

City of New Ellenton  
Regular Meeting of City Council  
City Hall Council Chambers  
Minutes

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Monday, August 16, 2010

1. **Welcome**  
Interim Mayor Braswell welcomed everyone to and called the meeting to order.
2. **Invocation**  
Vernon Dunbar offered the invocation
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Roll Call for the Record**  
**Present:** Patrick Finklin, Rex Nordeen, Daniel Braswell, Anthony Shaw, Rick Crosby, Roy Shaw  
  
**Others Present:** Assistant City Clerk Courtney Moseley, Chief Mike Kellems, Curtis Murphy, Chief Alesia Parks, Charlie Duval, Gene Smith, Glenda Henderson, Roger Henderson, Jim Bauknight, Robert Franklin, Debbie Maddox, Doris Green, Stan Garvin, Vernon Dunbar, Phil Stack, Gene Wood, Prestic Faulk, Eartha Rogers. There were others present but their names were inaudible.
5. **Approval of Financial Statements**
  - a) *July 2010* – Interim Mayor Braswell stated the financials for July were not available due to the City’s computer systems being struck by lightning. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion. ***Councilman Anthony Shaw MOVED to table the approval of July 2010 financial statements; SECONDED by Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.***
6. **Approval of Council Minutes**
  - a) *July 6, 2010 – Special Meeting.* ***Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen MOVED to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for July 6, 2010; SECONDED by Councilman Anthony Shaw. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.***
  - b) *July 19, 2010 – Work Session.* ***Councilman Finklin MOVED to approve the Work Session Minutes for July 19, 2010; SECONDED by Councilman Crosby. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.***

c) *July 19, 2010 – Regular Meeting. Councilman Anthony Shaw **MOVED** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2010. **SECONDED** by Councilman Roy Shaw. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.***

**7. New Business**

a) *Consideration of mower and equipment for Streets and Roads Department.*

Interim Mayor Braswell stated the equipment considered for purchase is a Kawasaki multi-task weedeater with an edger attachment in the amount of \$523.87 from Laid Back Services. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion. **Councilman Roy Shaw *MOVED* to purchase the Kawasaki multi-task weedeater from Laid Back Services; **SECONDED** by Councilman Crosby. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**** Interim Mayor Braswell stated the mower considered for purchase is a John Deere Z425, 23hp, V-twin 54inch, in the amount of \$4,278.00 from Lowe's. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion. **Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen *MOVED* to purchase the John Deere Z425, V-twin 54 inch lawn mower from Lowes; **SECONDED** by Councilman Finklin.** Councilman Anthony Shaw asked what type of warranty is provided on the mower. Councilman Roy Shaw stated repairs would be made through John Deere even if the mower is purchased from Lowe's. An unidentified speaker stated that warranties are provided for commercial mowers but commercial contracts for large equipment is also offered. **Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen *MOVED* to amend the motion to purchase the John Deere mower from Lowe's provided there is a 2 year service warranty regardless of cost; **SECONDED** by Councilman Crosby. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.****

b) *Consideration of bathrooms and repaving of Park.*

Councilman Finklin stated several projects are being discussed for the Park. The first project is the resealing and repainting of the lines on the basketball and tennis courts and replacing the tennis court net. Another project is to place a permanent restroom facility at Evans field. Councilman Finklin stated they are waiting on more information and quotes in order to complete the projects. Councilman Finklin stated the restroom facilities would be constructed out of block with a wood roof and shingles. Mr. Murphy stated Augusta Block would be willing to donate 15,000 blocks and 22 bags of marble.  
(No Action Taken.)

c) *Consideration for approving library lease.*

Interim Mayor called for a motion. **Councilman Anthony Shaw *MOVED* to approve the library lease; **SECONDED** by Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.****

d) *Proclamation for L.C. Greene.*

Interim Mayor Braswell stated a proclamation for Mr. L.C. Greene, who was the City of New Ellenton's Administrator, will be prepared for him and given to his family.  
(No Action Taken.)

e) *Proclamation for Reverend David Holdman.*

Interim Mayor Braswell stated a proclamation for Reverend David Holdman, who was a pastor for many years at Grace Covenant, will be prepared and presented to him.

(No Action Taken.)

f) *Consideration of amendment of Zoning Map.*

Interim Mayor Braswell stated there are two properties located on Myrtle Street zoned for a commercial district that should be zoned for residential. Interim Mayor Braswell stated Lower Savannah Council in Government suggested that City Council amend the zoning map to reflect that it was intended to be R15 residential. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion. **Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen MOVED to amend the zoning map from Lower Savannah 2008 to reflect property number 142-05-11-003, which is 109 Myrtle Street, and property number 142-05-11-002, which is 113 Myrtle Street, to show as R15 on the zoning map; SECONDED by Councilman Finklin. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

g) *Consideration of City's Banking Account.*

Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen stated proposals were presented from three different banks on what they could offer the City of New Ellenton. Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen stated that it was suggested by a retired banker, after reviewing all three proposals, that the City of New Ellenton should consider returning to First Citizens Bank. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion. **Councilman Roy Shaw MOVED that the City's funds be moved back to First Citizens in New Ellenton; SECONDED by Councilman Anthony Shaw.** Assistant City Clerk Moseley stated costs per item and fees could be an issue in the future. Assistant City Clerk Moseley stated to change banks is not financially sound from the figures presented. Interim Mayor Braswell stated that the fees for both First Citizens and Security Federal were comparable. Assistant City Clerk Moseley stated direct deposit information for payroll with First Citizens has to be submitted two business days in advance, therefore, city employees would have to be paid on Wednesday instead of Tuesday. Interim Mayor Braswell stated the City will be paying \$40.00 per month for online banking fees with First Citizens Bank. Assistant City Clerk Moseley stated changing banks would not be more convenient. Interim Mayor Braswell stated the reason for changing banks is for liability, convenience, and safety reasons. Unidentified speaker suggested the City should use the funds to improve the sidewalks in the community. Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen stated the Department of Transportation was approached, along with Lower Savannah, to obtain grants for sidewalks and road improvements. Ms. Rogers stated it is going to cost the City of New Ellenton additional money to switch banks. Assistant City Clerk Moseley explained the breakdown on the bank fees. At the present time there is no charge for direct deposit. To file payroll or direct deposit each week is \$5.00 with ten cents for 14 employees making a total of \$6.40. The monthly payroll for City Council and the Police and Fire Chiefs is approximately \$12.10 per week. Assistant City Clerk Moseley further stated with First Citizens there is an additional \$40.00 per month for online banking. There is an additional thirty cents assessed to the City for every item over 1,000 items and these costs are not being incurred by the City at the present time. Assistant City Clerk Moseley suggested omitting the gas costs and conduct banking business during the lunch break so reimbursement would not be necessary. Councilman Anthony Shaw stated that would become a liability issue. Assistant City Clerk Moseley stated the clerks are bonded and would therefore be covered. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a vote. **MOTION CARRIED on a vote of**

**5-1.** (Councilman Finklin opposed stating it would be a disadvantage to the citizens of New Ellenton.)

**8. Report from Police Chief**

Chief Parks gave stats for the month of July 2010. Chief Parks stated there was a total of 174 cases; 120- traffic cases, 32 – calls for service, 22 – warnings, 15- arrests. Chief Parks stated the ballistic vests are available for pick up as well as the rifles. Chief Parks stated they are waiting to be certified with the new rifles.

**9. Report from Fire Chief**

Chief Kellems gave stats for the month of July 2010. Chief Kellems there were 28 - medical calls, 22 – fire calls. Chief Kellems stated a question and answer session was conducted with the Home Owners Association at South Meadows. Chief Kellems stated a search and rescue class will be conducted by the fire department and Cedar Creek subdivision at the Cedar Creek community building on September 25, 2010. Chief Kellems stated the New Ellenton police and fire departments have been invited to attend the annual 9-11 ceremony at Lakeside Church in Clearwater on September 19, 2010. Chief Kellems stated the fire department has six new members and are attending a First Responder certification class.

**10. Report from Committees**

a) *Administration* – Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen stated City Clerk Sanders has had surgery on her wrist.

b) *Fire Department* – No Report.

c) *Police Department* – No Report.

d) *Streets and Roads and Parks* – Mr. Murphy stated all of the debris has been cut away from the sidewalks on Old Whiskey Road and the grass was cut. Mr. Murphy stated they are now raking straw from the sidewalks on South Boundary.

e) *Sewer and Sanitation* – No Report.

f) *Recreation* – Mr. Murphy stated there were approximately 42 football players and 25 cheerleaders. Registration is \$50.00 per child for football and \$25.00 per child for cheerleaders with \$70.00 for the cost of uniforms. Mr. Murphy stated a meeting is scheduled at the Aiken Public Safety to discuss the \$5.00 charge per player to enter into the Aiken league. Councilman Finklin stated the School Board has hired a contractor to begin construction of the concession stand in the next couple months. Mr. Murphy stated three home games for football have been scheduled with the new Aiken league but the playoffs have not been decided.

**11. Executive Session – Legal Matters (Lawsuit) and Planning Commissioners**  
**Councilman Anthony Shaw MOVED to enter Executive Session to discuss legal matters on a lawsuit and Planning Commissioners; SECONDED by Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**  
**Councilman Anthony Shaw MOVED to exit Executive Session; SECONDED by Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** Interim Mayor Braswell stated during the Executive Session a pending law suit was discussed with no action taken. Interim Mayor Braswell stated one of the Planning Commissioners was also discussed. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a motion of action regarding the Planning Commissioner. **Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen MOVED to remove Prestic Faulk from the Planning Commission per the Comprehensive Planning Guide, Item #5, Page 6 the removal of governed body may remove for cause any member it's appointed; SECONDED by Councilman Roy Shaw.** Mayor Pro Tem Nordeen stated to Mr. Faulk that his years of service were appreciated. Mr. Faulk stated he hopes this will apply to others because everyone is in noncompliance. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a vote. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12. Adjournment**  
**Councilman Anthony Shaw MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Councilman Crosby.** Councilman Finklin explained the reason for Mr. Faulk’s removal from the Planning Commission by saying there were training requirements that were not met by Mr. Faulk. Councilman Finklin further explained in one of the Planning Commission meetings that Mr. Faulk acted in an unprofessional abrupt manner. Interim Mayor Braswell stated most of the Planning Commissioners are new and are scheduled in August to attend training in Columbia. Interim Mayor Braswell called for a vote. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.** Approved. Meeting adjourned.

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**Mayor’s Signature**

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**Date**

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**Municipal Clerk Signature**

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**Date**