

Regular Meeting of City Council
New Ellenton Community Center
MINUTES
Monday, Nov. 15, 2021 7:03 PM

WELCOME: Vernon Dunbar

INVOCATION: Crystal Bing-Smith

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All Stood

ROLL CALL FOR THE RECORD:

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

Others present – Zorayda El, Roger Leduc, Geneva Jackson, Shaquille Lewis, Debra Creech, Bobby Nicholson, Maria Tamimi-Bush, Michelle Springsteen, Ricky Foster, Mike Kellems, Mrs. Foster, Alqueena Bey, David Alexander, Camille Furguille

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

***Camille Furguille-** Worked closely with council over the years. Thanked Ron, Crystal, Terence and Mayor Dunbar for their service and dedication to the city. Traffic signal @ Eagle Road and Whiskey will begin Feb, March or April of 2022, tentatively. Aiken County is in the first stage of getting traffic light project moving and they have been asked to make it a priority. The design for storm water drainage has presented issues. The study of incorporated areas of Whiskey Rd. and redistricting conversion has begun and there has been discussion of 1700 people being moved, but Camille assured council that New Ellenton's district will remain whole.

***David Alexander-** The football season had 128 children participants (football/cheerleading) and no fees were charged which enabled more families an opportunity to sign their children up for the program. There were proceeds from 4 concessions and hopes to have home games next year. The end of the year pizza party on 10/30/21 was a success.

***Pastor Debra Creech-** Appealed to Aiken County Tax Assessor to have tax liability lowered. She would like to have area clean-up of properties throughout the city be a priority to council.

***Michelle Springsteen-** Resident of The Pines and would not like to have the addition of townhomes in subdivision because it is dangerous that there will be no separate exit or entry for the addition and she questioned the zoning. Roger, City Administrator, told Michelle that the area for the townhomes is zoned commercial and if townhomes aren't approved the builders will be able to do a commercial build.

***Mike Kellems, Fire Chief/CPW Commissioner-** There have been issues with the completion of the CPW audit & there has been a decision to use a new auditor: Highsmith & Highsmith. *Water issues in Cedar Creek will effect water in The Pines-there is a study being done by DHEC but the results and progress haven't been shared.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Oct.18, 2021- Regular Meeting

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Terence Williams

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

2. Vote on Amount for Christmas Bonus

Motion to approve: Terence Williams

2nd to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval for \$4,000 to be received in December from ARP funding for hazard employees

3. Vote on Hiring Recreation Director

Motion to approve: Terence Williams

2nd to the motion: Crystal Bing-Smith

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to move discussion into executive session

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Vote to Amend New Ellenton Ordinance Section 2-22 Oath of Office

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval; *Special Council Meeting scheduled for 11/29 @ 6pm for Second Reading*

2. Discuss Landscape in Front of City Hall

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Terence Williams

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

3. Vote on request to allow Crowing Lupus to use Community center for Back-to-School Giveaway August 13th, 2022

Motion to approve: Crystal Bing-Smith

2nd to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

ADJOURNMENT

Hiring of David Alexander as Recreation Director @ \$850/month starting 12/1/21

Motion to approve: Terence Williams

2nd to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

Motion to approve Adjournment: Ron Reynolds

2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Police Department Matter-No discussion

Hiring of Recreation Director-no votes taken during executive session

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Faye Durham

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

INFORMATION:

Supporting materials attached:

- Ordinance #11-15-2021
- Ordinance #11-29-21-2
- 2022 Model Business License Ordinance
- Cold Creek Nurseries Estimates

Zorayda JRL 12/20/21
City Clerk Signature/Date

Kimberly Williams 12/20/21
Mayor/Date