

**MINUTES OF THE  
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL  
February 13, 2024**

Mayor Tom Andrews, Mayor Pro-tem David Black, Council members Haskell Kibler, Ryan Newton, and Stephen Oliver were present, along with City Administrator Shaun Greenwood, Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Andy Smith, Police Chief Don Robinson, and City Attorney Will Dillard.

**Mayor Tom Andrews called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Pro-tem David Black led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1. 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 4508 MOSSHILL ROAD, RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER R16803-10-03**

City Attorney Will Dillard opened the hearing at 6:03 pm stating that the purpose of the public hearing is to entertain public comments on a proposed annexation into the City of Forest Acres.

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 6:04 pm.

- 2. 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 4515 FERNWOOD ROAD, RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER R14015-07-12**

City Attorney Will Dillard opened the hearing at 6:04 pm stating that the purpose of the public hearing is to entertain public comments on a proposed annexation into the City of Forest Acres.

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 6:05 pm.

- 3. 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 SECTION 21.12 PROVIDING FOR CATEGORIES OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING PROHIBITED IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS**

The planned hearing on the neon lights ordinance was deferred until the 3/12 meeting (On motion of David Black, seconded by Stephen Oliver, approved 5-0).

**2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. City Council Meeting January 9, 2024  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the minutes as amended.
- b. Special City Council Meeting January 5, 2024  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the minutes.

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

- a. Responses to Community Forum Items:  
Building Official Keith Lindler reported that the developer of the Satchel Ford development has been issued a violation by Richland County regarding sediment run-off downstream and is affecting one of the ponds on Arcadia Road.

**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 of officer of the quarter by the Forest Acres Public Safety Foundation  
Council member and Public Safety Foundation Chair Stephen Oliver presented Lt. Mike Smyrl with an award for Officer of the Quarter.
- b. Resolution in recognition of the retirement of Lieutenant Mike Smyrl  
Mayor Tom Andrews recognized Lt. Mike Smyrl and his twenty-six years of service with Forest Acres Police Department.
- c. FAPD promotions  
Chief Robinson promoted Cpl. Martha Berry to Sargeant, Cpl. David Pickett to Sargeant and Sargeant Dave Fancher to Lieutenant.
- d. Discussion and approval of a Vegetation and Maintenance Agreement with SCDOT related to a Beautification Foundation Project  
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the agreement.
- e. Appointments: a. Hospitality Tax Committee:
  - i. Kandi Bubonic  
On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously appointed Ms. Bubonic.
  - b. Public Safety Foundation:
    - i. Lori Tumlin
    - ii. Jack Tompkins  
On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously appointed Mrs. Tumlin and Mr. Tomkins.
- f. Staff Request for Hospitality Tax Funds
  - a. Sweep the Acres: \$2,250  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the request.
  - b. Columbia Chamber Annual Golf Tournament: \$2,000  
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the request.
- g. Discussion of Hospitality Tax Committee recommendations:
  - a. Rockbridge Club: Bankhead Fight Cancer Tennis Tournament \$10,000  
On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the request.
  - b. The Therapy Place: Miracles In Motion \$5,000  
On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the request.
  - c. Timmerman School: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament \$2,500  
On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the request.

**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 ADDING A SECTION OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF 4508 MOSSHILL ROAD, RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER R16803-10-03  
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the annexation.

- 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 ADDING A SECTION OF SAID CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF 4515 FERNWOOD ROAD, RICHLAND COUNTY TAX MAP NUMBER R14015-07-12  
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the annexation.
- c. 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 ADDING SECTION 21.12 PROVIDING FOR CATEGORIES OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING PROHIBITED IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS (**Postponed**)  
On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously agreed to defer this reading.

**7. City Administrator Report:**

- a. GCMP Update  
Mr. Greenwood reported that we are going through the fine details and working through the punch list with the contractor.
- b. FLP Extension Update  
Mr. Greenwood reported that the contractors are working hard to stay on the goal of the project being completed by early April 2024.
- c. Zoning Ordinance Update  
Mr. Greenwood said that staff is working on the more difficult parts of the re-writes. A meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 16, 2024. He hopes to have articles 4, 5, and 6 for the Planning Commission in March.
- d. Richland Mall Update  
Mr. Greenwood reported that fencing is going up around the mall and demo should begin soon. The contractor should contact us about a groundbreaking ceremony. There is discussion of the time capsule that is buried at the sight to be moved and re-buried after project completion.
- e. Lexington Medical Center  
Mr. Greenwood said that the building is complete, and Lexington Medical has purchased the next-door property for another doctor's office suite.
- f. Annexation Update  
The quote has been received for the Richland County mailers to go out on our side of Trenholm Road soon.

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

Assistant City Administrator/Finance Director Smith reported that seven months into the fiscal year we are just above 30% shy of our revenue. This is typical. Regarding expenditures we are on target. All the expected funds for the park from the state have been collected. Our audit should be reported in March 2024.

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

Chief Robinson reported the January 2024 crime and traffic statistics to Council.

We are starting a Speed Blitz where two neighborhoods and two business locations will be focused on for impact on drivers.

DUI training and field sobriety certifications for officers are underway.

Two officers have attended a hostage negotiation class. The goal now is for all officers to attend the class.

Front porch roll calls will pick up again in the Spring.

**10. Community Forum:**

Resident Pat Ahrens reported witnessing an incident involving a neighbor.

Resident Cynthia Rivers added support for the incident Ms. Ahrens witnessed.

Resident Kathy Marie Davis also voiced support for the incident. City Attorney said that a follow-up conversation will be better following the public meeting.

Ms. Davis also asked about Brenthaven Road being repaved. Mayor Andrews suggested that residents attend SCDOT meetings to share their concerns and to contact Richland County Council member Yvonne McBride. Council member Oliver added that a community meeting with SCDOT will be held at Cooper Library on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

**11. Council Items:**

No items to report.

**12. Executive Session:**

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously agreed to go into Executive Session at 7:30 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. Hydronic Heater litigation
- b. Discussion of contractual matters related to:
  - i. Forest Lake Place Extension Change Order
  - ii. Potential purchase of vacant property
  - iii. Clemson Avenue underground electric line
  - iv. Mall park design and masterplan

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

On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously agreed to return to regular session.

On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously approved the Forest Lake Place Extension change order as discussed in Executive Session and to authorize the City Administrator to sign. The motion was amended to add the use of ARPA funds, backed by Htax funds, for the change order. On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council unanimously agreed on the previous motion as amended.

On a motion by Mr. Newton seconded by Mr. Black, Council unanimously approved the use of HTAX funds of up to \$39,000 for the underground electrical project on Clemson Avenue and authorize the City Administrator to execute a non- standard service funds agreement for the same as discussed in Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Oliver seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved a design contract for the Richland Mall park with Landplan Group South and authorized the City Administrator to execute the contract as discussed in Executive Session.

**13. Adjourn**

On a motion by Mr. Kibler seconded by Mr. Oliver, Council adjourned at 8:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen  
Administrative Coordinator  
City of Forest Acres