

**MINUTES OF THE  
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL  
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING  
March 9, 2021**

Mayor Frank Brunson, Mayor Pro-tem Beau Powell, Council members John Barnes, Thomas Andrews, and Haskell Kibler were present, along with City Administrator Shaun Greenwood, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Andy Smith, Police Chief Gene Sealy, and City Attorney William C. Dillard, Jr.

**Mayor Frank Brunson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

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 CHAPTER 21, ARTICLE I, SECTION 21.6 NON-CONFORMING USES IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF ENLARGEMENT OR EXTENSION OF NON-CONFORMING SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

City Attorney William Dillard called the public hearing open at 6:02 pm. He stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to entertain public comment on a proposed change regarding non-conforming single family residential structures. Mr. Greenwood added that the change will address homes that are non-conforming under the current zoning.

With there being no questions or concerns either in favor or opposition to the rezoning request from either Council or the public Mr. Dillard closed the public hearing at 6:07 pm.

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Council member Haskell Kibler led the invocation and Boy Scout William Beasley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. City Council Meeting held February 9, 2021  
On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved the minutes.
- b. Special City Council Meeting held February 22, 2021  
On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

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

- a. Mayor Brunson recognized resident Frances "Frankie" Garrett. She will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 11, 2021.
- b. COVID – 19 Update
  - i. Law Enforcement – Chief Sealy reported that the mask ordinance continues in Forest Acres. One additional employee was out for 14-days for Covid quarantine and is back in good health.
  - ii. City Operations – Administrator Greenwood reported that Municipal Court proceedings will resume on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Jury Trials remain on hold due to social distancing requirements. We currently have no employees out for Covid. All city services are on normal schedule. City Hall remains closed to the public.
- c. Responses to Community Forum Items: Speeding Concerns  
Mr. Greenwood discussed this item in his City Manager's report.

**4. Public Comment Related to Items on the Agenda:**

Citizens that wish to speak about an item specifically listed on the agenda must call 803-782-9475 by 5 pm the day before the meeting to be added to the list of speakers.

No items to report.

**5. New Business:**

- a. Presentation by Dana Higgins and Joey Jaco related to City of Columbia Water Projects  
Joey Jaco reported that the current project on Trenholm and Sylvan Road area is ongoing. The Rockbridge and Eastbrook area will begin in the summer of 2021. There are areas in the city that have cones out due to asphalt restoration continuing. Ms. Higgins added that the Forest Drive and the Satchel Ford area projects are nearing completion. Council member Kibler asked about residents reporting issues. Mr. Jaco said that there have been staffing issues at the water department, but the call center is being updated and should be more accessible for residents. Council member Barnes added that the City of Columbia app is helpful for reporting issues. Mr. Greenwood asked for clarification on the fire hydrant at Forest and Trenholm constantly being flushed. Mr. Jaco said that the work going on should repair constant flushing. Mr. Jaco added that every resident will have their water meters replaced over the projects in Forest Acres.
- b. Resolution recognizing Joe Gentry's dedicated service as a Planning Commissioner  
Mayor Brunson recognized Mr. Gentry's twenty-six years of dedicated service to the city on our Planning Commission.
- c. Appointment of a City Representative to the COMET Board  
Following a discussion on a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Powell, Council unanimously appointed Assistant City Administrator/Financial Director Andy Smith to the COMET Board.
- d. AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING FOR THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF NORMAL OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES COUNCIL, COARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING  
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved and extended the ordinance to May 9, 2021.
- e. AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS BE WORN IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS  
On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously approved and extended the ordinance to May 9, 2021.

**6. 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 REVISING CHAPTER 21, ARTICLE XX111, SECTION 21.272 MINIMUM AREA REQUIRED FOR CREATION OF NEW ZONING DISTRICT, IN ORDER TO ALLOW CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS FOR ADJOINING AREAS  
On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.
- b. 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 REVISING SECTION 21.4.2 (ZONING MAP) OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING RANSOM DRIVE (TMS 14108-04-04) FROM C-3 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL)  
On a motion by Mr. Powell seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.

- c. Second Reading: AN ORDINANCE ACKNOWLEDGING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO MULTICOUNTY PARK BETWEEN RICHLAND COUNTY AND FAIRFIELD COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH RICHLAND COUNTY; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

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

**7. City Administrator Report:**

a. Budget

Mr. Greenwood reported that they are working on the budget and a rough draft will be ready for Council for the April 13, 2021 meeting.

b. Traffic Calming Program

Mr. Greenwood reported that he has spoken with SC DOT regarding the addition of speed humps in Forest Acres. Any roads that are thoroughfares for emergency response vehicles are not eligible. We do have to prove to SC DOT that there are speeding problems on the roads that are reported as a problem for speeding. Council will need to set the threshold for a speeding problem. This program will continue and residents in the areas that speed humps are possible will be notified for their input.

c. Zoning Ordinance Updates

Mr. Greenwood stated that the updates are in process. The RFP is out for the re-vamp for all zoning ordinances. We will need a committee to evaluate the RFP's.

**8. Finance Director Report: Monthly Financial Report**

Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Smith reported to Council that the city's budget is performing as expected for being at this point in our fiscal year. Revenues and expenditures are consistent with the same period in prior years.

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

Chief Sealy shared a list of the roads with the most speeding complaints with Council. He added he will continue to conduct the speed tests on these roads.

The Easter Dash 5k run will be held on April 3, 2021.

We are in finalization with the dealers on the six previously approved FAPD vehicles.

Chief Sealy gave the most recent stats on traffic stops and crime in the city.

**10. Community Forum:**

No items to report.

**11. Council Items:**

No items to report.

**13. Adjourn**

On a motion by Powell seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen  
Administrative Coordinator  
City of Forest Acres