

MINUTES OF THE FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Mayor Frank Brunson and Council members, Ginger Dukes, Curt Rye, Jr. and Shell Suber, Jr. were present, as were City Administrator Mark Williams, Assistant City Administrator Jake Broom, Financial Director Robert Massa, Police Chief Gene Sealy, and City Attorney Lee Holloway. Council member Charlie Fetner was absent.

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

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Administrator Williams gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes

City Council Meeting Minutes of October 9, 2012

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

3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects:

a. Citadel, Idalia, and Pinetree Parks—Update

Administrator Williams reported that Citadel and Idalia Parks are essentially 99% complete.

Installation of landscaping was held off until the hot weather ended. The landscaping installation will begin now. Trees and shrubs will be put into the parks also with an extra tree on Arbor Day which is December 7th at Idalia Park.

Administrator Williams stated that the meeting at Pinetree Park between the Landscape Architect and Council remains to be scheduled. In the meantime local Eagle Scout, Johnson Pope submitted a letter asking if landscaping at Pinetree Park could be considered for his community service project. His request included exterior landscaping, building of picnic tables, and cosmetic changes all to be completed by volunteers. Mayor Brunson expressed concern with liability and the likelihood that Mr. Pope's efforts at general cleaning and minor landscaping for his project could be undone by the city's future plans with that park. Mr. Rye suggested that the gazebo area behind City Hall may be an optional location for his scout project.

b. Forest Lake Place Bridge—Update

Administrator Williams stated that there was no update or news on the bridge. Outside sources of funding continue to be investigated, however, any transportation available monies that are available the city does not qualify for due to the high per capita income. Mr. Williams said that he would continue investigating.

c. Responses to Community Items

Tree removal in county bordering area-

A resident's neighbor who is also a resident of Forest Acres applied for and received a permit to remove the dead tree in question; however, the cost of tree removal is what is hindering the process at this time. Mayor Brunson asked who was responsible for removal of the tree debris and Mr. Williams stated that either the homeowner or tree company, whoever removes the tree. Mr. Williams also stated that in order to remove any doubt about who is responsible for tree debris removal that he would see that the city's policy is declared on both the city's tree permit application form and the permit itself.

Lack of lighting behind Kroger-

Mr. Rye stated that the area in question is an SCE&G substation and the debris that was mentioned at the last meeting was removed and he would have someone look at the lighting.

4. New Business:

a. Request of Millie Lewis Agency for abatement of delinquent business license penalties

Administrator Williams stated that this item would be put on December's agenda due to Millie Lewis Agency not being able to attend.

- b. Request SC DOT to create four-way stop at Meadowood and Sylvan.
Administrator Williams reported that he had received another request by a resident to have SC DOT create a four-way stop at this intersection. The city requested DOT action on this intersection four years ago but conversion to a four way stop was denied at that time. Noting the recent occurrence of another severe accident at the intersection, Chief Sealy stated that there is a tendency for some drivers to run the stop sign. On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the request to be submitted to SC DOT.
 - c. Two vacancies on the Forest Acres Appearance Commission
Administrator Williams reported that he has not had any submissions of interest and asked that this be put on December's agenda.
 - d. Vacancy in the unexpired term of Harry Parker on the Planning Commission (term expires July 2013)
Mayor Brunson stated that resident Ralph Bailey had expressed an interest in serving the community in this capacity and Council had accepted that nomination. On a motion by Mr. Suber and seconded by Mr. Rye, Council unanimously approved the appointment of Mr. Bailey to Mr. Parker's unexpired term on the Planning Commission.
 - e. First Reading; An Ordinance to Rezone 1620 Gamewell Dr. (TMS 14013-02-01) and 1700 Gamewell Dr. (TMS 14014-06-20) From Zoning Classification Residential R-1 to Institutional P-2
A motion was made by Mr. Suber, however, although not seconded. The motion failed without second.
 - e. Environmental assessment of 5209 Trenholm Rd. and common area; ARM Environmental \$2,150
Administrator Williams asked for approval of the environmental assessment to be conducted by ARM Environmental.
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the monies and assessment.
 - g. Consideration of entering into an Agreement with the Municipal Association "For Collection of All Business License Taxes from Insurance Companies and Administration as Municipal Agent of Municipal Brokers Premium Tax"
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the agreement.
5. **Old Business:**
- a. Second Reading, 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 ADDING A SECTION OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF 6454 BRIDGEWOOD ROAD, TMS 16802, BLOCK 5, LOT 11.
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the annexation ordinance.
 - b. Second Reading, An Ordinance Amending the Business License Ordinance Provisions for Insurance Companies
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Mr. Suber, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.
6. **City Administrator Report:**
- a. Security cameras at Quinine Hill Park \$2,000 install, \$100 per month;
Administrator Williams reported that the installation and internet connection of the security cameras are complete and recommends that the monthly fee be paid for from HTAX funds. On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the request.
 - b. HTAX promotion of Chick-Fil-A Classic \$550 (Dec. 19-22)

On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the sponsorship request.

c. Donation of surplus AED equipment to Columbia Fire Department

The Columbia Fire Department became aware that Forest Acres recently replaced 23 Medtronic LifePak 500 AED's, rendering them obsolete. The fire department asked if they could take possession of the old AED's to use as spare parts for the similar units that they still have in service. Sealy and Administrator Williams stated that these surplus units have no value to Forest Acres because they are no longer supported by the manufacturer. On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council approved the donation.

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

HTAX supplemented FAPD OT during Christmas shopping season—Chief Sealy asked if Council would supplement the FAPD overtime budget for extra patrols during the holiday shopping season. On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the HTAX funded overtime not to exceed \$5,000.

8. **Community Forum**

Reverend Peyton Wooldridge, resident of the Laureate expressed concern about three topics:

1. Traffic near the new Trader Joes

In a general discussion Mayor Brunson pointed out that that the SC DOT had denied the developer's request for a traffic light at the store's entrance, citing the engineering principle that traffic signals should only be installed at intersections, rather than mid-block as the case would be with Trader Joe's.

2. Olde Park Subdivision-Excess of dirt outside of subdivision

Administrator Williams responded that the city would contact the Richland County Storm Water division

3. Pinetree Park-The park is being used as a parking area on the sandy Winthrop of the side.

Administrator Williams stated that in his discussions with the landscape architect the sandy area needs to be stabilized in some fashion, especially if parking is going to be allowed to continue. He assured Rev. Wooldridge that when the time comes for council to consider improvements to the park there will be a discussion about how to improve that condition.

9. **Council Items**

There were no items for discussion.

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