

## **MINUTES**

### **FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 03, 2016**

#### **CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:08PM. Boy Scout Troop 101 of Forsyth led the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Whatley of Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church gave the invocation.

#### **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. Councilmember Julius Stroud, III was absent from the meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the minutes from the September 19<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

#### **OATH FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER**

Chief Harris came forward to introduce Officer Jacquetta Newsome to be sworn in by Mayor Wilson as a new Forsyth Police Officer. Mayor Wilson came forward and gave Officer Newsome the Oath of Office.

#### **PROMOTION OF OFFICER – CHIEF HARRIS**

Chief Harris came forward and explained that Lieutenant Alexander Daniels had stepped in as the Head of the Investigations Department, since the leaving of Major Brown. Chief Harris stated that he was promoting Lieutenant Daniels to the position of Major over Investigations.

## **JOINT MEETING WITH MONROE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS WATER SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Mayor Wilson acknowledged Chairman Bilderback of the Monroe County Commissioners. Mrs. Hall gave a brief background of the original agreement and the new amendment to that agreement. Chairman Bilderback stated that there were ways to be amicable. Chairman Bilderback stated that he thinks if we take the rate out and work on it separately that we will still have some challenges and that he appreciated the Councils patience in working this out. Chairman Bilderback stated that the County has been approximately \$700,000 in the Cities water system and he knows that he will have some in his Chamber that will get mad. Mayor Wilson stated that he agrees because the City may not always have in City or out of City rates. Mayor Wilson stated that he felt they need to have a delivery service discussion in the future. Chairman Bilderback stated that it boils down to representation and he would hate to have a hung up when we are so close. Mr. Goolsby stated that he appreciates what the County has done and that it has been a joint venture, where the County might have spent \$700,000, but the City has spent over one \$1,000,000. Chairman Bilderback asked if we are treating this as a new agreement. Mrs. Hall stated yes as per the County Engineer, the concern we have is that we already have areas we are providing service to. Mrs. Hall stated that we don't want to have a different agreement for every time we have a new connection. Mrs. Hall stated that some changes have to be made to this addendum and that the agreements we made in the past are not in this agreement. Carl Hofstadter came forward and stated that he was in the initial meeting with Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Cawthon, and the County Engineer and asked the County Engineer to come up with what he thought was right. Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve based on the changes listed by the City Manager. Seconded by Mr. King. Mr. Dodd asked if there was any way we could look at the document once the changes are made before they approve. Mrs. Hall stated that she has asked for a word document but has only gotten a PDF. Mrs. Hall stated that if she had the word document she could track the changes that are made or red line the document. Chairman Bilderback stated that he would make sure she got a word document first thing in the morning. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to table the approval until they see the correct document. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Mrs. Hall asked if the Council would be willing to do a Called Meeting instead of waiting two (2) weeks. Mayor Wilson stated that we would call a meeting for

Thursday at 7:00 PM. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

**TRAVEL REQUEST FOR MAYOR WILSON FOR MEAG MAYORS SUMMIT (NOVEMBER 4-6, 2016)**

Mrs. Hall stated that this was to approve a Travel Request for the Mayor for the MEAG Mayors Summit. Mr. Lawrence offered a motion to approve the travel request. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

**PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT 2016 MILLAGE RATE**

Mrs. Hall stated that this was to adopt the 2016 Millage Rate. Mrs. Hall stated that based on the spreadsheet the 3 mil would be approximately \$316,150 based on the latest Tax Digest. Mr. Melton stated that the legal advertisement had been run the Reporter for the appropriate length of time. Mayor Wilson opened the Public Hearing for public comment. Hearing no comments, Mayor Wilson closed the Public Hearing. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adopt the 2016 Millage Rate. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Goolsby stated that he wanted it to be duly noted that the tax would be held outside general funds for special projects. Mrs. Hall stated that there would be a special account set up for this money. Mayor Wilson stated that this is the money that has been talked about to make improvements at the Parks. Mr. Dodd stated that he would like to see signs stating “tax dollars at work.” The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

**APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURE REQUEST FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> BAPTIST CHURCH TO CLOSE WEST MORSE STREET ON OCTOBER 26, 2016 FOR FALL FESTIVAL**

Mrs. Hall stated that this was for a street closure for 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church for their Fall Festival on October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 PM till 8:00 PM. Mrs. Hall stated that this is the road that runs in front of the Church. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the street closure of Morse Street. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

**APPROVAL OF RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH UNIFIRST FOR UNIFORMS FOR ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT**

Mrs. Hall stated that this was a five (5) year agreement and they were able to reduce the cost. Mrs. Hall stated the renewal agreement was for the Electric Department and that they were

fire retardant. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the renewal agreement with Unifirst. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

### **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$96,919.52**

Mrs. Hall read the Accounts Payable totals for each Department. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Invoices in the amount of \$96,919.52. Seconded by Mr. King. Mr. Hewett asked about the amounts for Administration and Police. Mrs. Hall stated that it was a bunch of small payments that added up, Insurance, Utilities, Workers Compensation, etc. Mr. Dodd asked if there was any sign of closure on the Workers Compensation case. Mrs. Hall stated yes, that they needed to look back to when they changed 3<sup>rd</sup> Party companies. Mr. Lawrence asked if it was for Jamison. Mrs. Hall stated yes. The motion carried unanimously, (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.)

### **APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000**

Mrs. Hall stated that they there were none.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

- Resource Team presentation tomorrow 5:00 pm.
- MGRC Annual meeting 10/3 at Lake Tobesofkee, 5:00 pm. Need RSVP.
- Will be attending Management Development Program with the Carl Vinson Institute, it is a 6 month program.
- Alvin Randall finalized the debris pickup schedule will be picking up and notifying customer. Advance Disposal is writing an amendment to the contract.
- Received letter from DOT referencing the I75 lighting and new businesses.
- Thoughts of deeding American Legion Building to the DDA to make needed repairs.
- Meet n' Greet at LaQuinta Inn and Suites, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.
- Working on a New Year's Eve event.
- Working with engineer to get specs to dredge alum ponds.
- Need to reroute utility line serving part of Brooklyn Avenue due to low pressure.
- Scada system down and having hard time finding a company to fix due to age of the equipment.

- Fire Department and Utility Partners will be doing hydrant flushing in November. Will work to minimize inconvenience and may cause discoloration to water.
- All Officers have cameras but some are in need of repairs. Looking to replace all with newer updated systems.
- Looking to trade in portable speed monitors to solar, so they are truly portable.
- Finishing touches to 2017 Budget
- Need to accept Surety Company proposal to pay cost to complete CDBG project without liquidated damages.
  - o Mr. King offered a motion to accept payment from the Surety Company for the CDBG Project. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried 4-0, with 1 abstention (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, and Hewett; the 1 abstention was Lawrence.)

#### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mr. Melton stated that he had nothing to report.

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

- New businesses committed to coming to Forsyth.
- Regional Transportation Tax – window open to look at again.
- Team Forsyth – want employees to know importance of everyone's jobs, no job is small.
- See Click-Fix is up and running. Encourage citizens to use it and report.

#### **AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- No Committees

#### **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORT**

Councilman Goolsby

- o DDA retreat next Monday at the KOA Campground from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm; encouraged other Councilmembers to come.

Councilman Stroud

- o Not present.

Councilman Dodd

- o How is the drop off at Frontage Road? Mrs. Hall stated that the contractor and engineer got together and decided it is a significant issue there.

Councilman King

- Contacted by business owner at Marathon and Tift College Drive about pot holes. Mrs. Hall stated that it was private property.

Councilman Hewett

- Nothing to report.

Councilman Lawrence

- Couple of Accidents at Elder Manor. Look at make a one way off of Frontage Road.
- Would like to ask Commissioner Evans to consider paving some roads in the City that are in his district. Knows that they each have money in budget, designated to paving roads in their district. Mrs. Hall stated that she knows he has done some on Brandywine and some in Betsy Lynn Subdivision.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one came forward for Public Comment.

**ADJOURN**

There being no additional business to discuss, Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. King, the motion carried unanimously (voting in the affirmative were Dodd, Goolsby, King, Hewett and Lawrence.) The meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Submitted by:

Kristal S. Dunn

City Clerk