cost of \$9,431.00. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the purchase order. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

## **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL ITEMS:**

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CITY CLERK REPORT**

- Mrs. Hall stated all bids for the improvements to Blount Hill have been submitted; Mr. Hofstadter will review and return to Council with a recommendation.
- Comfort Inn Suites has submitted all required paperwork for a beer and wine pouring license and this will be advertised
- Mrs. Hall discussed the possibility of an additional meeting to discuss the budget.
- Council will need to meet with the Regional Commission to discuss the Charter changes in the upcoming weeks; Council members discussed possible date and hope to meet the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> of January.
- Mrs. Hall will be meeting with Advanced Disposal to discuss garbage bins around the square.
- City Hall will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> in recognition of Christmas.

- Mrs. Hall stated all employee have been appreciative for this year's generous bonus and thanked Council.
- Mrs. Hall wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

- Mr. Melton reviewed the major points of the legislation to enact the Forsyth Convention and Visitors Bureau. The legislation and bylaws have been approved by the DDA. Mr. Melton suggested Council pass a Resolution to enact a Forsyth CVB and present that along with the Legislation to Representative Robert Dickey for submission to the Legislature. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the Resolution to enact the City CVB. Seconded by Mr. Wilson, the motion carried unanimously.
- Mayor Howard will get with the engineer to see where the City stands on the Service Delivery review.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Parks/Recreation/Cemeteries Committee**

- Mr. Dodd had nothing further to report.

##### **Public Affairs Committee**

- Mr. Goolsby stated Council recently attended Economic Development training and a work session is planned to discuss it further during the Mayor's Day Conference in January.

##### **Public Works**

- Mr. Wilson had nothing further to report.

##### **Public Utilities Committee**

- Mr. Lawrence discussed the need to raise money for former employee, Arthur Jackson's kidney transplant.
- Mr. Lawrence met Mr. Alan Peak, Mr. Robert Dickey, and Mr. John Kennedy at the last Eggs and Issues and discussed the lighting issue along the interstate. All representatives are willing to work with Mr. Lawrence on the issue.

**Council Members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.**

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Howard wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- Mayor Howard encourage all Council members to attend the Mayor's Winter Wonderland Ball on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at Gallery 51. The ball will benefit

Forsyth Main Street for the development of a small revolving loan fund. Festivities include music and entertainment provided by AJ the DJ, catering by Ooh La La catering, a silent auction, and cash bar. Tickets are \$50.

**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- Mr. Stroud arrived at 6:50PM. Mr. Stroud apologized for his tardiness, and stated he had nothing to report at this time.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments made at the meeting.

**ADJOURN**

Seeing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:51PM.

Submitted by:

Janice Hall, City Clerk