

# **MINUTES OF THE FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2013**

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, Finance Director Robert Massa, Police Chief Gene Sealy and City Attorney Lee Holloway.

Mayor Brunson called the meeting to order at 5:19 p.m.

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Public Hearing: 5827 N. Trenholm Road**

Attorney Holloway called the public hearing to order at 5:21 p.m.

Attorney Holloway stated that the public hearing was to entertain questions, comments or concerns regarding the rezoning request by Beth Shalom Synagogue/Columbia Jewish Day School. The notice of the hearing was published in The State newspaper on September 21, 2013. Applicant's attorney Robert Fuller explained that Beth Shalom Synagogue and Columbia Jewish Day School is asking for a rezoning on the property from Public and Semipublic District (P-1) to an Institutional District (P-2) in order to expand the Jewish Day school, make better use of the school and accommodate a small increase in student enrollment from the present one hundred and thirty-five. Even with construction of a new school building there is no encroachment toward any surrounding residential properties. The plans simply include a better use of the currently owned property.

With no additional questions or comments Attorney Holloway called the public hearing closed at 5:28 p.m.

The City Council observed a Five Minute Break between public hearings.

**Public Hearing: 3390 Pine Belt Road**

Attorney Holloway called the public hearing to order at 5:33 p.m.

Attorney Holloway stated that the public hearing was to entertain questions, comments or concerns regarding the rezoning request by St. James Methodist Church/Jubilee Academy. The notice of the hearing was published in The State newspaper on September 21, 2013. Applicant (Attorney) Bill Metzger explained that he was representing St. James Methodist and Jubilee Academy regarding the rezoning request from Public and Semipublic District (P-1) to and Institutional District (P-2) to accommodate the establishment of Jubilee Academy at St. James Methodist Church, with the school utilizing existing educational facilities on the property, which are unused at present. Jubilee Academy would simply be moving into the current facility and begin their Montessori program at St. James Methodist.

With no additional questions or comments Attorney Holloway called the public hearing closed at 5:41 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

City Council Meeting on September 10, 2013:

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

**3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects:**

a. TPAC report, Carol Kososki

Ms. Kososki asked Mr. Williams to inform Council that the only update to report for this month is that the RFP for Management is in draft form.

b. Citadel Park-parking amendment update

Administrator Williams stated that there are two maple trees planted as a gift to the park by a neighbor that are in conflict with the proposal to expand parking. The trees must be removed and either transplanted or replaced. If the former, there is no guarantee that the trees will survive and the

cost is essentially the same as replacement at \$350 per tree. Mr. Williams said that he will reach out to the neighbor to inform him of the situation.

- c. Pinetree Park-proposal for improvements  
Administrator Williams reported that the proposed plan was received the day of the meeting and a copy was distributed to Council for review at their leisure.
  - d. Responses to Community Forum Items  
Administrator Williams stated that there no items on which to report.
4. **New Business:**
- a. 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 SECTION 21.4.2 (ZONING MAP) OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY ZONING MAP.  
  
That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Forest Acres be amended by revising Section 21.4.2 (Zoning Map), Zoning Ordinance, so as to amend the boundaries of the Zoning Map in order to change the existing Zoning from a Public and Semipublic District (P-1) to an Institutional District (P-2), on that certain piece, parcel or lot of land containing 7.1 acres designated as 5827 N. Trenholm Road, being shown on the Richland County Tax Maps as Tax Map Sheet Number 16801, Block 02, Lot 08.  
  
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Mr. Suber, Council unanimously approved the rezoning.
  - b. 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 SECTION 21.4.2 (ZONING MAP) OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY ZONING MAP. That the Code of Ordinances of the City of Forest Acres be amended by revising Section 21.4.2 (Zoning Map), Zoning Ordinance, so as to amend the boundaries of the Zoning Map in order to change the existing Zoning from a Public and Semipublic District (P-1) to an Institutional District (P-2), on that certain piece, parcel or lot of land containing 2 acres designated as 3390 Pine Belt Road, being shown on the Richland County Tax Maps as Tax Map Sheet Number 14106, Block 04, Lot 06.  
  
On a motion by Ms. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Suber, Council unanimously approved the rezoning.
  - c. 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 4660 NORWOOD ROAD, TMS 14116, BLOCK 09, LOT 04.  
  
On a motion by Mr. Rye and seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the annexation.
5. **Old Business:**
- a. Second 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 REPLACING CHAPTER 12; PROVIDING FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT  
Mr. Williams asked if Council would defer this second reading as there are details that are still being worked out on access to court records. On a motion by Mr. Suber and seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council unanimously approved the deferral of the second reading.

- b. Appointment to three-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals (O'Neil, Morris, Seastrunk)  
Council deferred the appointment to the November 2013 meeting. Ms. Dukes asked that the open seat be advertised on the city's website.

**6. City Administrator Report:**

- a. City Clock issues  
Administrator Williams reported that the clock has not been working properly and a technician was scheduled to make repairs on Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. This represents the second clock failure in 3 1/2 years. The clock warranty had just expired when the clock failed the first time back in June.
- b. Arborwood code issues  
Administrator Williams reported that three of the abandoned buildings have been secured by a contractor and the property maintenance code effort has begun on four more of the buildings.
- c. New website site design  
Administrator Williams stated he would ask Maria Queen schedule a special meeting so that Council could view the city's new website prior to the site being activated.
- d. Reality Check Project event—Urban Land Institute on October 22, 2013  
Administrator Williams said that the planning exercise will be at the Columbia convention center and is a forum/ discussion on an anticipated increase of approximately four hundred and fifty thousand new residents in the Midlands over the next twenty years. The co-chair of the event is Forest Acres Appearance Committee member, Irene Dumas Tyson. She asked if the city would consider making a financial contribution to the event because of its importance.

On a motion by Ms. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Rye, Council approved a \$1,000.00 contribution to the event from hospitality funds.

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

Chief Sealy reported that several reports from neighbors of Crayton Middle School regarding concern with the traffic issues during drop-off and pick-up times. The school is in the middle of a neighborhood off of Forest Drive and there are issues with people parking in front of homes to walk up to the school to pick up their children. In years past, SC DOT came out and did a study on Coker and Clemson Roads due to previous complaints. The result was No Parking signs were installed around the school. The new problem is the same of the old and Chief Sealy asked council for their approval to ask SC DOT to come out and conduct another study to possibly extend the No Parking area. Council agreed with Chief Sealy to have SC DOT come out and do the necessary study.

Chief Sealy recounted that several residents surrounding Brockman School on Montclair Drive have contacted FAPD regarding the standstill of traffic during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up hours because of the small area designated for the carpool line. Chief Sealy asked if Council would approve a NO LEFT TURN sign for one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon during the school week only. Council agreed with Chief Sealy to have SC DOT come out and do the necessary study.

**8. Community Forum:**

No community forum items to report.

**9. Council Items:**

Council had no items to discuss.

**10. Executive Session:**

- a. Employee Employment Status: Building Official, Finance Director
- b. Application for natural Resources Conservation Service EWP grant

On a motion by Curt Rye, seconded by Ginger Dukes, Council voted unanimously to enter Executive Session at 6:15 p.m.

At 6:35 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Rye, seconded by Ms. Dukes, Council voted unanimously to exit Executive Session, saying no action had been taken while in Executive Session.

**11. Adjourn:**

There being no further business, on a motion by Ms. Dukes and seconded by Mr. Suber, the meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen  
Administrative Assistant  
City of Forest Acres