

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, April 4, 2016

Members Present:

Mayor John Weaver
Jim Looney
Allison Boyle
Tony Fountain
John Foust
Anne Sneve

Staff:

Lisa Hoyle
David Hall
Greg Lovell
Steve Roper
Lonnie Waters

Guests in Attendance:

Mari Livsey
Lonnie Adams
Sheriff Donnie Craig
Gerry Nechvatal
Amy Leake
Brody Leake
Walt Cagle
Lonnie Adams
John Sneve
Tucker Green
Sydney Romine

Members Absent:

None

Legal Counsel:

Bill Pickett

Press:

Angela Reinhardt

Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order promptly at 6:00 p.m. He requested John Foust give the invocation. Councilmember Allison Boyle led in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Weaver asked that the agenda be reviewed and approved by Council. Councilmember Anne Sneve made a motion to approve the agenda and Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Clerk Lisa Hoyle read the minutes of the March 7, 2016 regular meeting. Councilmember Tony Fountain made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Weaver called on Councilmember Allison Boyle to recognize members of the Youth Leadership Pickens who were present at the meeting as part of the program's assignments.

There was no old business to discuss.

Item A under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Walt Cagle with the Pickens County Sportsman's Club to present to Council dates of the Kid's Fishing Rodeo at Cove Creek. Mr. Steele stated that the dates of the Rodeo would be May 11 through 14, 2016, and requested permission from Council to use the Cove Creek property for the event on those dates. Mr. Cagle also stated that he appreciated the involvement the City had put forth in the past years that the Rodeo was held at Cove Creek. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion to approve Cove Creek property to be used for the Fishing event May 11 through 14, 2016. Councilmember Tony Fountain made such motion and Councilmember Jim Looney seconded the motion. Mayor Weaver stated that the City appreciated the efforts and time that the Sportsman's Club put into the event. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Item B under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Pickens County Sheriff Donnie Craig. Sheriff Craig stated that he wished to thank the City of Jasper for the support the City has provided to the County over the years and in more recent years with the Sheriff's Jeepfest. He stated that Jeepfest was a successful event last year and that the Sheriff's office would like to present a check to the City's JYSA program for \$5,000. Mayor Weaver stated that he appreciated the efforts of Jeepfest and thanked Sheriff Craig for the contribution.

Item C under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized David Hall to present to Council bids received for a pump at the Indian Forest lift station. Mr. Hall stated that he had asked for bids from three different suppliers and two had responded. Per Mr. Hall, although quotes were provided for a 33hp pump and a 39/40 hp pump, the 33 hp pump would be sufficient. Bids were as follows: Goforth Williamson, Inc. \$10,938 and James Electric \$10,600. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to approve the purchase and accept the low bid from James Electric. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion and discussion followed. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item D under New Business, Mayor Weaver called on Councilmember Jim Looney to discuss the speed problem on Ridgewood Drive. The Mayor also called on Chief Greg Lovell to discuss accidents that have occurred in this area. Chief Lovell stated that speed detection devices were not possible due to the curves in the road. Discussion

followed regarding the placement of speed breakers in this area or what other solutions are available to the City. Mayor Weaver entertained a motion to table the issue to give the City time to research various options including speed breakers and rumble strips. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to table a decision until further research, Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item E under New Business, Mayor Weaver presented to Council the need for an asphalt paving machine. The Mayor stated that a used paver had been located by the City at the cost of \$50,000. He stated that the City could use the paver for patching, small paving jobs such as parking lots as well as current and future planned walking/biking trails. He stated that the paver would be paid for out of the SPLOST funds. The Mayor entertained a motion for the purchase of the paver for \$50,000. Councilmember Jim Looney made such motion, Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Item F under new business, Mayor Weaver presented to Council the need for a trailer to haul the asphalt paving machine. He stated that the City has located a new trailer at a price of \$7,700 and hopes to find one at a lower cost. Councilmember Tony Fountain made a motion to approve the purchase of an asphalt paving trailer not to exceed \$7,700. Discussion followed and Mayor Weaver stated that the trailer would also be paid for out of the SPLOST funds. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion and motion passed unanimously.

Item G under new business, Mayor Weaver presented to Council the need for an asphalt roller/compactor. The Mayor stated that City is currently looking for this equipment and doesn't expect the cost to exceed \$15,000. Councilmember Anne Sneve made a motion to allow the City to purchase an asphalt roller/compactor not to exceed the cost of \$15,000. Discussion followed and the Mayor stated that the trailer used to haul the paving machine approved under Item F could also be used to haul the roller/compactor machinery. Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item H under new business, Mayor Weaver recognized David Hall to discuss a repair necessary at Hunter's Ridge. Mr. Hall stated that it is necessary that the City install a Hydra-Stop in order to repair a leak at the tank in that location. He stated that the gasket at the tank was about to give out and the repair is needed immediately. He stated that the cost of the Hydra-Stop would be approximately \$5,000 and the City would perform the installation. He also stated that the alternative to purchasing the Hydra-Stop would be to drain the tank and this would leave residents in that area without water for at least 24 hours. Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to allow the City to purchase the Hydra-Stop at \$5,000. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Item I under New Business, Mayor Weaver presented to Council a proposed settlement on an old outstanding debt that the City owes to Lee Mullins. Mayor Weaver explained that the original contract with Mr. Mullins was signed in December, 2005 for the amount of \$779,885. He stated that according to the contract, the City was to pay off this debt through waived cost of construction aid and meter fees to Mr. Mullins. At the present time, the City owes Mr. Mullins \$334,498. Mayor Weaver proposes that the City offer to settle with Mr. Mullins in the amount of \$158,676 which would include a check payable to Mr. Mullins in the amount of \$150,000 as well as waived property tax and water bills in the amount of \$8,676. Mayor Weaver explained that the money would be paid out of a Water Fund investment account and would be paid from prior year invested funds and not from the current budget. Finance Director Lisa Hoyle explained that this would be recorded in the current year as a payment of debt, as well as debt forgiveness and would show as an offset to the debt liability and as miscellaneous revenue for the difference in the debt owed and the settlement. Mayor Weaver stated that if accepted by Mr. Mullins, Attorney Bill Pickett would draw up a contract to supersede the original contract signed in 2005. Councilmember Anne Sneve made a motion to approve the City to offer settlement to pay Mr. Mullins \$150,000 out of the Water Fund investment account and also to waive Mr. Mullins outstanding property tax and water bills in the amount of \$8,676 for a total settlement of \$158,676. Councilmember Allison Boyle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item J under New Business, Mayor Weaver recognized Amy Leake from the Downtown Alliance to present to Council a proposed Market to be held once per week on the City's vacant lot (the old Roper Hospital lot) located downtown on South Main Street. Ms. Leake stated that the plan was for the Downtown Alliance to organize by invite only, approximately eight vendors to set up tents/tables to sell various items. Ms. Leake said that it was not the intention to compete with the Farmer's Market currently held at Lee Newton Park, as the items for sale would be different type food and products. Mayor Weaver stated that the City would not be held liable for use of the lot since the City would not charge fees for the use. Attorney Bill Pickett confirmed that the City would have no liability issues. The Mayor entertained a motion to allow the Downtown Alliance to use the lot for a Market one

day per week, Councilmember Jim Looney made such motion. Councilmember Anne Sneve seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Economic Developer Gerry Nechvatal gave a report to Council.

Finance Director Lisa Hoyle gave the financial report for the month of March 2016.

Lonnie Waters gave the animal control report for the month of March 2016. Mr. Waters also gave a report on the upcoming paving projects in the City.

Chief Greg Lovell gave a report of police activities for the month of March 2016

Chief Steve Roper gave a report of fire activities for the month of March 2016.

Councilmember John Foust gave an update on JYSA activities.

Being no other business to come before Council, Councilmember Jim Looney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council is scheduled to convene next at the regular council meeting to be held May 2, 2016.



John W. Weaver
Mayor



Lisa J. Hoyle
City Clerk/Finance Director