

MINUTES

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 6, 2016

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:05PM, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Wilson asked that there be an amendment made to the Agenda, by adding an additional Agenda item to the end after Agenda item #12. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to make an amendment to the Agenda by adding an additional Agenda item to the end after Agenda item #12. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 16, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the minutes from the May 16th Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONING REQUEST FROM PERDUE FARMS INC FOR PROPERTY LOCATED ON HAROLD G CLARKE PARKWAY – CURRENT ZONING IS HIGHWAY BUSINESS – REQUEST TO REZONE TO MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL – F54 11B

Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing for the rezoning request from Perdue Farms Inc. for property located on Harold G Clarke Parkway. Mr. Melton stated that the request had been advertised for tonight for an open public hearing. Mrs. Tiffany Andrews from the Forsyth-Monroe County Chamber of Commerce came forward and stated that this was in conjunction with the expansion of Perdue to annex and rezone new property by Perdue Farms. Mr. Carl Johnson and Mr. Clay Copeland came forward for Perdue. Mr. Dodd asked to recuse himself from the discussion due to a conflict of interest. Mr. Johnson stated that this was going to more than double the size of Perdue. Mr. Johnson stated they had already been before Planning & Zoning for approval. Mr. Johnson stated that there were 28 associates that currently worked for the hatchery and that this would increase the number of employees. Mr. Johnson also stated that the truck traffic would increase from 40 trucks per week to approximately 48 trucks after the project is completed. Mr. Copeland stated that the building will have a bigger footprint. Mayor Wilson asked if there was anyone that would like to come forward and speak either for or against the rezoning. Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing after no one came forward. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the rezoning request. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, four (4) to zero (0) with one (1) abstention, (voting in the affirmative were Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence with one (1) abstention, Dodd.)

PUBLIC HEARING – ANNEXATION AND ZONING REQUEST FROM PERDUE FARMS INC FOR PROPERTY LOCATED OFF HAROLD G CLARKE PARKWAY – F54 011 5.59 ACRES – REQUESTED ZONING OF MANUFACTURING/INDUSTRIAL

Mr. Melton stated that the Annexation and Zoning request had been to the Planning & Zoning Board and was now before the Council for approval. Mr. Melton stated that the request had been advertised more than 15 but less than 45 days and that a letter had been sent to the county given notice, and no objection had been received. Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing, asking if anyone would like to come forward to speak for or against the Annexation and Zoning request from Perdue Farms Inc. Having no one come forward, Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the Annexation and Zoning request from Perdue Farms Inc. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, four (4) to zero (0) with one (1) abstention, (voting in the affirmative were Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence with one (1) abstention, Dodd.)

APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE FOR ELECTRIC CITIES OF GEORGIA (ECG)

Mrs. Hall stated that the previous Mayor, John Howard and Mr. Lawrence were the voting delegates and the Council need to appoint new voting delegates. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to appoint Mayor Wilson as the voting delegate for Electric Cities of Georgia. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.) Mr. Hewett offered a motion to appoint the Mayor Pro Tem, Mr. Dodd, as the alternate voting delegate for Electric Cities of Georgia. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVE SIGNATURES FOR ECG

Mrs. Hall stated that the Council needed to approve signatures for ECG and her recommendation would be to change to positions instead of individual names. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the Mayor and City Manager positions as official signatures for ECG. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVE ECG FY17 BUDGET

Mrs. Hall stated that this was to approve the ECG FY17 Budget. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the ECG FY17 Budget. Seconded by Mr. King. Mr. Lawrence asked why the total per year was \$199,334. Mr. Hall stated that ECG now looked at a 5 year average to get the total. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE FOR MEAG ANNUAL MEETING

Mrs. Hall stated that the current voting delegates for the MEAG Annual meeting were the previous Mayor John Howard and Mike Dodd. Mrs. Hall offered a recommendation to make the voting delegates positions instead of individual people. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to appoint the current Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem as the voting delegates for the MEAG Annual meeting. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVE PROXY VOTE OR APPOINT VOTING DELEGATE FOR GMEBS ANNUAL MEETING IN SAVANNAH

Mrs. Hall stated that this was to approve the proxy vote or appoint a voting delegate for GMEBS Annual meeting in Savannah. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve Mayor Boyd Austin as the proxy vote. Seconded by

Mr. Hewett the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE INDUSTRIES (PSI) AGREEMENT TO COMPLETE WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

Mrs. Hall stated that this was to approve the agreement with Professional Service Industries to complete the Watershed Protection Plan. Mrs. Hall stated that the Plan had not been completed when testing was originally done. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the agreement to complete the Watershed Protection Plan. Seconded by Mr. Hewett. Mr. Dodd asked if this was for the entire system. Mr. Hall stated that there are not many companies that do this. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVE CHANGE ORDER FOR BUNN ROAD WATER INTERCONNECTION PROJECT

Mrs. Hall stated that the change order was due to a 90° turn at Highway 18 due to hills and valleys. Mayor Wilson asked if we had heard about the approval of the load from GFFA. Mrs. Hall stated that we should hear by July 11th. Mayor Wilson asked if we had a completion date and Mrs. Hall stated no, not at this time. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the change order for the Bunn Road water interconnection project. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES

Mrs. Hall read the Accounts Payable totals for each Department. Mr. Lawrence offered a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Invoices in the amount of \$299,522.12. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000

a. Kenneys Repair for 2 Scag Turf Tiger Mowers - \$19,990

Mrs. Hall stated that this requisition was for the replacement of the two (2) mowers that were stolen, plus one (1) extra mower. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the requisition to replace the two (2) mowers that were stolen. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.) Mr. Lawrence asked if they were insured. Mr. Dodd asked if we had done anything to stop it from happening again. Mrs. Hall stated that the trailer and mowers were now being kept in a locked building. Mayor Wilson stated we needed to look into cameras being installed. Mr. King asked how bad we needed the third mower. Mrs. Hall stated that we really needed the third mower and have needed it for a while. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the purchase of the third mower. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

a. Renewal Agreement for two prison crews

Mrs. Hall stated that this was for the renewal agreement for two (2) prison crews, for the same price. Mrs. Hall stated that this was two (2) crews for the price of one. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the

renewal agreement for two prison crews. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

b. Approval to extend the CDBG Project

Mrs. Hall stated that we needed approval to extend the CDBG Project on Ensign Road with an amendment in the amount of \$74,166.40. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the extension of the CDBG Project. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried four (4) in favor with one (1) abstention, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King and Hewett, with one (1) abstention, Lawrence.)

REPORTS:

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- John Fields had turned in his resignation for the end of June.
- Interim Chief Harris had recommended to leave dispatch at the Police Station. The one button transfer is working well. Mr. Hewett asked how much it would cost to move them. Mrs. Hall stated that it could be approximately \$100,000 and that co-locate will not work, we will need to look at a consolidation. Mrs. Hall stated that we did not have any ball park figures for consolidation at this time. Mr. Hewett asked if we could go back to county and see what they would charge us. Mrs. Hall stated that four (4) dispatchers would need to move over and they would only lose their jobs if they can't pass the testing for the new system.
- Street Department will be working on Jackson Street in front of the Farmers Market this week.
- We have four (4) trees that need to be removed, and will be taken down this week.
- Public Works will be hiring a temp worker for the summer.
- City Summer Camps started today at the County Recreation Department.

Mr. Hewett asked about the Police Chief search. Mrs. Hall stated that she should have the report back from Mr. Rotundo by the end of the week. Mr. Dodd asked if the committee had been formed yet. Mrs. Hall stated no, not yet. Mr. Goolsby stated that Al Shakelford would be a good person to have on the committee. Mr. Dodd asked if we should wait on moving dispatch until Police Chief is hired. Mrs. Hall stated that we can't wait on Police Chief to make a decision about Dispatch, because they are ready to put the console in and a decision needs to be made, so that they know where to put the console. Mr. Hewett asked about the Legion Hall. Mrs. Hall stated that she had someone go out and look to give us an estimate, so that we know what we are looking at. Mrs. Hall stated that our best option would be to deed the building to the DDA, have them to the work and then they will deed it back to the City. Mrs. Hall stated that no reservations were being made past October. Mr. Hewett asked Mrs. Hall to contact the DOT regarding synchronizing the traffic lights at Hwy 41 and Hwy 83 and reducing the speed limit to 45mph on Hwy 41 going out of town. Mr. Hewett also asked if pot holes could be looked at on Adams Street, Chambers Street and Country Club Drive.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton stated that he had nothing to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The first Concert on the Square had a good crowd.
- The Tourism Product Development Team will be putting together an extensive report for the City.
- We had a good second joint meeting with the County, the topic was Economic Development.
- Mayor Wilson reported that the Fire Chief from Lamar County passed away.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRAIN MUSEUM

- Mr. Dodd stated that he had nothing to report.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

- Mr. Lawrence stated that he would be attending the Monthly meeting at the Regional Commission.
- Mr. Hewett stated that he had nothing else to report.
- Mr. King asked how the search for the Economic Development Director was going. Mrs. Hall stated that we had 12 applications.
- Mr. Goolsby stated that he had nothing to report.
- Mr. Dodd stated that he had nothing to report.
- Mrs. Hall stated that the Council needed to make a decision about the July 4th Council Meeting. Mr. Goolsby stated we should just move it to Tuesday, July 5th. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to change the July 4th meeting to Tuesday, July 5th at 6:00PM. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mr. Jeff Wilson – 21 Berner Avenue – Mr. Wilson came forward and stated that the ditches had not been cleaned and neither had the sewers, water stays in the roadway. Mr. Wilson stated that limbs are not being picked up. Mr. Wilson also stated that the police were not doing their job, called them out because of being threatened and no one came. He told them what was happening and nothing is being done.
- Robert Grier – Mr. Grier came forward and stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for speaking on his behalf. Mr. Grier also stated he didn't see how we could sell the Cable Company and still end up having to make a \$750,000 payment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to adjourn to go into an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.) The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:35PM.

ADJOURN

Executive Session was adjourned at 8:00PM and the Council meeting was called back into session. There being no additional business to discuss, Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the

motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.) The meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

Submitted by:

Kristal S. Dunn

City Clerk