

**Regular Meeting of City Council
New Ellenton City Hall
Monday, April. 18, 2022 7:00 PM**

WORK SESSION:

Discussion of Council Meeting Protocol

No votes taken during work session

WELCOME: Mayor Kimberly Williams

INVOCATION: Pastor Debra Creech

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All Stood

COUNCIL ROLL CALL:

Council Present: Kendrick Patterson; Kimberly Williams; Carl Culpepper, III; Faye Durham; Jason Morgan; Ricky Foster

Council Not Present- Elvira Johnson-Holley

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

***Thomas Springsteen-**Happy to hear New Ellenton got consulting firm to assist in bringing prospective businesses to area. Asked council to send letter to elected officials to maybe reconsider previous "no" vote for ARPA funds and let them know how city is using received funds. Springsteen was concerned that during December meeting there seemed to be a lot of tension between Mayor, council, Chief of Police and Lt. Mitchell and not long after that Chief retired and Lt. Mitchell found another job. It seemed strange to lose so many officers in the first couple months. In speaking with another officer, he stated that he worked 127 hours in one week and on the New Ellenton website there was a posting that a woman called police and it took 22 minutes for an officer to respond and when responding, it was an Aiken county Sheriff because there wasn't a New Ellenton officer on duty. Residents of the city would like an explanation about why officers were let go. *Mayor Kim Williams-they didn't let anyone go; Chief Parks retired and Mitchell left. Currently in hiring process and had a campaign promise to build a safe, dedicated police force with 24 hour coverage. City has gone a long time without 24 hour coverage. Many interviews for new Chief of Police and officers; there is a new chief: Chief Middleton (Shawn), Officer Frank has been appointed Captain, Solomon is still with us, hired two part-time: Hugh Ray is coming back and another part-time officer and another officer.

***Mike Postalis-** there is too much traffic in front of his home. Christ Central traffic would be safer to enter/exit another way through Whiskey Rd and not through the private road of Talatha.

***Pastor Debra Creech-**representing co-founder; Pastor Jim who could not be in attendance-Talatha, with information certified by Aiken county court maps, is not a private road, serves through traffic and is open to the public. Doing everything in order; Foreman Memorial Church can attest to use of road. *Carl Culpepper, III-isn't there a camper there? *Pastor Creech-Yes, it's blocked; camper is there. According to ordinance 8-5-14 everything regarding that road and derelict structures is listed in the ordinance and it is a public road. Savannah River Site donating all paint and electrical. Begging council to get involved about homeless people living in the woods; Foreman Memorial is a big help. Everything is needed in terms of support for Christ Central. *Mayor Kim Williams-excited to have Christ Central back; 70 year anniversary of the city. Whomever wants to participate in the big event can let event committee know and they will be glad to have support.

***Jeanne Martin & Lawrence Martin-**Moved from Augusta to New Ellenton. According to Aiken county, Talatha is a private road; they hand shoveled the road because county said it was private. Allowed friend to park camper on road in front of their property in the road for a number of months. There were people racing through the road and leaving trash that were using food bank at Christ Central and didn't want it to be a drive through for traffic. Aiken county named road Talatha. *Chief Middleton-Will contact SCDOT to determine if it is a private or public road. Camper in the road has to be moved if it is in the middle of the road; will be red tagged and have 7 days to move. *Mayor Kim Williams-will handle issue with police/council/fire and contact parties after. *Mike Kellems-E-911 put names on roads for EMS and Fire to be able to determine where they are going in case of emergency.

*Geraldine Bradham-worked at post office in 1968 and Talatha has been a street. Issue should have been taken care of before this council.

***Marty Dubber**-there is a 30ft. camper in the middle of Talatha and that is the main issue.

***Renee' Rouse**-There was an issue about Facebook post concerning children on dirt bikes riding on Fern St. Whoever is on the New Ellenton Police department page is rude. There was a public event going on and the bike riders took the same route. Issue that Aiken Electric cut trees and didn't take them. What is council's plan? *Mayor KimWilliams-traffic laws and safety have to be followed; several situations with racing and officers will be handling the situations. Council plans to address: 1)strong police force, 2)sewage system, 3)homes falling down, 4)old Popeyes; personally called left message for property to be cleaned. The realtor, Ms. Daly said the property is under the due diligence stage. There are rumors and feels town will be excited about what may come next.

***David Alexander(Recreation Director/Coach)**-golf program has started and will be the end of May through June; the second session doesn't have a date, yet. There are talented children participating. *Mayor KimWilliams-several individuals contacted that would like to participate.

***Al Jenkins**-Constituent service representative from the office of Tim Scott-all things federal; none political. There are federal grants available for youth programs and may have resources for possible recruitment. Hopes that city will receive and be happy with SRS settlement monies/dispersement.

***Kevin Ingram**-Is there an opportunity for him to apply for recreation position? What is the timeframe for committee to be formed concerning recreation? There is a lot of work to do and he has influence. Would like community to have a "say so" for recreation director. *Mayor Kim Williams-there may be a possibility in the future for that role; would like to expand beyond football and 1st tee programs and will take everyone's suggestions. There is a public meeting at Chukker Creek from 5-7pm addressing Eagle & Whiskey Rd. project.

*Jason Morgan-there needs to be a meeting with Coach David about youth recreation committee. *Renee Rouse-understands where Kevin is coming from; feels there can be another sport. Has no problem volunteering and currently volunteers on the committee for special events. *Shadavia Pruitt-would like to volunteer; what is the status of the Eagle & Whiskey Rd. project?

***Shawn Middleton(Police Chief)**- A lot done with the new systems; new computer systems; looking forward to new team that will be proactive; will need grant writers.

***Mike Kellems(Fire Chief)**-127 calls for service*fire incident report referenced will be available on www.newellentonsc.com* draft of budget update shows \$7,000 more in revenue; \$15,000 short in fiscal budget year and will get to expected budgeted revenue. Received 9 sets of gear from Safe Gear Grant.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES:

Regular Council Meeting March 21, 2022

Motion to approve: Faye Durham

2nd to the motion: Kendrick Patterson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

Special Council Meeting April 5, 2022

Motion to approve: Faye Durham

2nd to the motion: Kendrick Patterson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. First Reading Approval of Election Ordinance Amendment

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Jason Morgan

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

2. Approval of Playground Equipment Proposal from USA Play

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Kendrick Patterson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

3. Add Odor Abatement Plan to Agenda
Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Jason Morgan
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

4. Odor Abatement Plan-\$5,500 to Turnipseed Engineers
Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III
2nd to the motion: Ricky Foster
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval to pay \$5,500 to Turnipseed Engineers for odor abatement plan

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

***Kendrick Patterson**-working with Aiken Electric Coop to get new lights.
***Carl Culpepper, III**- Good or bad; glad to have people coming out and they are doing everything for community. Congratulations to Middleton; wants to get city back to the way it was years ago.
***Mayor Kim Williams**- Thank you to everyone that sent concerns/comments during time of bereavement; Wants to make community better.

ADJOURNMENT @8:02PM:

Motion to approve: Faye Durham
2nd to the motion: Carl Culpepper, III
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *minutes at and after this point taken by City Administrator. Kenneth Cook*

Discussion(s) of a Personnel Nature.
 Vote(s) May be Taken After Coming out of Executive Session
 Ricky Foster made a motion to come out of executive session. Jason Morgan seconded and it was passed unanimously. Council came out of session at 8:37 PM.

Faye Durham made a motion to allow the remaining Council members, after excluding Council members who are volunteer firemen, to vote on a measure to allow a quorum of the remaining City Council members to vote to give Premium pay totaling \$18,000 from the ARPA Funds to volunteer firemen excluding volunteer firemen that are New Ellenton Council members. Kendrick Patterson seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Faye Durham made a motion to vote to give Premium pay from ARPA totaling \$18,000 to volunteer firemen excluding volunteer firemen that are New Ellenton Council members. Mayor Williams seconded and it was unanimously approved. Administrator Kenneth Cook was to give the breakdown for each eligible volunteer firemen to the City Clerk so she can schedule to get the premium pay to each eligible volunteer with the correct amount for each one.

ADJOURNMENT:

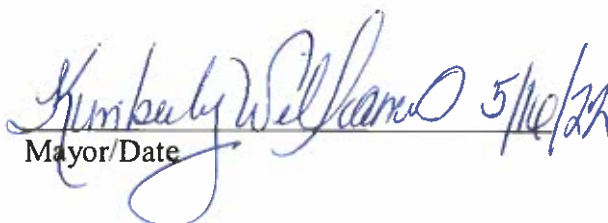
Jason Morgan made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Carl Culpepper. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

INFORMATION:

Supporting materials attached:

Election Ordinance Amendment
 Picture of Playground Equipment


 City Clerk/Signature/Date


 Mayor/Date

Agency: New Ellenton Fire Department

<u>Nature of Incident</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
Accident	2
Accident with Injuries	6
Alarm	1
Altered Mental	3
Anaphylactic	2
Apnea	1
Chest Pain	7
Cold Flu Symptoms	1
Coronary Problems	4
Electrocution	1
EMS Assault	1
Fainting	1
Fire Alarm	1
Fire Brush	9
Fire Other	7
Fire Roadway Obstruction	3
Fire Structure	1
Fire Vehicle	9
Fracture	1
Head Injury	1
Hypertension High BP	5
Hyperventilation	5
Hypotension Low BP	1
Laceration	2
OB Prenatal	1
Overdose	2
Pain	4
Respiratory Distress	6
Roadway Obstruction	3
Seizure	1
Spinal Injury	2
Unconscious	18
Unknown Medical Complaint	2
Vomiting	3
Weakness Dizziness	4
Total Incidents for this Agency:	7
	127
