Council Meeting

May 11, 2015

The Easley City Council met on May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.  All members were present. Lisa Chapman served as the recording secretary.

The news media is notified in case of a called meeting.  All regular meetings are on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and all of the media has been notified. Ben Robinson with the Pickens County Courier was present.

Mayor Bagwell called the public meeting to discuss the FY15/16 City of Easley Budget, to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor explained there was no tax increase and a 2% pay raise for employees. Councilman Garrison said he was satisfied with the budget. It was fair, not everything the departments asked for but a good budget. Councilman Dykes said he was pleased with the budget. Commended former administrator Fox Simons and Department Heads for a good budget. Councilman Mann 2nd the comments by other two councilmen and is amazed that we can get things done on the budget we have. Thanked departments and employees for working within the budget.

Vicki Ciplickas asked about the hospitality budget on page C4 1. Miscellaneous:  Would like to know where that money is going? Why is miscellaneous so high? Councilman Mann said that the $540600 for Parks & Rec is a change in the state law allowing us to add more to this fund. Mayor said he would call Fox Simons and get more definite answers for her.

Mayor closed the public meeting at 7:25. He then called the regular meeting to order.

Rev. Chris Walker, Pastor of George’s Creek Baptist Church gave the invocation.

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes and they stand approved.

Mayor Bagwell called for reports from Council Members:

Ward 1: No report

Ward 2: Councilman Dykes thanked the Public Works Department on the great job that was done for the Easley Pride Clean up week. 13.25 tons of trash was collected. Shred truck was a big success. We are planning another event next year.

Ward 3: There will be a public input meeting at the Dream Center, to discuss the Doodle Trail, at 6:00 p.m. May 26th. This is the last meeting for Chief Traber, would like to thank him for his serve to the city of Easley, and wished him well in his retirement.

Ward 4: A new drug store is planning on opening in the old Shadyside Florist building. This will be a good addition to that area.

Ward 5: Thanked Chief Womack for lowering ISO rating to a 2, that is a great job and good for the citizens. We now have the same rating as Greenville. Thanked Chief Traber for his service

Ward 6: Thought Vicky Ciplickas had a good question and he looks forward to hearing the answer.

Council Meeting

May 11, 2015

Page 2

Presentations: Recognized members of Troop 37, Chris Baker working on his comm-

unications badge, Dalton Baker working on his citizenship in the community badge.

Ordinance No. 2015-01 to adopt an update to the City of Easley Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 158 of the City Code of Ordinances. Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to floor for discuss with a second from Councilman Garrison.  The committee that was appointed to look at the ordinance has some changes. To amendment section 4. 11.2 #6 changing tax value from 50% to 25%. The committee also recommends changing 4.11.1 # 1 & 2 change from five years to January 1, 2021.  Councilman Mann was the chair of this committee.  This is for General Commercial and any signs (height and size and when those guidelines have to be met) except signs in the TIF district. Councilman Garrison called for the question. The amendments passed 7-0.  Councilman Mann called for the question on the amended ordinance, the motion passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-02 to authorize the sale of real property at 109 Turner St. Easley, S.C., Tax Map No. 5029-10-46-9109 Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Mann. This will take this out of the city's name and get it back on the tax rolls. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-03 to authorize the sale of real property at 136 Glenwood Rd, Easley SC, Tax Map No. 5029-10-37-2250. Councilman Moore excused himself for the vote and left the room due to a family member purchasing this property. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Robinson, Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilman Moore abstaining.

Ordinance No. 2015-04: To provide for the adoption of a city operating budget, its execution and effect, for the fiscal period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Councilman Wright made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second

From Councilman Garrison. Mayor said he would apologize to Vicky and he would

get an answer for her. Councilman Dykes stated that area was just a small section of

a very large budget. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion

passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2015-05: To annex certain pieces, parcels or lots of land lying situate and being in the State of SC, County of Pickens, being shown and designated as Tax map Number 5038-19-51-8957 and lying on the Southwest side of Crestview Road and to provide a zoning designation of Residential 7.5. Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Dykes. Mayor called on Building Official Tommy

Council Meeting

May 11, 2015

Page 3

Holcombe to explain. This property is by Blue Ridge Nursing Home. They have tried several times to get this property in the city limits. A local developer (Danny Youngblood) will be working on this project. The Planning Commission was ok with it. The zoning of 7.5 is the lot size. It will be smaller lots like Hamilton Park. There will probably be about 54 houses. Councilman Robinson said that seller is not a client of Robinson law firm, however, Youngblood Company is a client but he didn’t feel it affected him in voting. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

 Ordinance No. 2015-06: To rezone certain pieces, parcels or lots of land lying situate and being in the State of South Carolina, County of Pickens, being shown and designated as Tax Map Nos. 5019-08-89-2681 and 5019-08-89-0671 and lying on Stone Ave and to provide a zoning designation from Medical to GR-2. Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor with a second from Councilman Dykes. Councilman Robinson excused himself from the vote due to the fact that the seller Kay Powers has been a client of Robinson Law Firm. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-0. Councilman Robinson did not vote.

Resolution No. 2015-09: To approved the Municipal State Highway Project Agreement for SC 153 Extension Project, City of Easley, County of Pickens, Project ID#0039309. Councilman Garrison made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Mann. Mayor called on Tommy Holcombe to explain. This is not unusual for SCDOT to come before council when new roads come in and there will be right of ways.  This is mainly for utilities. Mayor Bagwell stated he has made Joel Ledbetter aware of this. They also notified Fort Hill Natural Gas, cable and any other utilities. This is for 153 to Prince Perry, Saco Lowell. There may be a roundabout behind Wal-Mart. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Bagwell presented a proclamation to Chief Danny Traber for Peace Officers Memorial Week. Flags will be flown at half-staff on May 15th in honor of all the falling officers.

Councilman Mann made the motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

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 Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk