

Regular Meeting of City Council
New Ellenton Community Center
MINUTES

Monday, Oct 18, 2021

7:05 PM

WELCOME: Mayor Vernon Dunbar

INVOCATION: Roger Leduc

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All Stood

ROLL CALL FOR THE RECORD:

Council present – Vernon Dunbar, Ron Reynolds, Carl Culpepper III, Terence Williams

Others present – Chief Alesia Parks, Kendrick Patterson, Elvira Johnson-Holley, Pastor Debra Creech, Bobby Nicholson, Joshua Solomon, Jay Ray, Sergeant Jeremy Frank, Sergeant James Mitchell, Shaquille Lewis, Jermaine Patterson, Kimberly Williams, Maria Tamimi-Bush, Trey Stevens, Geneva Jackson, Zorayda El, Roger Leduc

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

***Jermaine Patterson-** started a non-profit called The Real Dreamerz and proposes that the city start a flea-market to bring the community and neighboring cities out for support and inspire the local economy. He proposes that the market be open on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month in Evans Park and the profits from the selling of spaces can be shared between the non-profit and the city. There has been a 250 signature support for the market from the community. (Roger, City Admin., suggested there be a memorandum of understanding drafted with details of the events to include that there may be a need for special event insurance. Parks & Recreation should meet with Jermaine to further discuss the plans for the market.) Mentioned during later discussion-someone should walk beside the last vehicle in parade lineup or a separate flatbed to give out candy.

***Geneva Jackson-** Grateful for Real Dreamerz plan to do something for the city and community. December 2nd is the annual Tree Lighting and December 4th is the annual Christmas Parade.

***Elvira Johnson-Holley-** would like to promote New Ellenton as a more family friendly place to include events like a movie night, for example. Suggested later in meeting-there should be multiple people to give candy during annual parade so there may be less liability for the city.

***Bobby Nicholson-** resident of the city for 15 years (in support of Pastor Debra Creech)

***Pastor Debra Creech-** Pastor of church on Risher Avenue & new to the area. Wanted to know what the city guidelines are for cleaning of properties. She is experiencing issues with the area behind her building and would like to have standards be kept for everyone throughout the community so that all the properties are well maintained. (Council advised that Chief Parks would be the point of contact for any properties that may be a nuisance.)

***Jay Ray-**Suggested that someone can be a buffer for the attendees and vehicles that would give out candy directly to people during annual parade.

***Kendrick Patterson-**suggested the area for play discussed during the townhomes was a great idea.

***Chief Alesia Parks-** Introduction of new certified police officer Joshua Solomon, from Saluda. He has 14 years of experience as an officer. There are two candidates at the academy in the second week with 6 weeks remaining.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Sept.20, 2021- Regular Meeting

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Terence Williams

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval w/correction under Discussion of Atomic City Festival 5-1 opposing vote in favor of approval for the City to sponsor the Rock Climbing Wall \$2977.88 and Bouncy Houses \$1750

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. First Reading of Ordinance to Adopt a Revised Business License Ordinance

Motion to approve: Terence Williams

2nd to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

2. Discussion of Town Homes at The Pines- *There needs to be a change from area in front of The Pines from commercial to residential for the building of 138 two-story townhomes with garages and some one-story units to be built that may have options for seniors. There will be planted buffers or some type of buffer between townhomes and single family homes. Developer may consider ½-1 acre for open area for park. Purchase price will be in the range of \$160-\$170,000. City has no townhome standards & this is new for the city. 11/15 will be the next Planning Commission Meeting where there will be conditions discussed that will be ready to be presented to council. There will be a lift station for the new development. The plans for the townhomes will be available at City Hall if anyone would like to take a closer look.
3. Discuss Hiring a Recreation Director- Recreation Director @ a rate of \$850/month or \$10,200/year

Motion to approve: Terence Williams

2nd to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

4. Discuss Hazard Pay-City received funding for ARP allowing council to give hazard pay to employees that worked during onset of COVID-19 in 2020

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval \$4000/employee to be paid the week before Thanksgiving

5. Discuss Christmas Bonus
No discussion or vote taken

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

***Vernon Dunbar-** ACTS food drive will be the 3rd Friday of the month in November and December. Election will be on November 2nd, 2021.

***Terence Williams-** Suggested giving candy at the annual tree lighting to avoid liability of throwing candy at the parade. Announcer's booth won't be completed before December or January because the availability of materials to complete are scarce.

***Carl Culpepper, III-** Suggested that The Pines have the roads widened or any option to allow for emergency vehicles to have access. Suggested that there be cones to close off outside lanes during annual Christmas parade.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to exit executive session & adjourn

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discuss Personnel Issue

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Terence Williams

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to enter executive session

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to raise the salary of the Fire Chief to \$50,000 and to adjust the budget accordingly

INFORMATION:

General Election – November 2, 2021

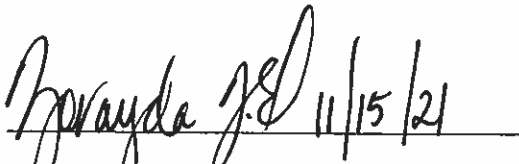
Supporting materials attached:

Ordinance #11-15-2021

2022 Model Business License Ordinance

PD Revision Narrative for The Pines at White Pond

Compliance and Reporting Guidance



City Clerk Signature/Date



Mayor/Date