

MINUTES

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 2, 2016

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:04PM. Boy Scout Troop 101 of Forsyth led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Liza Marler from Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Smarr, GA gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting were Mayor Wilson, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Julius Stroud, Greg Goolsby, Dexter King, Chris Hewett and Melvin Lawrence. Also present were City Attorney, Bobby Melton; City Manager, Janice Hall; City Clerk, Kristal Dunn.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 18, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the minutes from the April 18th Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVAL OF 2015 MEAG YEAREND SETTLEMENT ELECTION FORM

Mrs. Hall stated that the 2015 MEAG yearend settlement election needed to be approved and that we would like to put 100% in a short term portfolio, because it was easier to move. Mr. Lawrence stated that he was happy that we went to 100%. Mayor Wilson stated that it gave us better access to the money. Mr. Dodd asked if we could move it at any time. Mrs. Hall stated that yes we could. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the 2015 MEAG yearend settlement election form. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE FOR GMA ANNUAL CONVENTION

Mrs. Hall stated that the Council needed to appoint a voting delegate for the GMA Annual Convention. Mr. Stroud offered a motion to appoint Mr. Lawrence as the voting delegate for GMA Annual Convention. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPOINT REPLACEMENT TO BOARD OF HEALTH

Mayor Wilson stated that the position vacated by Libby Perry needed to be filled and that they would like to do it with an RN or LPN. Mr. Stroud asked if there were any residential requirements. Mayor Wilson stated that there was none. After some discussion, Mr. Stroud offered a motion to table the appointment to the Board of Health until the next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

JAMES GREEN REQUEST FOR CITY TO INSTALL PIPE IN DITCH AT 215 MLK

Mrs. Hall stated that this issued had already been worked out with Mr. Green and that it would require an easement.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$207,178.53

Mrs. Hall read the Accounts Payable totals for each Department. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Invoices in the amount of \$207,178.53. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000

A. J&M DISPLAYS – FIREWORKS FOR JULY 3RD - \$6,000

Mrs. Hall stated that this invoice was for the July 3rd display that would be put on at the Recreation Department. Mr. Lawrence stated that it would be nice if the reporter could recognize the City as the entity that put on the fireworks. Mr. Stroud offered a motion to approve the invoice for \$6,000 to J&M Displays for the July 3rd Fireworks. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

B. GRESKO UTILITY SUPPLIES – PARKING LOT LIGHTING FOR LAQUINTA HOTEL - \$13,138

Mrs. Hall stated that this invoice was for the parking lot lighting at the LaQuinta Hotel and that this was just a pass through charge. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the invoice for \$13,138 to Gresko Utility Supplies for the parking lot lighting at LaQuinta Hotel. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

REPORTS:

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Regional Commission approved the Technical Assistant request for assistance in researching and obtaining planning grants for a City Museum.
- MEAG Power Transmission Summer Meeting will be May 24th, 9:00AM to 12:00PM – Lunch provided.
- Regional Commission due are increasing from \$4314.20 in 2015 to \$4997.85 for 2016 a \$683.85 increase – dues are based upon population and we pay \$1.30 per capita.
- Precon meeting held with Pyles and Mid-South Builders for Bunn Road water line connection; line is \$770,867 and booster pump station is \$206,342.61 = TOTAL \$977,209.61; GEFA has verbally approved load for the project, GEFA representative attended the meeting, will not have formal approval until their meeting July 21st; Contractors given July 11th NTP;
- Perdue went before Planning & Zoning on April 25th and they recommended approval of Perdue's request to rezone a recently acquired property and to annex the hatchery property; both will be zoned manufacturing & industrial; Agricultural processing is conditional on mi; advertisement will begin, signs will be posted, and matter will come back to City Council on June 6th for Public Hearing.
- Raw Water Line repair update – casings have been set; soil report came back with wet soupy dirt down to 14' then rock at 18'; will have to drive pylons down to at least 18' and possibly into the rock; should have final plan back from walker midweek as to structural engineering for the pylons; will have to sub out the pile driving and that will be in addition to cost estimate from walker along with cost of structural engineering; we are pushing contractor and subs as hard as we can but still want to make sure that the job is done correctly so we will go beyond the 30 day estimate originally planned but will not know how far until walker gets information back from engineer this week; there has been some erosion of dirt since the

original emergency work – small amount of rain does not make significant change just hoping that we do not have another deluge like we had on April 1st which caused the break.

- Sydney Woods – received call about a month ago from homeowner that water lines were exposed; Pat Wright called County Road Department and they came out did some scraping and hauled in some large riprap rock; ditch along roadway was washing out pretty bad; homeowner called again last week stating that ditch was washing again; I spoke with Anita about this and she says that the county never accepted the roads so any repairs are the responsibility of the property owners in the subdivision; Pat and I went out to meet with property owner last week; we explained to the property owner that the city is only responsible for the water main and lines to the meter, and not for the erosion of the ditch or the service line beyond the meter box; our water lines are protected at this point but if the erosion of the ditch continues, we will have to look at lowering our lines.
- Replacing wood border around flower beds at Country Club Park entrance; working with Tree Board for plantings in Park Circle Park for Butterfly Trail as well as Arboretum; will be able to install horseshoe pits in the old bbq pits at Country Club Park as well.
- EPD inspected methane monitoring last week and will be back soon to inspect work done on ponds at end of last year along with documentation inspection.
- New employee should start next week to begin work on sidewalks; will begin on sidewalk on Jackson at Farmers Market.
- Fireworks laws have changed and Chief Herndon is meeting with State Fire Marshal to get all changes incorporated into our ordinance and licensing; will bring any changes back to council for approval.
- Have 2 new hires in the Police Department that should begin mandate in July.
- Police Chief position open until May 13th, then will put together group to review applications and begin interviews, working with Chiefs Association to assist with this.
- Economic Development position open until May 20th.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, Eggs & Issues at El Tejado on healthcare.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 5:30 P.M. At the American Legion attend an old fashion political hobnob. Dress casually, come meet the candidates, and grab a hamburger or hot dog. (sponsored by the Chamber)
- SATURDAY, MAY 7, **P**ride of Forsyth Order Eastern Star Health Fair, 10:00AM – 2:00 pm on the Square.
- TUESDAY, MAY 10, at 6:30 P.M. At Grits Cafe. Electrical Cities of Georgia Bus Tour. A group of 21 Project Managers will arrive at 4:30 at The Chamber welcomed by the Mayor and Tiffany. They will board the bus and tour the parks and new development. The group will join our community leaders at Grits around 6:30 p.m. for food and fellowship. Need your menu choice this week – you should have received an email today from Tiffany. (sponsored by the City and Authority)
- SATURDAY, MAY 14, – BONE-APPETITE STEAK & RIB DINNER COOKOFF, Jackson street between Morse and Adams streets. Fundraiser for Save-a-Pet; 5:00PM – 10:00PM

- TUESDAY, MAY 24 - Industry Appreciation Day (Sorry, yes it is Election Day and we will lose a few) At the MEADOWS GUN CLUB. Networking and dinner at 5:30 P.M. Please let Tiffany know if you are going to shoot as well. (Sponsored by The Authority)
- TUESDAY, MAY 31, 5:30 P.M. Joint City/County meeting regarding Economic Development. The meeting will be held at the Conference Center. (Organized by The Chamber and Authority. City is covering dinner and County is providing the facility.)
- SATURDAY, JUNE 4 - Concert on The Square with CONQUEST SHOW BAND; 8 PM
- SUNDAY, JULY 3 – City Fireworks Display at Recreation Complex on Highway 42 North at 9:30 PM; Bring Picnic lunch early and lawn chairs and get a good seat.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Wilson stated that we had a great cleanup day and had over 70 people participate. Mr. Stroud stated that he would like to see the City send out thank you notes to everyone that participated in the cleanup day.
- Had a meeting with the Tree Board and talked about things that they are doing.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation AD HOC Committee

- Mr. Stroud asked if we had gotten any drawing from anyone. Mr. Hall stated that she had received something from American Ramp Company, but that was all for right now.

Train Museum AD HOC Committee

- Mr. Dodd stated that the Train Museum committee would be meeting on Monday, May 9th at 5:00PM.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mr. Lawrence stated that he would like for the Council to revisit the store hours for package stores on Sunday, and that maybe the Police Department could remind them that the hour for closing is 12:30.
- Mr. Hewett stated that Mrs. Hall should be getting a resume for Police Chief from individuals from Savannah and Macon.
- Mr. King reminded everyone that Little Caesars was serving dinner for law enforcement and government officials tonight.
- Mr. Goolsby stated that he had received a letter from a Zach Butler (parents Nancy & David) about the City putting in a skate park. Mr. Goolsby stated that he thought it was nice that he had sent the letter and that he sent it to him, because he knows him personally.
- Mr. Goolsby stated that he would like for the City to show some good faith by doing something for Tiffany Andrews since she will be leaving the Chamber after 10 years.

- Mr. Stroud stated that with the new Firework changes, he would like to make changes to the Firework Ordinance and get it done by July 4th. Mr. Stroud stated that he would like for us to set it where they are done at 2:00AM.
- Mr. Stroud asked about the concrete person. Mr. Hall stated that he had given his two (2) weeks' notice at his present job and would be starting right after that. Mr. Stroud stated that he would like to see something that can keep track of what he does. Mr. Dodd stated that he would like to see something too.
- Mr. Dodd stated that the City is lucky to have the spirit of the volunteers and wanted to commend them for what they do.
- Mr. Stroud stated that he would also like to see the City to a fall cleanup day. Mayor Wilson stated that he would like to see the citizens and businesses adopt streets.
- Mr. Goolsby stated that he would not be in town next Tuesday for the Economic Development Tour and that it was critical for everyone to be there.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – (MAYOR WILSON TO REVIEW RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS)

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mayor Wilson stated that he wanted to recognize the Leadership Monroe Class members that were present for the meeting. Mr. Dodd stated that he wanted to recognized and congratulate George Enami for being appointed to the Planning & Zoning Board.
- Ronald Bearden – 441 Sunset Circle – Mr. Bearden wanted to comment on the crews cleaning up at the cemeteries. They are using the blowers, but are leaving grass clippings on the slabs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to move into Executive Session at 6:50PM. Seconded by Mr. Stroud, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence).

At 7:50PM, Council came out of Executive Session.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to accept the settlement agreement between the City of Forsyth, FCN, and GPW that was agreed upon at the April 21st, mediation; that the city release the \$250,000 escrow to FCN, and that the City borrow \$500,000 from the Competitive Trust to pay this settlement; and to instruct the city manager to structure terms for the repayment of the funds to the Competitive Trust and bring that back to council for approval. Seconded by Mr. Stroud, the motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

ADJOURN

There being no additional business to discuss, Mayor Wilson Adjourned the meeting at 8:50PM.

Submitted by:

Kristal S. Dunn
City Clerk