

MINUTES  
REGULAR CALLED  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Via Google Zoom  
Monday, April 6, 2020

Members Present:

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

Staff:

Brandon Douglas  
Lonnie Waters  
Steve Roper  
Greg Lovell  
David Hall

Guests in Attendance:

John Sneve

Members Absent:

None

Legal Counsel:

David Syfan

Press:

Mari Livsey

Angela Reinhart

Mayor Lawrence recognizing a quorum present called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He requested Brandon Douglas to provide the invocation. He requested Council Member Sonny Proctor 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. Council member Sneve made motion to adopt the agenda with Council member Foust providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence stated that Council has the minutes from the March 2, 2020 regular meeting and the Special Called Meeting minutes from March 19, 2020 as well as March 25, 2020 and he entertained a motion. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized that this new format for conducting the meeting tonight allows for the City to continue conducting the business of the City.

Mayor Lawrence then asked Brandon Douglas to bring up the proclamation for the National Public Safety Telecommunications Proclamation and asked for adoption of the proclamation. Motion to adopt the proclamation made by Council member Sneve with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to adopt passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized Old Business for a request for special event on Main Street for car show from Donnie Fowler. Mayor asked if Mr. Fowler was present and Council member Sneve stated that Mr. Fowler was going to try to call in tonight so as to explain why they are not able to utilize the plan as approved. Further discussion held. Council member Looney provided motion to table with Council member Proctor providing second. City Attorney Syfan asked if the proposed event was scheduled during the time the City had suspended public gatherings. Council member Sneve advised that they were aware that the April event was not possible. Motion to table approved unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2020-07 for requesting to rezone Parcel No. JA11023 at 26 Hickory Street from R-1 to R-3 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas provided background on the item but advised that this request was requested for tabled until May 4, 2020.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2020-08 for requesting to rezone Parcel No. 031 003.002 at 1874 Hobson Road from C-2 to R-1 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that this item along with the next several items were under old business since procedurally they had been favorably received at the March 2, 2020 meeting and that this meeting was provided for final consideration and approval. Further discussion provided

regarding the background of the specific item. Council member Looney provided motion to approve with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2020-09 & Ordinance No. 2020-10 for requesting to rezone and annex Parcel No. JA02038 at 1343 Talking Rock Road from R-R in the County to C-2 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that this item similarly to the previous item had been favorably received and advised to move forward from March 2, 2020 meeting. Further discussion provided regarding the background of the specific item. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Proctor providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of Ordinance No. 2020-11 for City of Jasper Zoning Ordinance amendment / Zoning map approval and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that this item was necessary to procedurally move on action for the map and that it was favorably received at the previous meeting. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as an alcohol application for consideration and approval for Folksy Ventures LLC dba Waldmet Cellars at 916 Old Philadelphia Road and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that the applicant had fulfilled the obligatory advertising requirements and that all was in proper order. Council member Sneve provided motion with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as an alcohol application for consideration and approval of Texas Grill, LLC at 660 West Church Street and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that the applicant had advertised and that all was in proper order. Council member Sneve provided motion with Council member Looney providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as a Public Hearing for a proposed lease purchase agreement between City of Jasper and Bill & Connie Roland and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas provided background on the item insomuch as an authorization was provided in July 2019 by the elected to move forward with this item. Further discussion provided on background. City Attorney David Syfan advised that a public hearing was necessary prior to any consideration of a lease purchase agreement. Brandon Douglas advised that he had unmuted all participants. Mayor Lawrence called on anyone participating that would like to make public comments could do so at this time. Seeing no public for comment, Mayor Lawrence advised that he was closing that portion. Brandon Douglas advised that there were no participants asking. Further discussion conducted. Council member Looney made a motion to move forward with the agreement with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence asked about the next item and that had already been approved therefore no further need to discuss as it was already approved.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration of Ordinance No. 2020-12 Special Land Use Permit (SLUP) for Parcel No. 030D 096 153 at 858 Old Philadelphia Road, Unit #102 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas provided background on the SLUP and advised that the applicant had requested the permit at the March 24, 2020 Planning and Zoning meeting whereupon a public hearing was conducted and the applicant of Mr. Harvey provided comments on the use of light welding and fabrication. Brandon Douglas advised that there were public comments provided and those are reflected on the staff report. Further discussion held. Brandon Douglas advised that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the permit. Council member Raffield provided motion with the named conditions and Council Member Sneve provided second. Motion to approve moving forward passed unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration of Ordinance No. 2020-13 for request to rezone Parcel No. 041 062 at Hwy 53 West from C-2 to R-3 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that this item was tabled at the March 24, 2020 Planning and Zoning meeting. Council member Looney provided motion to table with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to table carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of work order with Clark Patterson and Lee for review and propose modifications to the Zoning Ordinance for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 and for staff to amend the 2020 budget for use of fund balance accordingly and asked

Council member Proctor and Raffield to discuss. Council member Proctor provided background on the item and explained the process of how the item had arrived to this point as well as the retreat direction. Further discussion conducted. Council member Proctor make recommendation to bring out of committee and fund with Council member Raffield concurring. Council member Looney made motion with Council member Foust providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of quotes for purchase and installation of playground equipment at City Park as monies encumbered through assignment of fund balance. Council member Sneve advised that there is the need to move forward with the discussion of new playground equipment and Council member Foust further advised of the need. Mayor Lawrence asked Brandon Douglas to add further discussion. Further discussion conducted. Council member Sneve made motion with Council member Proctor providing second. Motion to approve moving forward carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of expending up to \$20,000 of 2014 SPLOST proceeds for the asphaltting of the public parking area and associated concrete work at 125 N. Main St. Council member Foust advised that the City had begun work at the property and needs to move forward with the parking improvements and Council member Sneve concurred. Brandon Douglas provided further comments regarding Moss Paving of providing a 2 inch overlay of asphalt for the parking area. Further discussion provided relative to Bobby Delay conducting the concrete work of forming the curb line. Further discussion provided. Council member Sneve provided second with Council member Foust providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of \$25,000 use of 2020 Budgeted proceeds for Match Point to begin survey work (leak detection) throughout the water system as well as the use of water fund balance for 2020 for associated work by Match Point for zone meters throughout the water system and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas provided background that per last month's meeting, direction was provided to proceed in obtaining information from Match Point. Council member Raffield provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next agenda item as consideration and approval of purchasing body armor for the Jasper Police Department and amending the 2020 budget for use of fund balance. Council member Raffield advised that he had consulted with staff and Council member Looney. Council member Raffield advised that the difference between the two quotes included that Federal Eastern International provided a fitted rather than measured and as such motion made to approve the quote from Federal Eastern International \$15,170 with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of authorizing staff to assign surplus status to the items listed in the staff report and to begin preparation of an auction to be held by the City at a to be determined location, date, and time and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas provided discussion of items to review and inquired as to whether or not there was a desire to surplus the items out due to the fact that there is no longer a need for the particular item. Further discussion provided. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of extending the Professional Services Agreement with Interim Director of Finance, Sharron Burtz, in accordance with Section 2 for three (3) thirty-day renewals for a term ending July 7, 2020 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that this proposed allows for Mrs. Burtz to continue operating in her capacity as interim. Further explanation provided. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of an organizational chart for the City of Jasper. Council member Looney advised that the copy of the organizational chart is in the packet for review. This step is to continue moving forward on items previously discussed and there will be continued discussion relative to job descriptions as well. Council member Sneve concurred. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Sneve providing second. Council member Raffield asked Brandon Douglas to provide a copy of the organizational chart for review on display. Brandon Douglas provided copy for review. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of employment agreements and associated job descriptions for David Hall, Lonnie Waters, Adam Howard, Greg Lovell, Steve Roper

and authorize Mayor to execute prepared agreements and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that pursuant to direction to provide leaders within organization with an agreement of employment that sets expectations for both employee and the city. Further discussion conducted. Council member Foust provided motion with Council member Sneve provided second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of creating an account for SPLOST 2020 with Community Bank of Pickens County and to authorize the requisite signers of Mayor Lawrence, Mayor Pro-Tem Looney, City Manager Brandon Douglas, and Chief Steve Roper and asked Lindsey Williams to address. Lindsey Williams provided information that currently the Community Bank of Pickens County has the existing SPLOST account and since the 2020 SPLOST will soon begin collections, there is the need to create a separate account. Council member Looney provided motion with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously. Further motion provided to add the signers by Council member Foust with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of creating an account for sanitation at United Community Bank and to remove said sanitation account from Community Bank of Pickens County and to authorize the requisite signers of Mayor Lawrence, Mayor Pro-Tem Looney, City Manager Brandon Douglas and Chief Steve Roper and asked Lindsey Williams to address. Lindsey Williams advised that this item is to close the account to add an account to allow for better efficiency of doing business. Council member Sneve provided motion with Council member Raffield provided second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as approval of purchases of requisite chemicals for water plant and water pollution control plant in the amount of \$26,361.96 and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that a spreadsheet is included in the packet and further explanation provided. Council member Sneve provided motion with Council member Raffield provided second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as approval of water department to commence work at dredging/maintaining Long Swamp Creek at the requisite distance from the water intake and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that there's been proactive measures to provide maintenance such as the cleaning of the bypass and further discussion provided on background. Council member Looney provided motion to allocate up to \$15,000 towards the dredging and maintaining with Council member Raffield providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval for replacing the panel box for wet well at the Water Pollution Control Plant and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that there are 2 quotes in the packet, 1 from Caldwell Electrical is \$6,150, 1 from Pro Pump Solutions, Inc. was \$5,110.14. Caldwell was \$4,500.00. Further discussion conducted. Council member Foust provided motion with Council member Sneve provided second. Motion to approve up to \$6,150 carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized the next item as consideration and approval of requisite hardware to accommodate the upgrades from ETC to City Hall for Fiber Optics and associated technology costs and Mayor Lawrence advised that this initiative is very important and asked Brandon Douglas to address. Brandon Douglas advised that there are challenges associated with technology with City. Further discussion provided. Council member Raffield provided motion to approve server option number 2 and firewall option 2 for city hall with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously. Motion to gold plan provided by Council member Raffield with Council member Sneve providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously. Council member Raffield made motion to approve the technology for the police department as the same as city hall with the savings going towards a 3<sup>rd</sup> work stations with Microsoft office with Council member Looney providing second. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawrence recognized committee reports.

Council member Proctor and Council member Raffield – Council member Proctor advised that nothing much other than what was discussed. Council member Raffield advised that excited about CPL. Council member Proctor also advised that strategic plan moving forward with no deadline due to pandemic.

Council member Sneve and Council member Foust – Council member Sneve satisfied with things moving forward.

Council member Looney and Council member Sneve – Council member Looney asked for staff to continue moving forward with job descriptions and evaluation tool.

Council member Foust and Council member Proctor – Council member Foust advised that he was happy with David Hall and staff. Council member Proctor concurred and advised that he thinks that the USDA loan and grant application should be forthcoming.

Council member Raffield and Council member Looney – Council member Looney advised that a report from both chiefs included in the packets. Council member Raffield advised that he is pleased with city staff.

Brandon Douglas provided financial report.

Brief development report of permits provided.

Police and Fire report are in packets.

Council member Proctor advised that there is a daily meeting with Piedmont Hospital and community leaders. Mayor Lawrence also advised that public safety is also meeting weekly to continue addressing the COVID – 19.

Mayor Lawrence asked if there is anyone that would like to make comments. Recognizing none, Mayor Lawrence asked for motion to adjourn with Council member Looney providing and Council member Foust providing second. Motion to adjourn carried unanimously.



Steve Lawrence  
Mayor



Brandon D. Douglas  
City Manager/Interim City Clerk