

MINUTES

FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 20, 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. Hewett gave the invocation.

Councilman Julius Stroud was unable to attend the meeting, and Councilman Goolsby arrived at 6:16 pm; therefore, all unanimous votes will be four (4) votes for (Dodd, Howard, Hewitt, and Lawrence), until Mr. Goolsby arrived.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Hewett, 2nd by Mr. Dodd; approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2018, council meeting as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously.

HOLLY WANGERIN REQUEST FOR 26 N. JACKSON STREET BUILDING

Mrs. Holly Wangerin came before council on behalf of Ham & Jenkins, Attorney at Law Firm and requested possibly renting office space in the old City Hall building at 26 N. Jackson Street. The law office of Ham and Jenkins experienced substantial smoke damage from the recent fire at Flowers by Helen. Mrs. Wangerin stated that the Ham and Jenkins building still has a horrible smoke smell and the renovation project is expected to take approximately twelve weeks. Ham and Jenkins will have a contractor in place within three weeks to begin the renovation work. Office space in the old City Hall building would still insure they are close to the courthouse and would also make it beneficial in order to monitor the construction renovation.

Mr. Howard expressed that he did not have a problem with this request, but did point out there was a reason that City Hall is no longer in the building.

Mayor Wilson suggested to Mrs. Wangerin to work with the City Manager to see if the building is suitable and to get figures. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to explore further. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF EVELYN BUGG AND DONNIE DANIEL FOR CITY CEMETERY INFORMATION AND MAPPING WORK

Mayor Wilson presented the recognition/presentation to Evelyn Bugg for the work performed in compiling an inventory of all known burials, and to Donnie Daniel for his effort in mapping the cemetery. Both of these achievements represent a great significance to our community. The Forsyth City Cemetery is a place of memorial for our dearly departed, a place of historical significance, as well as a connection between families. Our City Cemetery has also recently been the host to the Backlot Players with a living history tour with the Monroe County Historical Society and the Convention & Visitors Bureau. Forsyth Main Street did a beautification project at the entrance to the cemetery in May, as well. A cemetery guide is in the works. Mr. Ralph Bass, on behalf of the Historical Society, presented the work that has been completed by Ms. Bugg and Mr. Daniels' project is approximately 80% complete.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROVAL OF BEER AND WINE PACKAGE LICENSE - APPLICANT CARL WHITAKER – 171 N. LEE STREET – BUSINESS NAME CHANGE

Mr. Melton reviewed the application and stated this was advertised in the Monroe County Reporter issues of August 8, 2018, and August 15, 2018. Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing. The public hearing opened with the store manager present, regarding the change of name from Freshway to Piggly

Wiggly. Mrs. Hall pointed out that the beer and wine application is currently in the name of Freshway and the application is to change the name to Carl Whitaker. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the beer and wine package license for 171 N. Lee Street. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried with four (4) votes for (Dodd, Howard, Hewett, and Lawrence. Mr. Goolsby arrived during the vote and abstained.

Mr. Goolsby arrived at 6:15 pm and all unanimous votes will now be five (5) votes, (Dodd, Goolsby, Howard, Hewett and Lawrence).

APPROVAL OF STREET CLOSURE REQUEST FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR CHRISTMAS PARADE ON NOVEMBER 29, 2018 – PARADE WILL HAVE SAME ROUTE AS PREVIOUS YEARS

Mrs. Hall reviewed route. Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the street closure request from the Chamber of Commerce for the Christmas Parade on November 29, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH THE CITY OF CORDELE FOR POLICE OFFICER

Mrs. Hall reviewed the contract stating this is to buy out the remaining two years of the officers' contract with the City of Cordele. Mrs. Hall stated that Chief Harris is working with the Chiefs Association to make sure we can put a contract in place should the officer leave Forsyth within two years so that we are reimbursed this buyout of his contract. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the contract with the City of Cordele for Police Officer, contingent upon a contract being signed providing the city be reimbursed should he leave within two years. Seconded by Mr. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RENEWAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CINTAS FOR UNIFORMS

Mrs. Hall stated that she did not receive the updated information from Cintas and requested that the matter be tabled until the next meeting. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to table the approval of the renewal service agreement with Cintas for uniforms. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, motion to table carried unanimously.

VARIANCE REQUEST FOR 59 MIZE STREET, PUBLIC HEARING WITH COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING AUGUST 27, 2018

Mrs. Hall reviewed the City zoning. Mr. Hewett stated the lot is too small for two dwellings. Mr. Dodd stated the preponderance of use in the area is one dwelling per lot. Mr. Howard stated this would be a lot going on for a small lot. Mayor Wilson stated the lot is too small and does not fall within the guidelines of the City. Mr. Hewitt stated it is close to existing City property and falls within future annexation property in the area.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to submit a letter to the county stating the city objects to this variance due to the lot being too small for two dwellings and does not fall within guidelines of the city. Seconded by Mr. Howard, the motion carried with four votes for. Mr. Lawrence abstaining due to owning property in the area.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$200,221.29

Mrs. Hall reviewed the totals for each department and the grand total reviewed was \$200,221.29. Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the accounts payable invoices. Seconded by Mr. Lawrence, the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REQUISITIONS GREATER THAN \$5,000

- a. ADC – chemicals - \$7484.40
- b. Middle Georgia Environmental – ROW clearing - \$14,900
- c. Brannen Ford – 3 2010 Crown Vics - \$30,000

Mr. Howard offered a motion to approve all three requisitions presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mrs. Hall offered the following report:

- Reminder of meeting Wednesday 8/22 with architects at 7:00 pm
- Part of PlanFirst designation is to participate in the selection of other cities; Mrs. Hall stated she will be in City of Washington to hear their PlanFirst presentation on Wednesday at 2:00 and back for meeting by 7:00
- Leak on MLK before Sunset Terrace was repaired this past Saturday and leak on Main St just down from Legion Hall is scheduled for 8/29 – delay in both of these repairs due to new software that GDOT requires permits be submitted on and Craig trying to learn that software
- Public Hearings for 9/6 meeting will be annexation of two county properties and variance request from Otis Ingram for loft apartments – signs have been posted at all 3 locations
- 5-year history for preliminary 2018 millage is being advertised for 9/6 meeting
- The presentation for the park plan is not ready to be presented
- Additional clearing at Volume Chevrolet is for their detention pond not a new business

Mr. Hewett stated yield sign on entrance to I-75 is still not replaced. Mrs. Hall stated that she regularly reports this on DOT's reporting e-mail and will do so again.

Mayor Wilson requested a No Truck Signs on Johnston at Harris Street.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mr. Melton had nothing further to report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wilson offered the following report:

- Mayor Brening, City Manager and Recreation Director of Manchester, Georgia, visited our Splashpad on August 9th. Manchester has interest in building a Splashpad and the company that installed ours provided Forsyth as a reference.
- The Lip Sync Video is close to being finished. The final filming will be tomorrow with a challenge to the cities of Jackson, Dublin and McRae to participate.
- Presented a proclamation yesterday to Roberta Smith, the oldest member of her church.
- Clean Air Coalition visited Senator Isakson regarding car emissions and not rolling back.
- CGTC meeting-still moving to find funding for a campus here.
- EMA lunch and learn last Thursday.
- Tomorrow MEAG lunch in Macon and meeting with Representative Washburn to bring him up-to-speed on MEAG.
- I-75 Corridor Coalition held a conference call last week and the October meeting will be in Barnesville.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS

- Mr. Hewett asked if Inland Ports was mentioned at the I-75 meeting and Mayor Wilson stated the Regional Commission was previously requested to do a study on this.
- Mr. Hewett reported that Dr. Hickman reviewed transportation improvements at a BOE meeting.
- Mr. Dodd asked about the status of lights on I-75, specifically under I-75 at Highway 42 North. Mrs. Hall stated that most of the lights are on, and the only ones not on should be those that they are having to replace the poles but she is not sure about those in that exact location but will check to verify.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Greg Tapley, Monroe County Commission Chairman reported that the county has hired a finance director.
- Greg Tapley reported that the county meeting tomorrow is at 6 pm at the Juliette Methodist Church-mobile meeting
- Lisa Lee, Leadership Monroe Class, reported that the fox statues for the Leadership project have been created and are being sent to foundry, securing permissions for locations for statues

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was not needed.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Manager