

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, January 6, 2020

Members Present:

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

Staff:

Brandon Douglas
David Hall
Greg Lovell
Steve Roper
Lonnie Waters

Guests in Attendance:

Mari Livsey
Lorrie Waters

Members Absent:

None

Legal Counsel:

David Syfan

Press:

Angela Reinhardt

Mayor Lawrence recognizing a quorum of council called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He requested Lonnie Waters to provide the invocation. He asked Brandon Douglas to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Lawrence advised that Lisa Hoyle will not be in attendance tonight as City Clerk and that he requests for a motion to have the City Manager voted as Interim City Clerk. Council member Sneve made motion to make Brandon Douglas as Interim City Clerk with Council member Looney providing second. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence advised that an agenda had been sent out for review and he requested for a motion to adopt the agenda. Council member Proctor made motion to adopt the agenda with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence advised that the minutes have been distributed and all members have a copy so he would like to ask for a motion to adopt minutes as they have read them. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Looney providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence advised that Council is to select a Mayor Pro-Tem and in accordance with the Charter the person will serve in that role for the next 2 year. Council member Proctor provided motion to nominate Jim Looney as Mayor Pro-Tem with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence advised that the next agenda item was the review and approval of annual position appointments; however, Mayor Lawrence asked for more time for this item and requested this item tabled. Council member Sneve provided motion to table with Council member Raffield providing second. Discussion ensued with Council member Looney asking if there is anything that can be done to move this item along. Council member Proctor advised that a work session would allow for council to speak with interested persons to serve in the key positions available. Further discussion held. Mayor asked for the date of January 27, 2020 as the date for a work session. Council member Looney provided a motion to table the annual position appointments until January 27, 2020 with Council member Raffield providing second. Further motion provided to conduct aforementioned meeting by Council member Raffield to be held at 6:00 PM with Council member Looney providing second. Motion to approve for tabling until January 27, 2020 at 6:00 PM carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item on the agenda for approval was the legal services agreement for general legal services as city attorney for David Syfan from Hulse, Oliver & Mahar LLP as lead attorney. Mayor called on City Manager. City Manager provided background on the proposal for legal services for attending meetings and to assist with legal work to be done such as ordinances, etc. The hourly rate is for \$150.00 per hour. City Manager advised that Mr. Bill Pickett was asked to fill the role of assistant city attorney at the same proposed rate; however, Mr. Pickett respectfully declined based on the terms offered. City Manager further stated that due to that, the only item for consideration was for Mr. Syfan. As such, Mayor asked for motion with Council member Raffield providing such and Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item on the agenda under old business relating to subletting city property. Mayor called on City Manager to present. City Manager advised council that direction had been provided to draft a user agreement which had been submitted to legal for review. No further action had taken place. Council member Looney made a motion to remove item from agenda with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously. Council member Proctor asked that this item could be considered at the retreat.

Mayor advised that next item on the agenda was for the 2nd reading for the Early Sunday alcohol sales. City Manager called upon for the 2nd reading. Council member Looney made motion with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item on the agenda was for the 2nd reading of the Farm Winery. City Manager called upon for the 2nd reading. Council member Raffield made motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item on the agenda was for watershed monitoring proposals. City Manager called upon to present the proposals. CCR Environmental was \$21,635.00 which was the same amount from last month's proposal. Corblu declined to submit. Fox Environmental was \$32,300.00 and Nutter & Associates was \$36,255.00. Council member Looney made motion to approve the low proposal of \$21,635.00 from CCR with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next agenda item was under New Business and was a request for special event alcohol license. Mayor called on City Manager who subsequently asked for the representative from Carriage House to make request known. Charity Norton advised that request was for serving alcohol on Friday, February 14th for Valentine's Day. Council member Raffield made motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next agenda item was for the agreement with Pickens County Chamber of Commerce for Tourism Development. City Manager called upon to discuss. Discussion provided as it relates to the agreement between City and Chamber relative to hotel/motel fees and requirement for agreement. Council member Raffield made motion with Council member Looney providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item was for consideration of amending Sec. 2.24 of the City Charter and called upon City Manager. City Manager deferred to City Attorney Syfan to make comment relative to this section. Mr. Syfan provided background on the second relative to the required literal readings of ordinances and the required 2 readings. Further discussion held. Mr. Syfan provided 1st reading. Council member Looney made motion to consider 1st reading and for staff along with Mr. Syfan to move forward with necessary action to move this item forward. Council member Sneve provided second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next item was request for approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Jasper/Pickens County/Development Authority of Pickens County for establishing an economic development position for the economic development of Pickens County and called upon Council member Proctor. Further discussion held relative to the background of committee formation along with the County and Development Authority approving Green Suttles as the person to be employed and for the shared cost and partnership between the County and City relative to funding. Council member Raffield provided motion for approving the Intergovernmental Agreement City of Jasper/Pickens County/Development Authority of Pickens County for the purposes of establishing an economic development position for the economic development of Pickens County and the City of Jasper and for staff to amend the 2020 City of Jasper Budget to reflect the necessary cost share commitments and to use fund balance if necessary. Council member Sneve provided second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor advised that the next agenda item request for reduced water / sewer rates. City Manager provided council with applications along with supplemental information for review. Council member Raffield made motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for the next agenda item as Executive Session for purposes of Personnel. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for motion to come out of Executive Session. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to come out of executive session carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for motion to end employment with Lisa Hoyle as City Clerk / Director of Finance. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to end employment with Lisa Hoyle as City Clerk/Director of Finance carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for motion to approve Interim Director of Finance agreement. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for motion to remove Mayor Weaver and Lisa Hoyle from signature cards and to add Mayor Lawrence and Mayor Pro Tem Looney. Council member Foust provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Council member Looney asked that provision be made to have 1 professional staff on each check. Motion to approve the changes to the signature cards carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence asked for committee updates:

Council Member Proctor advised that he had provided his during the previous agenda item relating to the IGA. Council member Raffield did not have anything to add.

Council member Proctor advised that the pre-application still pending and good things still going on with parks with future SPLOST dollars to assist.

Mayor asked City Manager for finance report. Final 2019 numbers still being reconciled; however, the preliminary numbers look to consistent with what to expect with use of fund balance along with reduction in TAVT.

Lonnie Waters provided report on Roads and others.

Chief Lovell provided police report.

Chief Roper provided fire report.

Mayor thanked all persons who came out tonight and asked that if there is anyone that is in attendance that has anything to bring forward. Being no further business, Mayor Lawrence adjourned the meeting.



Steve Lawrence
Mayor



Brandon D. Douglas
City Manager/Interim City Clerk