

**MINUTES OF THE
FOREST ACRES SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5205 N TRENHOLM ROAD
July 26, 2021**

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

Mayor Frank Brunson called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance- Mayor Frank Brunson
Mayor Brunson led the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comment Related to Items on the Agenda:

- a. Citizens that wish to speak about an item specifically listed on the agenda must call 803-782-9475 by 5pm the day before the meeting to be added to the list of speakers.
No items to report.

3. New Business:

- a. **First Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, CLARIFYING THE FORMAT TO BE USED IN CODIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS ENACTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-22, AFFECTING CHAPTER 15, POLLUTION CONTROL, AND PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FOREST ACRES, BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY**
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved the ordinance.
- b. Discussion and approval of a contract for the design and construction management of Forest Lake Place Park
Administrator Greenwood said that after the last discussion with Council City Attorney Will Dillard and Ken Simmons negotiated the extra language in the contracts and the fee structure. Discussion regarding the details of permitting costs and the financial impact of the project ensued.
On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously authorized Administrator Greenwood to execute the contract.

4. Executive Session:

On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session.

- a. Receipt of legal advice related to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by Attorney-Client Privilege
- b. Discussion of negotiations and contractual matters related to the design and construction management of Forest Lake Place Park with KBS and Associates
- c. Discussion of contractual matters related to the City Judge Positions

On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously agreed to come out of Executive Session and resume regular session.

NOTE: Items discussed in Executive Session may result in action by City Council upon its return to general session

5. Work Session

- a. Discussion of current city projects
Ken Simmons made a presentation regarding landscaping, hardscaping, and formal entry into the City of Forest Acres on Forest Drive near the Gregg Park subdivision. Added discussion regarding above ground and under ground utilities at the area around Lakeshore off Forest Drive.

Discussion regarding the corridor at Clemson and Forest, Richland Mall, and a new building for City Hall and Public Safety ensued.

b. Discussion of available funding

Administrator Greenwood said that we have approximately \$4 million in HTAX reserve funds. We are collecting over \$1 million each year.

Two additional positions for Streets and Parks will be added in next years budget. HTAX funds are transferred to the general fund for tourism and marketing costs. This will include the future PIO position.

A pay increase has been implemented for equipment operator positions in Public Works.

The city has \$10 million in our bank account, and we need to maintain no less than \$4 million in our account as a reserve in the event of something like a natural disaster.

c. Discussion of ARPA funding and allowable projects

Stimulus funds of \$5.1 million are anticipated to be received from the Federal Government. The city will not receive any of the funds until at least December 2021. The funds must be earmarked by December 2024.

Employees in FAPD and Public Works are eligible for premium pay for working during the pandemic at a cap of \$5000.00 per employee. Staff is working on a proposal that will come before Council for consideration.

Mr. Greenwood recommended to Council to use Stimulus Funds on the park project. Council agreed that they want to spend a portion of the funds on the new park.

Stormwater and flooding projects are eligible to be paid for with Stimulus Funds.

Mr. Greenwood added that a new Public Works facility should be considered in the future.

Council agreed to move forward on the Clemson and Forest gateway projects.

On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the Municipal Judge's contract that as discussed in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously appointed Zack Atkinson as Chief Municipal Judge.

On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously agreed to adjourn at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen
Administrative Coordinator
City of Forest Acres