

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, August 2, 2021

Members Present:

Mayor Steve Lawrence
Kirk Raffield
Anne Sneve
Jim Looney
John Foust
Dr. Sonny Proctor

Staff:

Brandon Douglas
Beverly Ragland
Lindsey Williams
Tara Benson
David Hall
Lonnie Waters
Greg Lovell
Steve Roper
Matt Dawkins

Guests in Attendance:

Norman White
Green Suttles
Neal Hendee
Carol Turner
Kay Lawrence
Kim O'Brien
Kebra Lillibridge
Richard Lillibride
Laura Rizy
Cindy Wilson

Members Absent:

Legal Counsel:

R. David Syfan

Press:

Angela Reinhardt
Know Pickens

Mayor Steve Lawrence asked Councilmember John Foust if he recognized a quorum. Seeing a quorum, Mayor Lawrence recognized meeting as open. He requested Development Director Lonnie Waters to provide the invocation. Mayor Lawrence requested Councilmember Dr. Sonny Proctor to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lawrence advised that an agenda is in front of them and entertained a motion to adopt the agenda. Councilmember Foust made a motion to adopt the agenda with Councilmember Anne Sneve providing a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence stated that Council has the minutes from the July 12, 2021, Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Lawrence entertained a motion to adopt all as presented. Councilmember Kirk Raffield provided a motion with Councilmember Sneve providing a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence thanked the visitors for coming out to the Regular Council Meeting.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under old business (Item A) Consideration and approval of accepting the apparent low bid for the JL White water line project. Mayor Lawrence called on City Manager Brandon Douglas. Mr. Douglas read the 4 bids. The lowest bid being T.Stanco Inc at \$269,199.40. Mr. Douglas said that speaking with the engineer, we may have an issue not just isolated to Jasper but the industry in of itself in getting the C 900 PVC pipe. Mr. Douglas asked Council for the amount to not exceed \$290,000 if we cannot get the C 900 in a timely manner. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to except the bid and not to exceed \$290,000. Someone with Stanco spoke from the audience. He stated that the C 900 could be here as soon as 8 weeks. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion accepting the apparent low bid for the JL White water line project. Councilmember Kirk Raffield Made a motion to approve. Councilmember John Foust provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under old business (Item B) Consideration and approval of the Gennett Drive task order for \$12,000 for EXP US Services Inc. for final plan preparation for letting (including utility coordination, final cost estimation, construction contract, letting assistance, preconstruction conference and construction inspection). Mayor Lawrence called on Mr. Douglas. Mr. Douglas provided background information. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under old business (Item C) Update Stegall Drive – TAP Submittal. Mr. Douglas provided a brief update, in such stating that staff did submit the application to GDOT. If we receive the grant, it would be 30 months before touching any dirt. We will know by the end of the year if we will receive the grant. Mayor Lawrence made a motion to approve the TAP grant process that has been submitted. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of Old Business, Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under new business (item A) Consideration and approval of the appointment of Kebra Lillibridge to the Pickens County Library Board. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Proctor provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. Mayor Lawrence swore in Kebra Lilibridge. Her term will end July 30, 2025.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item B) Consideration of request to rezone Parcels

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030C 001 and 030B 061.001 located off of Highway 515 from R-A and R-1 Residential to a Planned Unit Development (PUD) – Mayor Lawrence stated that the Applicant has request tabling, so it will not be considered tonight. Councilmember Proctor asked that the public be informed to the steps of the meetings and our processes that we have in place regarding public hearings and planning and Zoning meetings. Mr. Douglas explained to the public the process. A homeowner/applicate petitions the City specifically the Development departments. The application requests for rezoning annexations, variances, anything to do with property or land use. The steps are after receiving the application, the City will put it into the newspaper legal organ for several weeks for a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, that is a recommendation body. A Public hearing is held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. After that, a Public Hearing with Mayor and Council is held on the fourth Thursday of the month. That Public Hearing is followed by the Regular scheduled Council meeting where the item will be discussed for further consideration and to be voted on. Councilmember Proctor addressed the Public. He stated that Mayor and Council want to hear from you. Council doesn't want to move forward on things without public input. The Public input is valued and affects the decision making. With no further questions Mayor called for a motion to table. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to table. Councilmember Sneve provide a second. Motion to table passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item C) Consideration of request to rezone Parcel # JA03 073.001 and JA03 128 from R-1 to C-2 located between 561 & 641 Hood Road, Jasper, Georgia. Councilmember Raffield announced that he is recusing himself from the vote and discussion. Mayor Lawrence asked Council for a motion to approve or deny. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve the request. Councilmember Proctor provided a second for discussion. Mayor Lawrence asked Council for any discussion. Councilmember Proctor stated that from a land use perspective, despite adjacent commercial properties and also adjacent residential, based on input received from the public hearings, as well as staff report that this does not meet our land use expectations for this area. Mayor Lawrence stated Council has a motion and a second to approve all in favor say "aye". No one ayed. Mayor asked all opposed. Council all opposed. Motion to approve failed.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item D) Consideration of Ordinance No. 2021-17 for a request to rezone Parcel # 030A 073 (49.13 acres) from R-A to R-3 located off Philadelphia Road in Jasper, Georgia. Mayor Lawrence called on Mr. Waters. Mr. Waters provided background information based on the comprehensive plans that the city and county and future land development. Staff recommends approval with conditions. Mayor called for a motion. Councilmember Foust made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously. Included in the motion is the zoning ordinance proposed that incorporates the conditions suggested by staff and contained in the ordinance.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item E) Consideration of the job description for the position of Development/Utility Specialist and to update the pay scale accordingly. Mr. Douglas provided background information. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the job description for the position of Development/Utility Specialist and to update the pay scale accordingly. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item F) Consideration and approval of Resolution No. 2021-07 for the 2021 Budget Amendments. Mr. Douglas provided background information. Finance Director provided a brief overview. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve the Resolution 2021-07 for the 2021 Budget Amendments. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item G) Consideration and approval of alcohol license for Folksy Ventures LLC dba Waldmet Cellars at 62 Ralph Hicks Circle. Mayor Lawrence called on DF Lindsey Williams. Ms. Williams asked Council for approval to move forward with the advertising of the change in address as well as approval for the alcohol license of the business with new location. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item H) Consideration of utilizing Lee Newton Park by Prestige Medical Group as a fundraiser for Pickens County School System. Mayor Lawrence called on Kim O'Brien. Ms. O'Brien provided information on the event. Zombie Fest and Fun run to provide funding for special needs children. She is looking to make this an annual event. She is requesting the use of Lee Newton Park and closing part of the road for the fun run on October 16th. This event will be put on with Prestige Medical Group and Piedmont Mountainside. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve. Councilmember Raffield made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item I) Discussion of Georgia Power's request

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for a 20' Vegetation Easement throughout the Jasper Circuit. Mayor Lawrence called on Mr. Waters. Mr. Waters provided the request from GA Power. Georgia Power is seeking 20' from our easements from the center overhead conductor line throughout this circuit. Attorney Syfan said he doesn't recommend it and suggested more information from Georgia Power. No action taken.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (Item J) Discussion of Weather-Related Event Impact. Mr. Douglas provided a brief update on weather -related event.

Mayor Lawrence recognized Committee reports.
Lindsey Williams provided the Financial report.
Lonnie Waters provide the Development report.
Police Chief Greg Lovel provided the Police report.
Chief Steve Roper provided the Fire report.

Mayor Lawrence asked for a motion to adjourn with Councilmember Raffield providing a motion and Councilmember Sneve providing a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.



Steve Lawrence

Mayor



Beverly Ragland

Finance Director/City Clerk