

MINUTES

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 7, 2018

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, INVOCATION AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stroud gave the invocation. Present for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson; Council members Mike Dodd, Julius Stroud, Greg Goolsby, and Chris Hewett. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton, and City Manager, Janice Hall.

Councilman Melvin Lawrence was unable to attend the meeting; therefore, all unanimous votes will be four (4) votes (Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, and Hewett)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Stroud to approve; 2nd by Mr. Hewett; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL TO CLOSE BLOUNT STREET ON JUNE 16, 2018 FROM 12:00 PM TO 9:00 PM FOR BLOUNT HILL DAY – APPLICANT DREIKA MOORE

Ms. Moore thanked Mayor and Council for everything the City does to make this event possible and invited them to attend the Blount Hill Day event.

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve request; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL TO CLOSE JACKSON STREET ON JUNE 9, 2018 FROM 7:00 AM TO 5:00 PM FOR CAR & BIKE SHOW – GOD’S CHURCH OF REFUGE, BONNIE COOK APPLICANT (EVENT RESCHEDULED FROM APRIL DUE TO RAIN)

Mrs. Hall reviewed that the applicant is the Church that previously submitted the application for this event that is temporarily located in Barnesville until they can raise sufficient funds to find a new location in Forsyth. Event was previously rained out.

Motion by Mr. Stroud to approve; 2nd Mr. Dodd; and approved unanimously

PUBLIC HEARING – APPLICATION FOR SETBACK VARIANCE FOR F16 022, 167 W MAIN STREET - OWNER ISABELLE TANNER

Mr. Melton reviewed the application and advertising dates; Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing for comments; Mr. Hewett asked if there were already a carport on the property and Mrs. Tanner stated that there is but it is further from the house and she wants to build an attached garage then turn the old garage into a storage building; no further comments were made and Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing.

Motion by Mr. Goolsby to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCORPORATE CHAPTER 21 STREETS & SIDEWALKS AS CHAPTER 28 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE

Mr. Melton reviewed the amendment stating that no text is being changed only the location of the ordinance within the existing ordinances; Chapter 21 will now be Article 28 in the Zoning Ordinance; Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing and closed the public hearing with no comments being made.

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE POWER SALES CONTRACT WITH MEAG

Mrs. Hall reviewed an email from MEAG which stated that “this report was included in the original 1975 Power Sales Agreement before MEAG had the in-house expertise to produce the report. Over the years we have been doing the report and submitting to the outsourced consultant to stamp for approval at a tune of \$100K-\$200K per year. This is a house-keeping item for MEAG as the Bond Holders have already eliminated this requirement for the CC Project, Vogtle Project M and even from the original bonds in 1975. We are on the final step by removing this from the language in the Power Sales Agreement”.

Motion by Mr. Dodd to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF FY2019 SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ELECTRIC CITIES OF GEORGIA

Mrs. Hall reviewed that the ECG FY2019 budget should save the City \$7,845 if no additional changes are made to the ECG budget and no such changes are anticipated.

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CITY AND MAIN STREET

Mrs. Hall reviewed that this is an annual agreement required by Department of Community Affairs for the Main Street program.

Motion by Mr. Hewett to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

APPOINT CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS

Mrs. Hall stated that the City Charter requires a Custodian of Record and in the absence of a City Clerk, she would be willing to fill that requirement if council so desired.

Motion by Mr. Hewett to appoint City Manager, Janice Hall as Custodian of Record until a new City Clerk is hired; 2nd by Mr. Dodd; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF GMA’S DISTRICT 6 OFFICERS FOR 2018-2019

Mayor Wilson reviewed the slate of officers stating that none have opposition for the offices being sought. Council agreed that next year we should have someone seeking one of these offices.

Motion by Mr. Stroud to approve; 2nd by Mr. Dodd; and approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$222,679.83

Mrs. Hall stated that the total amount has changed and is now \$315,340.72 and reviewed all invoices by department for approval.

Motion by Mr. Hewett; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved with three (3) votes for (Stroud, Goolsby, and Hewett), one abstention (Dodd due to invoices for Dodd Builders Supply being part of the invoices for approval), and Mayor Wilson voting in the affirmative to approve the invoices for payment

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000

Gresco – LED flood lights for DOT office on Hwy 83 - \$5,648.60 (paid by GDOT) and

Solomon Corporation – stock transformers - \$13,960

Motion by Mr. Dodd to approve; 2nd by Mr. Stroud; and approved unanimously

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mrs. Hall offered the following report:

- Suhash Patel has submitted a liquor license application for Lil Store at 111 MLK; if approved, they will remodel the left side of the building that is currently not used to have the separate liquor store from the convenience store; will begin advertisement and return for a public hearing in June

- The drainage issue at 100 Conifer drive was brought up at the last meeting by a citizen; this has been looked at and the drainage issue was repaired last summer but homeowner wants the damage to the lawn repaired by the city
- Final walk through on Streetscape III was completed last Monday; couple of small issues that contractor is to address before final payment is made but that should be completed by end of this week; contractor installed steps incorrectly at barber shop and I required them to remove the steps and install them per our agreement; this was completed along with rework of slope in front of Forsyth Country Cookin and the new stairs on the side of Harbin Repairs; handrails for steps at barber shop are scheduled to be installed tomorrow. Rather than holding the project open for 1 year, the contractor will submit a Landscape Bond to Atkins for review and then to city for approval to cover the landscaping inside the project
- Placed 3 vehicles on GovDeals and all 3 sold – 2006 Dodge Charger \$1200; 1990 F700 dump truck \$750; and motor grader \$6610; once funds are received, less the GovDeals commission, the departments will use those funds for additional projects in their departments. Fire truck that was previously listed on GovDeals and then with an independent seller has sold to a fire department in Reddick Illinois
- P&Z approved the city initiated rezoning request at their last meeting; once letters have been sent to all property owners, we will begin advertising for the rezonings
- P&Z also approved the variance request from Hattaway Investments for additional storage buildings at their present location on N Frontage Drive; this will be advertised and come back before council for a public hearing
- Otis Ingram has agreed again this year to allow the city to use the lot behind Persons Bank for the Farmers Market and we have provided him with a certificate of insurance listing his property as additional insured under the city policy
- Police Department is looking at the speed on Indian Springs Drive at 1st Baptist Church to reduce the speed from 35 mph
 - o Council requested that police department look at reducing speed only during hours church and/or day care are open rather than at all times
- Removed fence around Sally Port at police department that was never used
- Chief Harris is initiating the take home vehicle policy that council approved back at 1st of the year; now has exact same policy in his departmental policy as city personnel policy
- Spoke with Crosby Roofing and they are hoping to get roof installed this week on Legion Hall
- Reminder of May 22 MEAG meeting in Forsyth at MEAG training center 9:00 am – noon with lunch provided at 12:15
- May 19 City Cemetery tours begin at 10:00 am; need to reserve space by calling the CVB at 478-974-1460; Tammie Pierson is working to get the area around the brick wall cleaned up before the 19th and would appreciate any and all help she can get; need to clean up area and hopefully plant some type flowers or shrubs
- Distrix mobile app – locations of any business that signs up is on the app; encourage all businesses to sign up; \$120/year
- Reminder of the I75 Corridor meeting on May 17 at MC Commission building – registration & coffee at 10, meeting begins at 10:30 – noon; Gilda Stanbery and Gary Wheat both CVB Directors will be making presentations at the meeting
- Need meeting with Clark Nexsen to get back on track; can we meet prior to next council meeting

- Council agreed to meet with architect at 5:00 pm on May 21

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton offered a reminder that the called meeting with the architect would need to be posted and advertised.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wilson reported on the potential CGTC campus coming to Forsyth.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mr. Stroud stated concert Saturday night was good and asked status of Zaxby's; Mayor Wilson stated that the developer has stated to him that all of the businesses in that development should be open by early 2019.
- Mr. Stroud stated that the street in front of the Post Office needs repaired again.
- Mr. Hewett stated that the drain at intersection of North Frontage and Highway 83 is stopped up and needs to be cleaned out.
- Mr. Hewett stated that the "Yield" sign at south entrance ramp to I75 at 187 exchange needs to be replaced.
- Mr. Stroud stated that we need a date for the Walk With an Elected Official.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was needed for the purpose of pending litigation and personnel.

Motion by Mr. Stroud to go into executive session for pending litigation and personnel; 2nd by Mr. Hewett; and approved unanimously. Council adjourned into executive session at 6:43 pm.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting back into open session at 7:15 pm.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, a motion by Mr. Stroud to adjourn; 2nd by Mr. Hewett; and approved unanimously to adjourn at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Manager