

**MINUTES OF THE  
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL  
March 14, 2023**

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 Will Dillard, and Police Chief Don Robinson.

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

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Council member Haskell Kibler led the invocation and the and introduced Boy Scout Troop 10 from Eastminster Presbyterian Church to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Present was Troop Leaders Bill Warren, Brook Moore, and Dr. David Hicklin. Boy Scouts present were Cole Curbo, James Heydt, Duncan Hicklin, Sam Lavigne, Parker Mather, Robert Moore, Henry Thomas, Frank Warren, Luke White, Jake Wyatt, and Buzzy Henry.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

a. City Council Meeting February 15, 2023

On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

b. Special City Council Meeting March 6, 2023

On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

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

a. Responses to Community Forum Items:

Camera at Satchel Ford and Valleybrook

Chief Robinson reported that the request for the camera at the Satchel Ford and Valleybrook location is from residents in that area. His opinion is that a camera would be beneficial at that intersection as well at Madison and Verner Streets. Mr. Greenwood added that the cameras would initially cost \$1000 each for installation and \$75.00 monthly and the funds are in the budget. Council agreed.

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

No items to report.

**5. New Business:**

a. First Reading: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT RELATING TO SOUTH CAROLINA LOCAL REVENUE SERVICES; TO PARTICIPATE IN ONE OR MORE LOCAL REVENUE SERVICE PROGRAMS; TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ONE OR MORE PARTICIPANT PROGRAM SUPPLEMENTS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

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

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 FOR 340 COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE (TMS R16703-02-01) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO P-1 (PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC DISTRICT)

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

c. Discussion of Recruitment and Retention Initiatives related to Certified Police Officers

Mr. Greenwood said that the recommendation is a \$2000 across the board increase for the retention of officers which comes to an increase of \$77,000 in the current budget. There remain four open positions for officers and the belief is that the increase will attract certified officers to apply for the open positions. Mr. Andrews voiced his agreement with the recommendation.

- d. Appointment of a Councilmember as the Public Safety Foundation Chair  
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously appointed Council member John Barnes as Chair.
- e. Appointments/Reappointments:
  - a. Planning Commission:
    - i. Lyle Lee - Reappointment  
On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously reappointed Lyle Lee to the Planning Commission.
  - b. Htax Committee
    - i. Jean Weingarth - Reappointment
    - ii. Brian Thomas - Reappointment  
On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously reappointed Jean Weingarth and Brian Thomas to the Htax Committee.
  - c. Public Safety Foundation
    - i. Mark Nidifer - Reappointment  
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously reappointed Mark Nidifer to the Public Safety Foundation.
  - d. Code Board of Appeals i. 1 Open Position - Architect
    - i. Luke McCary – Appointment  
On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously appointed Luke McCary to the Code Board of Appeals.
- f. Hospitality Tax Committee Recommendations:
  - i. Bankhead Tennis Tournament: \$7,500  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the \$7,500 Htax request.
  - ii. Miracles In Motion 5K: \$7,500  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved the \$7,500 Htax request.
- 6. **Old Business:**
  - a. Second Reading: AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF FOREST ACRES, STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF A RECIPROCAL EASEMENT AGREEMENT AND GROUND LEASE IN CONNECTION WITH PURCHASE OF A PORTION OF THE RICHLAND MALL SITE, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO  
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously agreed to defer the second Reading to a future meeting.
- 7. **City Administrator Report:**
  - a. Park and Bridge update  
Administrator Greenwood said that the projects are moving along very well and remain on schedule. There have been extra protections put in place for safety reasons.
  - b. Zoning Ordinance update  
Mr. Greenwood said that the first module is planned to be brought to the Planning Commission on April 4, 2023.
  - c. City Council April meeting date  
Mr. Greenwood reminded Council that the April meeting has been moved to April 18, 2023.

- d. Gills Creek Memorial Park sign  
Mr. Greenwood showed a rendering of the park sign to Council for consideration.

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

Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Smith reported that this is the time in the fiscal year that we begin to make gains in revenue from property taxes and business license renewals. Park related expenses are coming in and ARPA funds are being used for specific capital projects.

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

Chief Robinson reported the February 2023 crime and traffic statistics to Council.

Focus on the reduction of false alarms in the city is in effect.

The number of vehicular accidents and DUI's have gone down.

Uniform changes are being made regarding the equipment that they carry on their bodies to reduce physical stress and injury.

Mr. Greenwood spoke reverentially of the donations that FAPD were able to obtain for the victims of the floods in Kentucky were very well received.

Council member Barnes added that FAPD's initiative with the continuing education classes is noticed and appreciated.

**10. Community Forum:**

No items to report.

**11. Council Items:**

Council member Kibler reminded everyone about Sweep the Acres to be held on Saturday, April 1, 2023.

**12. Executive Session:**

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session at 7:00 pm.

- a. Receipt of legal advice related to claims and potential claims by and against the City and other matters covered by Attorney-Client Privilege
  - i. Business License Enforcement
- b. Discussion of contractual matters related to the Forest Lake Place Bridge and Park Project
- c. Discussion of contractual matters and proposed real estate transaction related to Richland Mall property and proposed park
- d. Discussion of proposed contractual matters with Richland County related to an Animal Services Agreement
- e. Discussion of contractual matters related to the City Judge's Contract
- f. Discussion of proposed sale of real property (Wittering Drive)

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

On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously agreed to go back to regular session.

**13. Adjourn**

On a motion by Mr. Barnes seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen  
Administrative Coordinator  
City of Forest Acres