

Council Meeting  
May 8, 2017

Easley City Council met on May 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the court room of the LEC. All members were present except Councilman Robinson, he was absent. The press was notified. Lisa Chapman, City Clerk, served as the recording secretary.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Rev. Keith Shorter Pastor of Mt. Airy Baptist Church gave the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance

The minutes from the April meeting were approved as written.

Mayor Bagwell called on council for their reports.

Ward 1: No Report

Ward 2: Councilman Dykes: This is a great area to live in. It has been nice seeing people out on the trails enjoying the outdoors. The cleanup day was a success. Eight and half tons of garbage was collected plus what the shred truck did. Earth day was an excellent time to have this event.

Ward 3: Councilman Mann: Agreed with Councilman Dyke's comments. Welcomed Rev. Artis Buford and his family to the meeting.

Ward 4: Councilman Moore: No report

Ward 5: Councilman Wright: No report. There needs to be a better way to communicate with Ward 5 about cleanup day. Maybe next year flyers can be put out in their mailboxes.

Ward 6: Councilman Robinson: Absent

Mayor Bagwell called on City Administrator Stephen Steese for his report. The contractor started today sandblasting the train cars. We are still working to get awards from the State. The interviews for a Finance Director have been completed and a decision has been made. The person will start in July. The band this Friday at Music on the Market is Magic. Split Shot will perform on May 29<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day. Expenses are still under budget. Revenues are ahead of where we were last year. The finance department is still in the process of collecting business licenses. Money from the MASC will come at the end of the fiscal year.

Citizens wishing to address council: Terry Garrison introduced our local beauty queens. They will compete in the Miss SC pageant starting June 20<sup>th</sup> with the finals on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Miss Great Easley is Breanna Horrell she is 19 yr old from Columbia, a student at Mars Hill University majoring in Health and Wellness promotions and will be clogging for her talent.

Miss Greater Easley Teen, Sarah Wrenn is 16 yr old from Columbia. She is promoting literacy in early childhood. She has worked with Pickens County First Steps to get books for students. Miss Powdersville, Johanna Davis is from Irmo and a student at Clemson. She is a rally cat and her platform is stepping in when others step out. Miss Powdersville Teen, Morgan Norris, is a student a Blue Ridge High School. She was diagnosed with stage 3 blood cancer at age 10. Her platform is childhood cancer. Savannah Kelly, Miss SC Apple Festival is a student at Wahalla High School and her platform is helping children with disabilities.

Kim Kelly asked for council to consider rezoning 301 Pelzer Hwy to general commercial.

Presentations: None

Old Business: Ordinance No. 2017- 04 To amend code 94.33 (prohibition of smoking in enclosed public places) and 94.37 (where smoking not regulated) in the City of Easley's Code of Ordinances. Councilman Garrison made the motion to bring to floor for discussion, with a second from Councilman Moore. Councilman Mann researched our codes and Section 9 of the current ordinance states the owner of a facility can make it nonsmoking if they choose. So it would appear we already have something in place. Tommy Holcombe gave a brief explanation of why this was brought before council. Councilman Mann stated he feels like the club owners are wanting us to do the dirty work. These places are private for a reason, we can't go in there without a membership. This is over reaching on a private business. Councilman Moore asked if we could get Attorney Allison's opinion. He agrees with Councilman Mann with the understanding of the current ordinance. Councilman Dykes stated if it is a private club they can smoke or not. If the establishment was to change ownership the new owner can change it. Councilman Moore stated he had had people calling him in favor of this. Councilman Mann stated there is no need for a new ordinance, it is over governance. One club owner is against this and he is being forced into something that he doesn't want. Mayor Bagwell stated it was very heated when the first ordinance went through. He agreed with Councilman Mann, we shouldn't tell a private clubs what to do. Mayor Bagwell stated this is a public hearing and any one can speak o this subject. No one came forward. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion failed 2-4 with Councilman Robinson being absent.

New Business: Ordinance No. 2017-06 to rezone approximately .48 acres of real property located 301 Pelzer Highway Easley, South Carolina 29642 from GR-10 to GC (tax map number 5018-12-95-1958). Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Dykes. Councilman Mann asked Mr. Holcombe how the planning commission voted on this rezoning. He stated it was 2-1 against the rezoning. Councilman Mann lives close to the property and traffic down Hwy 8 from 7:00-9:00 a.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m. is terrible. Unbelievable the amount of traffic with three schools on Hwy 8. Adding a car lot would add to the traffic problem. On that side of the road from the church up there is residential. Councilman Mann stated he could not vote to approve. Mayor Bagwell stated the school district was supposed to have lane to unload and pick up but they didn't do it. Councilman Mann stated there is heavy traffic without school traffic. Councilman Dykes called for the question and the motion failed 0-6 with Councilman Robinson being absent.

Ordinance No. 2017-07 Approving the financing of the improvements, extension and enlargement of the Combined Utility System of the City of Easley, South Carolina, through the borrowing by the City of not exceeding \$3,500,000, including capitalized interest, if any, from the State Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund, by agreement with the South Carolina Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Authority. Councilman Dykes made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Wright. Mr. Steese called on Andy Sevic with Easley Combined Utility to give a brief explanation. The project will cost about four

million, part of the money will come out of their funds. The interest rate is approximately 1.9% for thirty years. This is a rehab project for Arial Mill Sewer. The second ordinance is 4.5 mil for eight different projects that are sewer related. Some are new projects, some are rehab projects. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilman Robinson being absent.

Ordinance No. 2017-08 A thirteenth supplemental ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of City of Easley, South Carolina, Combined Utility System Revenue Bonds, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$9,500,000. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve and called for the question with a second from Councilman Dykes, the motion passed 6-0 with Councilman Robinson being absent.

Ordinance No. 2017-05 to provide for the adoption of a city operating budget, its execution and effect, for the fiscal period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Councilman Wright made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese gave a budget presentation. Councilman Garrison asked if there were any changes from the workshop. There were none. Councilman Moore suggested that salaries should be revisited for other departments. Councilman Mann stated we discussed that at the workshop that we could revisit that in the middle of the year. Mr. Steese stated the budget is a fluid document and can be changed. Councilman Garrison stated he felt other departments had the opportunity to submit something. Mayor Bagwell agreed with treating others fairly and Mr. Steese does also. The police committee came back with a complete recommendation. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilman Robinson being absent.

Resolution No. 2017-05: To designate May 11-17, 2017 as Peace Officers' Memorial Week. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Dykes. Mayor Bagwell called for the question and the motion passed 6-0. Mayor Bagwell then presented a proclamation to Chief Tollison and members of the police force.

Motion to adjourn at 8:00 by Councilman Mann.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk