

Council Meeting Minutes  
February 9, 2015

The Easley City Council met on February 9, 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 so notified.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Artis Buford, Pastor with Easley Union Missionary Baptist Church gave the invocation. The minutes from the January meeting were approved as written.

Ward 1: No report, Thanked Fox for his service and dedication to our city.

Ward 2: No report, same sentiments to Fox as Councilman Garrison, it has been a good 8 years and you will be missed.

Ward 3: No report, Councilman Mann was on council when we hired Mr. Simons, all I knew was that he was a Yankee from Syracuse. We have grown to be good friends. Good luck to Fox and his family. Also thanked Lori for her service to this community. As the Mayor said, we have lost a lot of good people, I attended Earl Gilstrap's funeral. The city has lost a great role model.

Ward 4: No report, Condolences to the Fortner family. Beth passed away very suddenly. It was very sad, please remember Eddie Fortner and his family. Fox thank you, you have a lot to offer the people of Myrtle Beach.

Ward 5: No report, Acknowledged the passing of Jack Breazeale, he was a good citizen.

Ward 6: No report, Enjoyed working with Fox, wished him and his family a lot of success.

Mayor Bagwell: Fox has been instrumental in the success of Easley in the last 8 years. Sad to say this is Fox's last council meeting. He will be leaving Friday.

Mayor Bagwell called on Fox Simons for his last report to council: Mayor's State of the City address is Feb. 19th at Dunburks. Thanked Mayor and City Council for the opportunity to have this job. Thanked the Dept. heads and staff.

Mayor Bagwell presented Mr. Simons with plaque for his dedication to the City of Easley for the last 8 years.

Citizens wishing to address Council: Vicky Ciplickas : Thanked Fox for his service to the City and wished him well. 28th of Jan. she resumed the Presidency for the EDDBA.

Four things she inherited that were submitted to council with no answer. April the issue of signs was addressed

Lighted signs is something the businesses want. A committee of Councilmen Robinson, Moore and Garrison was to look at the TIF sign ordinance. Mayor Bagwell referred to Tommy Holcombe, Building Official, the committee disbanded the next month because we are going to keep the guidelines as they are. New ordinance about signs coming to council next month. Interior light signs didn't get approved.

Is there a grandfather agreement with some businesses having lite signs and new businesses not getting to have them? EFB church sign was agreed on years ago. Have there been any rules or ordinances that businesses with store fronts have to be inspected if they are empty? Are they required to have a lock box?

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There has not been anything come through on that per Tommy Holcombe. Mayor suggested that Vicky come in and meet with him and go over her list. Vicky agreed to that and also commented that trash is still a big issue, clock tower doesn't work. Mayor said he would get it fixed. Has there been any discussion about the three alternatives to the trail-head? Per the Mayor there has not been any decisions made.

There was no old or new business.

Resolutions 2015-02: A resolution relating to the declaration of intent by the City of Easley, SC to issue Combined utility System Revenue Bonds and to reimburse certain expenditures made by the Easley Commission of Public Works prior to the issuance by the City of such bonds. Councilman Robinson represents ECU and he will get paid if this closes therefore refrains from voting. Councilman Mann made motion to approve with a 2nd from Councilman Moore, Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed, 6-0, with Councilman Robinson abstaining.

Resolution 2015-03: To appoint Christopher McFarlin to a two year term as Associate Judge for the City of Easley Municipal Court. Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a 2nd, Councilman Moore, Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution 2015-04: A resolution endorsing a work environment of recognized hazards through the establishment and implementation of loss control policies and procedures, and their subsequent amendments and additions, designed to provide protection to city employees, public and private property, and members of the public. Councilman Wright made the motion to approve with a 2nd from Councilman Garrison. Mr. Simons explained that our insurance company requires us to do this. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution 2015-05: Authorizing the approval, execution and delivery of a settlement agreement between the City of Easley and the School District of Pickens County relating to a dispute concerning tax increment financing bonds (TIF bonds) issued by the City of Easley in connection with the City of Easley's Downtown Area Redevelopment plan. Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion, with a 2nd from Councilman Garrison. Councilman Mann stated by this settlement we are in no way, shape or form admitting to any wrong doing. But it will be cheaper to settle than fight in court. Councilmen Moore, Robinson, and Dykes, all agreed with Councilman Mann. Councilman Mann stated he doesn't agree with the entire concept.

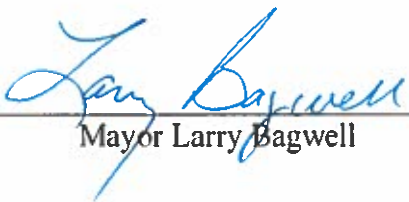
Mayor Bagwell agrees and it shows good will to the Pickens County School Board. Mr. Simons stated that the school district passed this same resolution. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

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Mayor read email from Representative Neal Collins concerning the some of our Councilmen visiting the State House. He enjoys working with Easley and looks forward to good things in the future.

Councilman Moore made a comment about meeting. He was able to visit the state house, it has a lot of history and beauty. Representative Collins made them feel so welcome. He was most excited about going down on the senate floor.

Councilman Mann made the motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

  
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Mayor Larry Bagwell

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk