

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING/REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, December 6, 2021, 6:00 PM

Members Present:

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

Staff:

Beverly Ragland
Lindsey Williams
Tara Benson
David Hall
Lonnie Waters
Stacey Johnson
Josh

Guests in Attendance:

Green Suttles
J. Cornelus
Marty Callahan
David Brieain
Jack Dunn

Members Absent:

Legal Counsel:

David Syfan

Press:

Pickens Progress- Dan Pool
Know Pickens

Mayor Steve Lawrence asked Councilmember Anne Sneve if she recognized a quorum. Seeing a quorum, Mayor Lawrence recognized meeting as open. Mayor Lawrence stated Councilmember Kirk Raffield is joining the meeting via Zoom.

He requested Development Director Lonnie Waters to provide the invocation. He requested Councilmember John Foust to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve minutes from October 28, 2021, Public Hearing/Work Session and November 1, 2021, Regular Council Meeting. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under old business (item A) Consideration and approval of bid for Sidewalk Repair Project. Mayor Lawrence stated this item continues to be tabled.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under old business (Item B) Consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2021-23 and Ordinance No. 2021-24 Request to annex into the City of Jasper Parcel 029B 061 consisting of 17.28 acres and rezone from County RR to R-2 Residential. This property is located off Gennett Drive in Jasper, GA. Mr. Waters stated to Mayor and Council that per applicant this item will be tabled till March.

Mayor Lawrence moved to the next item under old business (item C) Consideration and discussion of Variance request on existing lots that are currently zoned R-3. Parcels JA12 056.008, JA12 056.012, JA12 056.015, JA12 056.017, JA12 056.007 & JA12 056.019 located off West Sellers and Mineral Springs Road. Mayor Lawrence stated this item continues to be tabled.

Mayor Lawrence moved to the last item under old business (item D) Consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2021-25 to rezone Parcel 030C 001 & 030B 061.001 consisting of 50.33 acres from R-A & R-1 to a Planned Unit Development. Attorney David Syfan stated that the applicant agreed to put in the signage as recommended by GADOT, Mr. Syfan went to the proposed rezoning ordinance and added that as a condition. Council has voted to approve it, however, to be technically correct we need to pass a written rezoning ordinance. Mayor Lawrence called

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for a motion to approve the rezoning ordinance that was written by our city attorney David Syfan. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Dr. Sonny Proctor provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence opened a Public Hearing for consideration and discussion of 2022 Budget. With no public comments, Mayor Lawrence called on Finance Director Beverly Ragland. Ms. Ragland provided background information and stated that no public comments have been made and the adoption date is set to be December 20th at a Special Called Meeting. Mayor Lawrence closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the first item under new business (item A) Consideration and discussion of Perrow Park. Discussion was had on demolition. Work cannot begin until an IGA with the Downtown Development Authority is approved. They have verbally approved the demolition. There is currently debt tied to the property. Staff inquired with the bank about approval to tear down the buildings. A letter was provided to Mayor and Council from the bank with approval. Adam Howard provided information on the steps that would have to take place before the Demo could begin.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item B) Consideration and discussion of agreement with Pickens County Development Authority. Mayor Lawrence asked council for permission for the Mayor to go on the Pickens County industrial Development Authority. Councilmember Looney made a motion that Mayor Steve Lawrence be voted as a member of the Pickens County Industrial Development Authority to represent the City of Jasper. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item C) Consideration and approval of appointment of vacant position on the Downtown Development Authority. Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to appoint Kirk Raffield to fill the vacant position. Councilmember Foust made a motion to approve. Councilmember Proctor provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item D) Consideration and approval of appointment of position to Economic Development Hiring Committee. Councilmember Proctor as Co-Chairman of the Pickens County Economic Development hiring Committee made a motion to nominate Mayor Steve Lawrence to sit on this committee as interim City Manager until the new City Manager can relieve. Councilmember Kirk Raffield provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item E) Consideration and discussion of Police Department Vehicles. Mayor Lawrence called on Chief Matt Dawkins. Chief Dawkins provide background information on the request for officers to be assigned take home vehicles as part of the Jasper Police Department benefit package. Councilmember Looney made a motion under the public safety committee that the policy be approved. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item F) Consideration and discussion of Police Department Uniform Policy to allow facial hair. 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 for First Mountain Tasting Room Alcohol License. Lindsey Williams asked Mayor and Council for approval to issue an alcohol license for First Mountain Tasting Room. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

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Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item H) Consideration and approval of 2022 Alcohol License Renewals. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Looney provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item I) Consideration and approval of 2022 Calendars. Councilmember Sneve made a motion to approve. Councilmember Foust provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item under new business (item J) Consideration and approval of Resolution # 2021-15 Employee Personnel Handbook. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve and adopt the Employee Personal Handbook. Councilmember Proctor provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized Committee Reports:

Development Committee

Street/Parks Committee

Administration Committee

Water/Waste-Water Committee

Finance Director Beverly Ragland provided the financial report

Lonnie Waters provided the Development report

Fire Chief Steve Roper provided the Fire report

Police Chief Matt Dawkins provided the Police report.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to enter executive Session to discuss legal and personnel. Councilmember Foust made a motion. Councilmember Proctor provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Councilmember Looney made a motion to come out of executive Session. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to approve the contract for our new City Manager Sonia Jammes. Councilmember Looney made a motion to approve. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence called for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Foust made a motion. Councilmember Sneve provided a second. Motion to approve passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.



Steve Lawrence

Mayor



Beverly Ragland

Finance Director/City Clerk