

## **MINUTES**

### **FORSYTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**DECEMBER 3, 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. Dodd gave the invocation. Present for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers Mike Dodd, Greg Goolsby, John Howard, and Chris Hewett. Also present was City Attorney, Bobby Melton, and City Manager, Janice Hall.

Councilman Melvin Lawrence was unable to attend the meeting and Councilman Julius Stroud arrived at 6:15; therefore, all unanimous votes will be four (4) votes for (Dodd, Goolsby, Howard, and Hewett) until Councilman Stroud arrived, which is noted in the minutes and then all unanimous votes will be five (5) votes for (Dodd, Stroud, Goolsby, Howard, and Hewett).

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Wilson stated that the police department promotion and introductions will be tabled to the next council meeting and requested that the agenda be amended to reflect this.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Mr. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 19, 2018 COUNCIL MEETING**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS AND NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS – EDDIE HARRIS**

Removed from agenda to be presented at the next council meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF ECG BOARD ELECTION BALLOT AND AUTHORIZATION TO CAST BALLOT**

Mayor Wilson reviewed that there are four people running for three seats, and three of them are the incumbents. Mr. Hewett asked Mayor Wilson if he knew any of those running and Mayor Wilson responded that he knows the three incumbents.

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to authorize Mayor Wilson to cast the ballot for the three incumbents. Seconded by Mr. Howard, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION RELATING TO RECEIPTS, DEPOSITS, AND USE OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES**

Mrs. Hall reviewed the Resolution stating that this is to formalize the motion made in 2016 regarding the use of the Ad Valorem Property Taxes for Special Projects. Mayor Wilson asked if this Resolution changes anything that has previously been approved by council and Mrs. Hall stated that it does not.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **RESCHEDULE JANUARY 21, 2019 COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor Wilson reviewed that the second meeting in January will fall on Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to reschedule the January 21, 2019 meeting to January 22, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Goolsby, the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Hall stated that the public

hearing for the petition received from Norfolk Southern is scheduled for 5:30 pm for the second meeting in January 2019.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED 2019 BUDGET**

Mrs. Hall reviewed the proposed 2019 Budget and highlighted the changes made since the first presentation most notably that this draft includes a 5% across the board pay increase for all city employees. Mrs. Hall stated that the second public hearing will be held at the December 17, 2018 council meeting and a Resolution to adopt the 2019 Budget will be presented for adoption at that time as well.

Mayor Wilson opened the public hearing for comments relating to the proposed 2019 budget. Hearing no comments for or against the proposed 2019 budget, Mayor Wilson closed the public hearing.

#### **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES - \$144,410.43**

Mrs. Hall reviewed invoices for all departments for approval for a grand total of \$144,410.43.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the accounts payable invoices as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dodd, the motion carried unanimously.

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

- a. RDJE – 8” valve insertion on Indian Springs Drive - \$8,750
- b. ADC – 990 gallons of captor (chemical) - \$7,484.40

Mr. Howard offered a motion to approve the requisitions greater than \$5,000 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Dodd asked the location of the valve insertion on Indian Springs Drive and Mrs. Hall stated that it is on North Indian Springs Drive sometimes referred to as Railroad Avenue just down from Bryant’s Collision.

#### **REPORTS**

##### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Mrs. Hall offered the following report:

- Open enrollment for 12/4 at 5:00 pm and 12/5 at 8:00, 10:30, and 2:30 – you must attend one of the meetings to be added to the insurance
- Working on retreat to include DDA and Holly Bisig, MEAG; still want to hold on Sunday 8:00 to noon?
- Public hearing on 12/17 for Brunch Law amendment to city alcohol ordinance
- Public hearing on 12/17 for alcohol license for Pickled Okra
- EPD advertising public notice for the consent order
- Several water leaks last week – not sure if 100% caused by draining of cemetery tank but fairly certain that it was a large part of the cause; have hydrants open around town and other tanks at a lower level to combat the problem
- Need to schedule meeting with MC to review the SDS – county approved agreement to increase the jail inmate housing
- Mayors Day registrations done differently this year – if class you are in is not what you want or if you want additional classes please let me know
- Eggs & Issues 12/3 7:30 El Tejado – pre-legislative update
- TY from employees for Christmas bonuses
- TY to Ken Bowman for use of his train for Christmas parade again this year

- Ball drop is next MS event – New Year’s Eve beginning at 9:00 pm – Swain & the Highway Souls will be performing

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

Mr. Melton had nothing further to report.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Wilson had nothing further to report.

**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Howard reviewed an incident of a couple Sundays back where a suspicious person was at a local church during church service and Mr. Howard contacted Chief Harris to have an officer come and check the person out just to make sure there was no danger to anyone at the service. Mr. Howard commended the Chief and the officers that came for their professionalism in handling the situation. Mr. Howard stated that he is very proud of our police department.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Ronald Bearden, 441 Sunset Terrace, addressed council offering his thanks to the water department for their work last Monday repairing the water line breaks on Sunset Terrace. Mr. Bearden also asked about the automatic draft service that the city is offering for utility bill payments and stated that he had tried to set his up but could not get it to work. Mrs. Hall asked Mr. Bearden to come by her office on tomorrow and she would set it up for him.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No executive session was needed.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Submitted by:

Janice L. Hall, City Manager