**COUNCIL MEETING**

June 9, 2014

The Easley City Council met on June 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center. All members were present. Lisa Garrett 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 so notified.

Mayor Bagwell called the regular meeting and the public meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Prior to the meeting the Easley City Council convened at 6:30 p.m. Councilman Mann made a motion to go into executive session with a second from Councilman Robinson, the motion passed 7-0. There was no action was taken during this session.

Councilman Mann gave the invocation followed by the pledge of allegiance.

There were no correction to the minutes. They were approved as written.

Mayor Bagwell called for reports from Council Members:

Ward 1: The first Mudd Run was a great success, close to 300 people participated. The staff feels like we can make some improvements and double the attendance.

Ward 2: The state passed a texting bill. We have been following this closely on a city level and held off doing anything until the State made a decision. The state law should be acceptable to the City so nothing further will be done.

Ward 3: The Mudd Run was good. Councilman Mann was a volunteer and participated along with his son and two friends. It was a fun event. The compensation committee will meet on Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. at City Hall.

Ward 4: No report

Ward 5: No report

Ward 6: No report

Mayor Bagwell called on Mr. Fox Simons, City Administrator for his report. Before the July meeting we will have celebrated the 4th of July. There will be a two day event in Old Market Square on Friday and Saturday, fireworks on July 4th. Two weeks from today is the Wounded Warrior Parade. It will start at Rock Springs and head down 123 to Seneca. After talking with the engineer the contractor for Couch Lane has been put on notice and has until July 4th to get all the work completed.

Citizens wishing to address council:

Bob Fedder: In reference to the two zoning request that are on the agenda; he lives in the neighborhood that these rezoning’s are. He attended the committee meeting and understands

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what the property owners are trying to do but if they sale the zoning would stay with the property. He is against this. There has been petty thief in the area coming from the nearby

apartments. He doesn’t want to lose neighborhoods to multifamily projects. In his opinion it effects property values and adds traffic.

Harvey Craig: He lives at 412 W. 2nd Ave off Gilliam St. He has been promised five times that the city would take care of the water runoff. David Lappin sent his assistant out to take pictures. He has spent $300 putting in a drain line and the water runoff has destroyed it. It is amazing the amount of water that runs off the street above his property. He also wanted to know who cuts the grass in Westview Cemetery and the one on 5th St. and why Mauldin Cemetery is not taken care of. Mayor Bagwell stated that the City of obligated to take care of Westview because we own it. The Maudlin Cemetery was deeded to a committee that is supposed to take care of it. Mayor Bagwell also told him he would look into the water runoff tomorrow.

Zack Campbell: He was speaking for his grandparents the Chapman’s. Their property needs some upgrades on a building on their property fir relatives to stay in when they visit. It needs city sewer and the city will not give it to them. Councilman Mann asked if a building permit had been issued or any remodeling been done he stated no.

Vicky Cuplikus: She attended the public meeting about the Doodle Line and had a question about the resolution on the agenda. Is this where the trail head will be or are you going to have it closer to downtown as promised? Councilman Mann said the city is not ignoring what Mr. Youngblood said at the presentation. The property might be used for parking and not a trail head. Mayor Bagwell asked her what was promised. She commented that the original plan was for the trial to connect both the downtown areas. It appears that the City of Pickens is going to benefit more than Easley. Councilman Mann stated that there is an entire master plan for bike/trail, etc. Evidentially he would like to see it all tied into the Brushy Creek Greenway and on to the complex. Councilman Mann also stated that he would like to see the trial head downtown but due to the location of the railroad tracks we have to be careful where to tie it in. The engineers are looking at all options.

Sherry Jones: If the trail head is not brought downtown how is going to benefit the downtown? He is very disappointed, frustrated, and angry over this. She also asked how the amount for the came to be? Mayor Bagwell commented from an appraisal and the City of Pickens was paying part. The owners that have been around for a while have fought very hard for their success. She doesn’t feel the city is pro-business. Councilman Dykes commented that a spur line could end in Old Market Square. She would like to know if there is a plan and when it will be done. Councilman Mann asked Black Sanders to go back and take a look at the plan and what can be done to change the plan.

Brian James: He is concerned with the rezoning on the agenda. His wife and in-laws own a rental house in that area. The property at 202 South B wants to change into a thrift shop. He doesn’t like this idea because it changes the area to more commercial. How do you determine when to draw the lines?

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Chris Price: He was representing the owners of 116 Dayton School Rd, (property up for rezoning).

Presentations: None

Second reading of Ordinances: Ordinance No. 2014-07: To provide for the adoption of a city operating budget, its execution and effect, for the fiscal period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Councilman Mann made a motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Garrison. Mayor Bagwell commented that there is a 2 mil increase in taxes in this budget. This is the second reading and he wanted the public to know taxes will go up. There has been no millage increase in 8 years. Councilman Garrison stated this was the best budget Mr. Simons has put together since he has been on council. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilman Wright voting no.

Ordinance No. 2014-08 To re-zone approximately 1.05 acres of real property located at 116 Dayton School Road from neighborhood commercial to general Residential - 2 (tax map number 5039-18-30-0989). Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Robinson. Mayor Bagwell called on Tommy Holcombe, Building Official for explanation. This is a vacant lot behind K-Mart that is going from commercial to multifamily for apartments. The planning commission voted ok for this rezoning. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

First reading of Ordinances: Ordinance No. 2014-09 to re-zone a piece of real property located at 705 East 2nd Ave. from residential-10 to General Residential-2 (tax map number 5029-13-23-1981). Councilman Wright made the motion to uphold the decision of the planning commission with a second from Councilman Garrison. Mayor Bagwell referred over to Tommy Holcombe for explanation. All single family residences have to have sewer. They are trying to make a multifamily property in a single family residential area. Councilman Robinson asked if the planning commission voted unanimously against this. Mr. Holcombe stated that they did. Councilman Robinson also asked if any building permits had been issued and Mr. Holcombe said no. Councilman Garrison called for the question. A yes vote denies this request. The ordinance was denied 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2014-10 to re-zone a piece of real property located at 202 South B St from residential-10 to neighborhood commercial (tax map no. 5029-13-03-7914). Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Garrison. Councilman Robinson as Tommy Holcombe to discuss this request. The properties at 205&207 have been rezoned neighborhood commercial. The planning commission denied this request 3-2. They have recommended that his be denied. Council can send back to the planning commission for another public hearing or can vote on the request. ACOG made an error on our zoning map and some properties are contingent to this one. Councilman Garrison would like to have it sent

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back to the planning commission. Councilman Robinson agreed with Councilman Garrison’s suggestion due to the error in the map. Councilman Mann commented that this property faces South B where the others face E 1st. It appears we are getting more into the residential area. He suggested no commercial on the right side of the road. Mayor Bagwell agreed to send back to the commission. Councilman Garrison made a motion to table this ordinance with a second from Councilman Robinson. The request will have to be re-advertised, reviewed by the commission, and bring back to the council in August, if denied they cannot reapply for one year. Councilman

Mann called for the question to table the ordinance and send back to the planning commission the motion passed 5-2 with Councilmen Moore and Mann voting no. Councilman Mann withdrew his motion to vote on this ordinance tonight. Mr. Holcombe will re-advertise and the commission will meet on the 3rd Monday of July to discuss. The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m.

Resolution number 2014-06 to acquire approximately 1.5 acres of real property at 104 Old Cedar Rock Rd, (tax map no. 5019-10-46-7209) for $135,000. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Dykes. The City of Easley will be responsible for $75,000 of the purchase price. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Councilman Mann made a motion to adjourn at 8:10.

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 Mayor Larry Bagwell

Attest:

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Jonathan F. Simons, Jr. City Administrator