

MINUTES OF THE FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL MEETING December 9, 2014

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

Mayor Pro-tem Curt Rye called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Approval of Minutes:

City Council Meeting on November 12, 2014

On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects:

a. TPAC report, Carol Kososki
No report.

b. Citadel Park

Administrator Williams stated that the construction is underway at Citadel Park and to date there have not been any complaints from surrounding residents. The contractor has given a completion date of prior to January 15, 2015.

c. Pinetree Park

Administrator Williams reported that he has received six or seven favorable comments from neighbors on the most recent redevelopment plan. On a motion by Mr. Rye seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the conceptual plan and asked for a construction cost estimate by Grimball, Cotterill and Associates.

d. Quinine Hill Park

Administrator Williams reported that SCE&G continues to work on the power pole installation and will be hiring Grimball and Cotterill to complete a landscaping plan once most of the work is completed.

e. Responses to Community Forum Items

Administrator Williams stated that after further investigation city personnel found no evidence to support the resident's allegations at 5414 Magnolia Park Circle that her neighbor is discharging pool water or stormwater onto her property. The findings will be reported to the complainant and the incident closed.

4. New Business:

a. Bill Hancock; Presentation of financial audit for June 30, 2014

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. Mr. Hancock stated that the retirement of former Financial Director Bob Massa and subsequent hiring of Andy Smith as the new Financial Director was a seamless transition. On a motion by Ms. Dukes seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously accepted the results of the financial audit as presented.

5. Old Business:

a. Stormwater buffer ordinance

Administrator Williams stated that this policy issue is complex and likely to be difficult to enforce but that it is essential to the city's stormwater compliance effort required by state and federal law. The policy issue is regarding clean water act requirements. The object of the enforcement of these new regulations is to improve water quality. Administrator Williams state that further discussion is necessary in the near future; City Council asked that a public hearing on the regulations be scheduled for the February meeting,

6. City Administrator Report:

a. Clock chimes

Administrator Williams obtained a cost estimate in a range of \$5,000 to \$9,500 from the clock manufacturer to add chimes to the city clock. Mayor Brunson stated that he has heard chimes in another city and simply asked for Mr. Williams to look into this option for the city's clock.

b. Possible revision to sign regulations concerning sandwich board signs

Administrator Williams asked Council to consider revising the sign regulations in order to allow sandwich board signs in front of city businesses. The primary location of the issue of sandwich board signs is at Trenholm Plaza. Mayor Brunson stated that the move to allow the signs would be business friendly. Attorney Holloway stated he will have further information for the January meeting to move forward.

c. Banners and temporary signs on sites with digital messaging board

Administrator Williams stated that temporary signs should not be allowed at any business/institution that has a digital message board. Attorney Holloway state he will have further information for the January meeting to move forward.

d. Pothole in Pinebrook Road; tire damage

Administrator Williams reported he had received a letter from a resident asking the city to reimburse him for a damaged car tire he had to have replace due to a striking a pothole on Pinebrook Road. Mr Williams will respond to the resident and let him know that his letter should be redirected to the SCDOT.

7. Police Chief's Report:

Chief Sealy reported on the following events, which were all deemed to be successful in the community- AC Flora 5K Booster Club run, Bubbie's Brisket event and Kathwood Baptist's hayride. The property check program continues to be successful. There were one hundred and forty traffic tickets issued during November, thirty-six arrests, FAPD worked thirty-six vehicle accidents, sixty-five false alarms were responded to, and eighty-seven public contact tickets were issued. A stealth stat survey was conducted on Forest Ridge Lane for forty-nine hours. The average speed was twenty four point zero three miles per hour. A reoccurring problem on Spring Lake Road of speeding was monitored. Ten speeding tickets were issued over the course of a week. The investigation of a robbery at BB&T is ongoing.

8. Community Forum:

No community items were reported.

9. Council Items:

No Council items to report.

10. Adjourn:

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Rye the meeting ended at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen

Administrative Assistant

City of Forest Acres