

Regular Meeting of City Council  
New Ellenton Community Center  
MINUTES

Monday, April 19 2021

7:00 PM

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**WELCOME:** Mayor Vernon Dunbar

**INVOCATION:** Crystal Bing-Smith

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All Stood

**ROLL CALL FOR THE RECORD:**

**Council present** – Vernon Dunbar, Terence Williams, Ron Reynolds, Faye, Durham, Carl Culpepper III, Jason Morgan, Crystal Bing-Smith

**Others present** –Zorayda El, Roger Leduc, Maria Tamimi-Bush, Geraldyne Bradham, Joshua Duval, David Alexander, Chief Mike Kellems, Kelly Keenan, Kendrick Patterson, Geneva Jackson(after roll-call), Gail Diggs(after roll-call), Collin Fullam

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**\*Geraldyne S. Bradham-** Suggested Change in Operating Procedures for the Community Center to allow political parties to meet at reduced or no cost to the party. \*Council discussed the option of reduced or no cost to political parties to hold meetings and council agreed. \*Political parties will be charged \$25 per use for Community Center

**\*Joshua Duval-**stated that at the time he was on council there was a vote to allow political party meetings to be held at Community Center for a reduced price had he felt the cost should have been free.

**\*Kelly Keenan-**stated that he has been paying for sewer for a long time and the service isn't available at the properties where he's paid. He has paid at least \$4500 for septic tank and drain field at one of the properties. He will bring a list to City Hall of the properties in order to determine which ones have sewer availability because tap hasn't been able to be located. If the tap is found, the payments made over the years should equate to tap fee. \* Roger stated that the information from the sewer survey should show where the homes are in perspective to the sewer lines, but it is an ongoing process and will take more time to complete the mapping. He is in hopes that funding becomes available so more of the steps that are in place to have final mapping will continue to be completed.

**\*Collin Fullam-**stated that he received a smaller Waste Management can and would like to have a correct size can. \*Contact with Waste Management determined that he received the same standard size can of 90 gallons that every resident with service has received. Also, with new MOU agreement there will be cans delivered to every resident, in hopes to have it completed by July 2021.

**\*David Alexander-** stated that first session of golf has gone well. All the children that participated enjoyed the session at Houndslake. There is a planned meeting with Aiken Youth Football League to hopefully solidify a football season. Also, he will check with YMCA about swimming classes.

**\*Geneva Jackson-**asked how are additional homes being added to sewer in The Pines going to cause any issues to existing sewer line? When will survey be available for residents that would like to tap into sewer?

\*Roger replied that the sewer is already available in The Pines and has no impact on sewer line. Questions have been answered and it looks promising to get \$500,000 IRA grant to be coupled with USDA loan.

Information about IRA grant should be available within the next 30 days. Current survey will find tap, depth and lines with camera. The basis is starting from zero because there are no reliable mapping lines available.

\*Mayor replied that after grant information and loan information is received the survey will be developed for mapping.

**\*Gail Diggs-Aiken County Council/Crowning Lupus-** As an 8 year board member for Crowning Lupus, she has come as the representative to ask that Council allow the organization of Crowning Lupus to continue to use the Community Center for the annual Back-2-School drive they have done in the city for the last 3 years

to provide food, hygiene and school supplies to over 500 families in the community. The event is scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021. \*Council approved the date and use of facilities.

**\*Mike Kellems(Fire Chief)-** stated the New Ellenton Fire Department is the recipient of the "Be Safe Grant" for \$29,340 that will be used to purchase dryer to enable faster use of gear.

Truck 2, 2014 F550, has been sold and will be replaced with standard truck.

ISO Rating is in and will go into effect after 6/1/21 and letter to 760 residents that will allow a significant decrease in insurance.

There will be a line item added to show monies that will be held in a contingency fund that will go toward payment of debt for fire truck at a later date.

**\*Roger Leduc(City Administrator)-**stated that at least 25% of residents that are on water are not on sewer or sanitation. He will be checking to make sure billing is done properly before cans are brought to residents that aren't on list. Sewer customers, where available, will be billed.

Replacements have been done to 1<sup>st</sup> pond and the 2<sup>nd</sup> pond will need replacement pumps and irrigation.

Grants are going to be used to upgrade. Questions have been answered and it looks promising to get \$500,000 IRA grant to be coupled with USDA loan. Information about IRA should be available within the next 30 days. Around 55% of the city has availability to access sewer and the remaining residents is what we would like to have brought into the system, if possible.

### **APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

March 15, 2021- Regular Meeting

*Motion to approve:* Jason Morgan

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Terence Williams

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of City/CPW Agreement

*Motion to approve:* Ron Reynolds

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Jason Morgan

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

2. Vote to Contract Painters for the Community Center

*Motion to approve:* Crystal Bing-Smith

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Terence Williams

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval for Handyman Kings in the amount of \$12, 455.95*

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance to Approve Engineering Plans for Section 5 of The Pine

*Motion to approve:* Jason Morgan

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Terence Williams

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

2. Discuss Proposal for Press Box at NEMS

*Motion to approve:* Jason Morgan

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Terence Williams

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval for Sightlines Athletic Facilities, LLC in the amount of \$88, 172*

3. Vote on Estimates for Gutters and Downspouts for City Hall

*Motion to approve:* Terence Williams

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Ron Reynolds

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to TABLE*

4. Discuss Estimate from Great Outdoors Play- Evans Park(4 benches, 8 section swing, basketball/soccer combo)

*Motion to approve: Jason Morgan*

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion: Terence Williams*

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval \$12, 284*

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

**\*Terence Williams:** ACTS food drive will be held 4/23/21 and they will bring food on Thursday afternoon. Four Mile and Zion Fair are collaborating with ACTS to distribute food.

**\*Faye Durham-**Car show will be held 5/22/21 with food trucks (for purchase) and giveaways.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds*

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion: Terence Williams*

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INFORMATION:**

**Supporting materials attached:**

Letter from Geraldine S. Bradham

CPW Ordinance

Quotes for Community Center painting

Sightlines Athletic Facilities Proposal

Estimates- Gutter Install

Great Outdoors play- Estimate

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk Signature/Date

  
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Mayor/Date