

**MEETING MINUTES
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 8, 2014**

Mayor Frank Brunson and Council members, Curt Rye, Jr., Beau Powell, and Shell Suber were present, along with City Administrator Mark Williams, Assistant City Administrator Jake Broom, Finance Director Andy Smith, Police Chief Gene Sealy and City Attorney Lee Holloway. Council member Ginger Dukes was absent.

Mayor Brunson called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Rye gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes:

City Council Meeting on March 11, 2014

On a motion by Mr. Suber and seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects:

a. Recognition of AC Flora High School's Men's Basketball 3-A State Champions

Mayor Brunson introduced Head Coach Leon Brunson introduced the basketball team individually and his coaching staff. Council acknowledged the entire team and staff and presented each of them with a City of Forest Acres branded lunch cooler.

b. Presentation of FY 2013 Financial Audit

Bill Hancock of Brittingham, Brown, Prince and Hancock reported a synopsis of the City's FY 2013 financial audit which was an unqualified statement.

c. TPAC Report—Carol Kososki

Administrator Williams reported that there were no updates for Council.

d. Citadel Park—parking amendment update

Administrator Williams reported that we have received our encroachment permit from SCDOT and are now able to proceed going to bid for construction of the supplemental parking. Grimball and Cotterill said that it would take about two weeks to prepare the specifications for the bid.

e. Pinetree Park—tree removal bids

Administrator Williams reported that revised bids were received from Edmonds Tree Service in the amount of \$6,800 and Brown's Tree Service \$5,500. On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Rye, Council unanimously approved the bid submitted by Brown's Tree Service.

f. Responses to Community Forum items

Administrator Williams stated there were no community items.

4. New Business:

a. Recognition of Police Officer Alex Adkins, recipient of the Pete Strom Award for excellence at SC Criminal Justice Academy

Chief Sealy presented Officer Alex Adkins and informed Council that he had graduated from the SC Criminal Justice Academy with the highest academic average of his graduating class. This resulted in Alex being rewarded with the Pete Strom Award. Mayor Brunson presented a City of Forest Acres Resolution in honor of Officer Adkins' achievement.

b. Correction of scrivener's error in Ordinance 2014-2 referring to SC Code of Laws 46-5-120 instead of 56-5-120

Administrator Williams stated that the error was corrected in the ordinance and asked Council to resign the corrected copy.

c. Request to lower 35 mph speed limit on Barnes Spring Road

Administrator Williams reported upon receiving a request from residents of Barnes Springs Road to lower the speed limit on that residential street to 25 mph. Council asked Chief Sealy for traffic data before requesting the SC DOT to reduce the posted speed limit.

d. First Reading, AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FOREST ACRES BE AMENDED BY REVISING ARTICLE VII IN ITS ENTIRETY, TO BE NUMBERED SECTIONS 2-120 THROUGH 2-129 OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES.

On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Rye, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.

e. Enrollment in PEBA State Health Insurance

Administrator Williams reported that due to an anticipated increase in group health premiums upon renewal he asked for authorization to enroll the city in the State Health Plan saying it appears that this plan for SC municipalities would be less expensive, offer better benefits and enable the city to spread its financial risk across a larger pool of employees. The state also offers a dental plan and vision plans. On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved participation in the State Health Plan and the \$500.00 enrollment application fee.

5. **Old Business:**

a. Police Department and Municipal Court renovation bids

On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Rye, Council unanimously approved BarMack Contracting, Inc. as the contractor for the renovations who submitted the low bid from among four respondents of \$31,885.

6. **City Administrator Report:**

a. Broken park play equipment

Administrator Williams reported that the broken teeter-totter equipment will be repaired when the parts come available. The manufacturer denies that the equipment has any defect in design and suspects that children who may be playing on it are too large for its designed capacity.

b. Code Enforcement catches attempted fraud

Administrator Williams recounted that Building Official Keith Lindler had investigated a tip from a Bank of America representative that a resident appeared to be subjected to a scamming attempt by a contractor. Code Enforcement visited the resident's home and was able to thwart the contractor's efforts to take advantage of the elderly resident in construction services. (The same contractor was later arrested in Orangeburg for attempting a similar scam.)

c. Forest Drive Corridor Study

Administrator Williams reported that the meetings with the three finalists for the corridor study had been scheduled. The three finalists are Kimley-Horn Engineering, Boudreaux Group, and Dennis Corporation. Mr. Williams will report the results of the meetings in May 2014.

7. **Police Chief's Report:**

Chief Sealy stated that the FAPD was awarded a plaque by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Network for our 2013 Law Enforcement DUI Challenge. The process includes reporting all of the warning tickets issued by FAPD and reporting all DUI's. FAPD was also awarded a digital camera for a police car and four more cameras were also awarded to FAPD by the State.

8. Community Forum:

Michael Graf, resident of Winthrop Avenue, and neighbor of Pinetree Park stated he lived on Winthrop Avenue and voiced his opinion on the state of Pinetree Park. He cited the general lack of landscaping at the park, and soil runoff. Councilman Rye informed the residents in the area of the park that a plan does exist for its improvement and asked the residents if they thought a meeting at the park to discuss possibilities would be beneficial. The residents present agreed and seemed to welcome the idea. Administrator Williams stated he would set a meeting up with Grimball and Cotterill, Council, and the park residents.

9. Council Items:

Council had no items to report.

10. Adjourn:

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Rye the meeting ended at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen
Administrative Assistant
City of Forest Acres