

# MINUTES OF THE FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL MEETING November 8, 2016

Mayor Frank Brunson, Mayor Pro-Tem Curt Rye, Council members, Ginger Dukes, Beau Powell, and Shell Suber were present, along with City Administrator Mark Williams, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Andy Smith, Police Chief Gene Sealy and City Attorney Lee Holloway.

Mayor Frank Brunson called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

**Addition to the agenda: Bill Hancock:** Presentation of financial audit for June 30, 2016

On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Mr. Suber, City Council unanimously approved adding Bill Hancock's presentation to the agenda, finding that exigent circumstance will exist if the presentation of the city's financial audit is not added to the current meeting agenda for the body's consideration as there is a deadline in submitting financial reports to outside agencies.

1. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance-** Ms. Ginger Dukes
2. **Approval of Minutes**  
City Council Meeting held October 11, 2016  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the minutes.
3. **Mayor's Issues & City Projects**
  - a. Bill Hancock; Presentation of financial audit for June 30, 2016  
Mr. Hancock stated that the audit resulted in no significant findings and that a clean and unmodified opinion of the city's financial statements has been issued.  
On a motion by Ms. Dukes seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously accepted the results of the financial audit as presented.
  - b. TPAC Report-Carol Kososki  
No report was given.
  - c. Responses to Community Forum Items- Update on 1701Daloz Rd.  
Mr. Williams reported that the property has been demolished and debris removed and that the costs of doing so will be filed as lien against the property.
4. **New Business:**
  - a. Authorization of initial police camera purchase with grant funds \$34,400  
Chief Sealy stated that the funds were granted to the city by the State and would pay for twenty-seven cameras and get the program started for the first year.  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the use of grant funds.
  - b. First Reading, An Ordinance to Grant a Quitclaim Deed to 3860 FABER PLACE LLC for closed drive into CNHS from Gamewell Drive  
On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.
  - c. Request for new streetlight- 6915 Plainfield Dr.  
Chief Sealy reported that an officer patrolled the area and said it was very dark and recommended the light be installed.  
On a motion by Mr. Suber seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the light be installed.
5. **Old Business:**
  - a. Reaffirmation of 25% participation in FEMA HMGP for post-flood buyout of 3544 Lakeland and 1714 Seay Ct  
Administrator Williams reported that the city has two applications that remain active for Hazard Mitigation Funds for the above named addresses. We are pursuing the possibility that the properties would have an increased cost of compliance benefits in their flood insurance policies that would cover the 25% match so that the city is not paying for it. More information will be reported as soon as it becomes available.

- b. Report of Ad Hoc HTAX Committee recommendations regarding requests for contribution to Columbia Children's Theatre  
On a motion by the Ad Hoc HTAX Committee funds of \$35,000 will be contributed contingent on Forest Acres being included in any advertisements by the Children's Theatre.
  - c. Vacancy of two-year term on the Planning Commission (formerly held by John Kososki)  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously agreed to defer to the December meeting.
  - d. Vacancy of three-year term on the Code Board of Appeals  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously agreed to defer to the December meeting.
  - e. Vacancy on the Municipal Election Commission for the unexpired term of Valeria Bailey (April, 2017)  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously agreed to defer to the December meeting.
6. **City Administrator Report:** Concept of assigning cell tower interests for lump sum payment  
Administrator Williams stated that there are cell tower companies that want to buy out our leases for the cell towers in Forest Acres. No other information is available at this time.
7. **Police Chief's Report:**  
Chief Sealy thanked Council for the financial donation approved for the Town of Nichols. The town was devastated by Hurricane Matthew.
- On November 11<sup>th</sup>, the city will be part of the Law Enforcement Memorial at the State House in honor of Officer Greg Alia.
8. **Community Forum**  
Residents Stephen and Amy Scott voiced their disapproval of the city's tree ordinance lack of flexibility in not allowing tree removal to accommodate landscaping plans. City Council said the ordinance will be under study and that council will take their comments into consideration if amendments are proposed.
9. **Council Item**  
No items to report.
10. **Executive Session-** Contract negotiation related to Gills Creek retention wall project.  
NOTE: Items discussed in Executive Session may result in action by City Council upon its return to general session.  
Mayor Brunson stated that the need for the session had changed and that it was cancelled.
11. **Adjourn:**  
On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Ms. Dukes at 6:55 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen  
Administrative Assistant  
City of Forest Acres