**Minutes**

**Forsyth City Council Minutes**

**March 04, 2024**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation and Roll Call**

Mayor Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was led by Councilman Charles Wilder. In attendance for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Josh Hill, Chris Hewett, Lois Allen, Greg Goolsby, Charles Wilder, and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance was the City Manager, Craig Mims, Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie, and City Attorney, Bobby Melton. Six members of the council were in attendance for the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be six votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, Wilder and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda**

Mayor Wilson stated that he was aware of one change on the agenda to be amended to add the approval of deed transfer to the Development Authority between item 9 and 10.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment to add the approval of deed transfer to the Development Authority between item 9 and 10. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the council retreat held on January 31, 2024 and the council meeting February 19, 2024.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the minutes from the council retreat held on January 31, 2024 and the council meeting on February 19, 2024 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Swearing in of Assistant City Clerk, Shayla Furlow**

Mayor Wilson administered the oath of office to Shayla Furlow.

**Community Development Block Grant Conflict of Interest Disclosure by Dean Nelson**

Mr. Dean Nelson advised that the City of Forsyth was awarded $1,000,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to replace the water lines. The target areas include Jackson Heights area, Brookwood Circle, Brookwood Place, Brookwood Extension, Union Hill Road, and Stanley Way. During the application process, the City disclosed three known conflicts of interest at the pre-application public hearing conducted in April 2022, The City Council of the City of Forsyth is publicly disclosing a new conflict of interest that has arisen due to the November 2023 election. Councilmember Lois Allen was elected to Council in November 2023 and sworn into office on January 2, 2024. Because of the nature of the project, it is impossible to exclude Councilmember Allen from receiving benefits that other individuals within the target area receive and the project area was not designated to specifically include any one individual. He proposed that council member Allen abstain from any votes related to this project.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion for Mrs. Allen to abstain from any votes related to the Community Development Block Grant project. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of a Limited Warranty Deed unto Bran Hospitality Forsyth, LLC**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to proceed with the limited warranty deed unto Bran Hospitality Forsyth, LLC. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Municipal Competitive Trust Withdrawal Request**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to transfer funds from the Municipal Competitive Trust and at the end of the 3rd quarter, September 30, 2024, if needed we pay it back in full or make installments and pay interest. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval to award bid for Willis Wilder Drive**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the award bid for Willis Wilder Drive. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously with 5 votes (Hill, Hewett, Allen, Goolsby, and Dodd) and 1 abstention (Wilder).

**Approval of a Deed transfer to the Development Authority**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the deed transfer to the Development Authority. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Walter Goodson**

Mr. Goodson advised that a house was buried, and equipment has been sitting out with flat tires. He advised it was being turned into a landfill. He questioned if code enforcement could do anything. Mr. Goodson questioned if anything had been done regarding the gentleman that was hanged in the county.

**Approval of Requisitions Greater than $6,000**

* **Davis Plumbing Company- $10,604.00**
* **Calibration Controls & Automation- $9,500.00**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the requisitions greater than $6000.00 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager’s Report**

Mr. Craig Mims, the City Manager, reported that:

-The Fire Department has applied for the FEMA assistance fire fighter grant in the amount of 270k. If awarded the grant the city match will be approximately 13k.

-Audit preparations for FY2023 are underway and should be completed by the end of March.

-We received sanitation bids last week. We are currently evaluating bids and will report back at the next council meeting.

**City Attorney Report**

Mr. Bobby Melton, the City Attorney, advised the application for alcohol, beer, malt beverages and wine for 111 MLK Jr. Drive, tax parcel F17 031A, for Crossroad 2 Food Mart, Inc. is being advertised for March 18, 2024 council meeting.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Wilson informed everyone of the upcoming Annual Forsythia Festival Events.

**Council Board Reports**

Mr. Dodd stated that the Golf Board met on Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Mrs. Allen stated that the CVB met on Tuesday February 26, 2024.

**Additional Business**

Mr. Hill questioned if an answer or information for the Library Board had been received.

**Public Comments**

Mrs. Linda Hampton, at 419 MLK Jr. Drive, advised she needed clarification of the limited warranty deed for Bran Hospitality Forsyth, LLC. She inquired about the difference between that deed and the deed for Walter Goodson.

**Executive Session – Personnel Matters**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion for executive session for personnel matters at 6:36p.m. Seconded by Mr. Wilder; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to end the executive session at 7:00p.m. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Hewett offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Allen; the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes Submitted by:

Shayla Furlow, Executive Admin. Assistant