

**MINUTES OF THE
FOREST ACRES CITY COUNCIL
VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING
August 9, 2022**

Mayor Frank Brunson, Mayor Pro-tem Tom 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, Police Chief Don Robinson, and City Attorney Will Dillard.

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

1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Council member David Black led the invocation and introduced Boy Scouts Troop 324 from Bethel United Methodist Church to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. (Members present were Troop Leader Chris Adams, Members Leonidas Garris, Maximus Garris, and Joshua Adams)

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. City Council Meeting held July 19, 2022
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously approved the minutes as amended.

3. Mayor's Issues & City Projects

- a. Responses to Community Forum Items:
No items to 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 the Public Safety Foundation for Officer of the Quarter sponsored by Brian Knight Insurance Agency
Council member Tom Andrews presented the 2nd Quarter Officer of the Quarter award to Officer William Gause.
- b. Resolutions recognizing W. D. Morris, Elizabeth Cantey, and Bryan Walters dedicated service as Zoning Board of Appeals Members
Mayor Frank Brunson recognized W.D. Morris, Elizabeth Cantey, and Bryan Walters and their time and service to the city by serving on the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- c. Discussion of a resolution related to the MASC Hometown Economic Development Grant
Administrator Greenwood reported that he would like to apply again to the Municipal Association for grant funds to benefit the city's economic development. On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council authorized Mr. Greenwood to apply for the grant.
- d. Discussion of approval of FAPD officers assisting USC PD at football games
Chief Robinson said that the deadline for application for FAPD officers to assist the USC Police Department has expired, however, several officers have expressed interest and he would like to apply for the 2023 football season.

e. Recommendation from Htax Committee

- i. Beautification Foundation – Request for \$2,500 in matching Htax funds for the utility box wrapping project
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously approved the request.
- ii. Benedict College – Request for \$2,500 for the All-White Wine and Jazz Festival (sponsorship)
Mr. Black relayed that following discussion the Htax Committee agreed to deny the request due to the event not being held in Forest Acres.
- iii. Staff – Request for \$3,000 in marketing funds related to the Best Of Award for best neighborhood
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Andrews, Council unanimously approved the request.

f. Appointments

- a. Planning Commission: Reappointment
 - i. Nola Armstrong
On a motion by Mr. Andrews seconded by Mr. Barnes, Council unanimously reappointed Ms. Armstrong to a 2-year term.
- b. Zoning Board of Appeals: Reappointment
 - i. Pete Balthazor
On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Kibler, Council unanimously reappointed Mr. Balthazor to a 3-year term.

6. Old Business:

No old business to report.

7. City Administrator Report:

- a. Sign Ordinance
Mr. Greenwood reported that Code Enforcement has contacted the city's businesses, and everyone seems to be complying to the ordinance. They will continue to monitor the city.
- b. FLP Park and Bridge Update
A pre-construction meeting has occurred, and the contractor will begin initial work by the beginning of September. If Council wants to hold a groundbreaking ceremony, we will set a date and time. We should be receiving the funds very soon and will apply them to the project.
- c. FARMA
FARMA has notified that they are in an inactive status at this time to restructure.
- d. Sweet Seasons
Lynnsey Baker has taken over the planning of this event and is scheduled for November 29, 2022, from 5-8 p.m.
- e. Gateway to Army Association
Mr. Greenwood relayed that the association has requested the release of the \$35,000 funds the city has pledged at their current 38% match as opposed to the 50% match threshold that Council set previously. Mr. Greenwood said that the decision can wait until the September City Council meeting.

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 this period in the fiscal year that revenues and expenditures are consistent with the same period in prior years.

9. Police Chief's Report:

Chief Robinson reported to Council August 2022's traffic and crime statistics.

FAPD's traffic initiative remains in effect and traffic plans at our city schools will be initiated with the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

The National Night Out and the Summer of Healing events were both held and were well attended and successful.

Plans are in progress for Hurricane preparedness and potential school threats.

A project to get crime, weather, traffic, etc. alerts out to our local businesses in in process.

10. Community Forum:

No items to report.

11. Council Items:

Mr. Andrews reported that the Public Safety Foundation allocated funds to provide water, sports drinks, and snacks for the Richland County K-9 units in thanks for their assistance with FAPD's K-9 unit.

12. Executive Session:

On a motion by Mr. Black seconded by Mr. Andrews, 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 contractual matters related to the potential sale and/or acquisition of real property
- c. Discussion of contractual matters related to the Forest Lake Place Bridge construction and right-of-way easements
- d. Discussion of matters related to the City Administrator's annual evaluation

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

13. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Queen
Administrative Coordinator
City of Forest Acres