

Council Meeting
July 10, 2017

Easley City Council met on July 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the court room of the LEC. All members were present. The press was notified. Lisa Chapman, City Clerk, served as the recording secretary.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m., prior to the meeting council met in executive session. No action was taken.

The minutes from the June meeting were approved as written.

Mayor Bagwell called on council for their reports.

Ward 1: No Report

Ward 2: No Report, asked for prayers for Joe Lesley.

Ward 3: No Report, echoed what Councilman Dykes said about Joe.

Ward 4: No report

Ward 5: No report.

Ward 6: Things were hopping downtown this past Saturday with the Farmers Market, Cars and Coffee and an event at the Masonic Temple. Councilman Robinson's dad celebrated his 92nd birthday at Pawley's Island.

Mayor Bagwell called on City Administrator Stephen Steese for his report.

The July 4th festival went well. Registration for the November election will start July 18th at noon the filing fee is \$300, Wards 2,4,6 are up for election. The Senior League World Series is fast approaching, July 29-August 5. The new finance director, Joni Smith started today. We are getting to the end of the fiscal year with money still coming in from the county, Combined Utility and a cable company. It has been a good collection year for business license, departments are staying on budget, and hospitality tax should be about 1.9 million this year.

Citizens wishing to address council:

Susan Stancil: She wanted to make a suggestion that we have murals on buildings downtown. This could be a great way for people to identify Easley and give us a positive image on social media. Some cities sponsor contest that would get the public involved. Councilman Mann stated he had talked to a lady from Coca Cola and they may be interested in something along this line.

Bill Long: He lives at 308 N. A Street and he has a neighbor that allows her cats to roam and they get on his property. The Police Dept. has been out 15-20 times, the county has come out, and she has been fined twice. She has no regard for the police and rules. This has been going on for over a year. Mayor said he would do what he can. Councilman Mann asked if the leash law pertained to cats as well as dogs. Chief Tollison said he would talk to Mr. Long after the meeting.

Jon Humphry: He is the tournament director for the Senior League World Series. Fan Fest will be downtown this year. He has been working with the City and the Downtown Business Association for this event. There will be a parade of teams and asked the Mayor and Council to participate. The SC District 1 team will play on the 29th. July 31st is Educators nights, August 4th

is First Responders night, and August 5th is Military Appreciate night as well as City of Easley night and all city employees and their families get in free. The Mayor will throw out the first pitch at the championship game on Saturday night August 5th, live on ESPN. The team from Australia has traveled over 10,000 miles to get here. The other teams are coming from Italy, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Panama, New Jersey, Florida, and Canada. Jon asked permission to put out about 18 signs to promote the series.

Update on Brushy Creek Greenway: Mr. Steese received a letter from SCDOT about the Brushy Creek Greenway. We are partially finished with a grant, but the path that was supposed to go over the wet lands has to be redone it was not the best route. So they want to back up and redesign. Cost for designing the project has gone up. City needs to agree to provide the additional funds in the construction phase. \$158,000+ is being moved from the construction phase to the engineering phase. This will leave \$210,134 available for construction. The most recent est. is \$900,000 for the complete project with the City respond for \$720,000. They will not go forward with the design until we say we will pay. We don't know the final price until the design is finished and the bids go out, and it would forfeit the grant. We would be out about \$125,000. Mr. Steese asked Council if they are willing to finish the project if we agree to this. Councilman Robinson asked if we have a plan to pay for this. Mr. Steese said we would probably have to do a bond. We are not responsible for funds until it goes out to bid. Councilman Garrison asked if this should be part of the new Parks and Rec Master Plan. Mayor Bagwell asked what the original grant was. Mr. Steese stated \$534,000. Agreeing to this is saying we are committed to the project and will come up with the money when it is time. It could be 12-18 months. Mayor Bagwell said he feels we have come too far to back out now. Maybe some adjustments made to the plan that would reduce cost. Once the Core of Engineers signs off on this it can't be changed or it could be timely. Councilman Garrison stated we have made the commitment and we don't need to stop, Councilman Mann agreed, it is not going to get cheaper if we decide to quit. It has been dragging on for 5 yrs. Core of Engineers said the concrete that was put in the wet lands has to be removed. Councilman Dykes thinks it is good to put in the Master Plan for the Park and Rec. Mr. Steese asked Attorney Allison if it would be appropriate to have a resolution to ok this. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve moving forward with the plan, with a second from Councilman Garrison, there was no further discussion and Councilman Dykes called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Presentations: None

Old Business: None

New Business: Ordinance No. 2017-09: To amend the FY 2017-18 City of Easley Operating Budget. Councilman Garrison made a motion to approve with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese explained that after the last reading of the budget the school district asked for additional resource officers for the elementary schools. We are adding a new position and

amending the budget. This will also approve the new officer position. We will be reimbursed 100% for this by the school board. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

New Resolutions: Resolution No. 2017-06 to enter into a Municipal Lease Agreement with Fairway Capital, LLC for the purpose of financing the acquisition of the equipment from Turf Equipment. Councilman Wright made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Dykes. Mr. Steese stated this was approved as part of the budget. It is three pieces of equipment, leased for five years. Mr. Moore asked if it was cheaper to lease and was maintenance included, Mr. Steese said yes. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution No. 2017-07 a resolution approving multi-jurisdictional agreements entered into by the Easley Police Department with surrounding law enforcement agencies and authorizing the Mayor and/or City Administrator to approve and sign materially equivalent agreements entered into by the police department in the future. Councilman Moore made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Dykes. Mr. Steese stated that the law changed in 2016 and any agency that enters into mutual aid agreements the council has to approve. Councilman Dykes called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution No. 2017-08 authorizing the renewal of the intergovernmental agreement between Anderson County and Municipalities located in whole or in part within Anderson County regarding real and personal property tax collection. Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Wright. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. by Councilman Mann.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk