

Council Minutes
August 13, 2018

Easley City Council met for its regular month meeting on August 13, 2018 all members were present. The press was notified.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting with no action being taken.

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

The minutes from the previous meetings were approved as submitted.

Mayor Bagwell called on Council for their reports:

Ward 1: No report

Ward 2: Councilman Dykes stated that last month he commented on the great job the police department did with the Blue Light BBQ at the July 4th festival. He attended the Back to School Bash at Pope Field and the Fire Department had their grill out there and all the first responders did a great job giving out food to the kids as part of their community outreach.

Ward 3: Councilman Mann commented about the Senior League World Series at the end of July and the first week of August. Thanked everyone from the city that had a part in putting that on. This was a top-notch event and we should be proud of our community.

Ward 4: Councilman Moore stated it was great to meet all the players at the Senior League World Series. The kids were really enjoying themselves.

Ward 5: No report

Ward 6: No report

Mayor Bagwell called on Mr. Steese for his report: If council plans to attend the Regional Advocacy meeting they need to register.

Citizens wishing to address council, there were none.

Presentations: Ben Muldrow gave a presentation on the new city branding. He explained how the new brand originated and explained the detail in the seal. We are Easley a warm upcountry welcome. Everyone like the information.

Presentation to Tim Mobley and his crew at the recreation department. Tim was elected President Elect of the Turf Management Association of SC. Mayor Bagwell presented him with a plaque and congratulated him and his crew on a job well done at the Senior League World Series.

Councilman Robinson made a motion to amend the agenda to move item 12C to this part of the program. All were in favor of this motion. He introduced James Miller with the Purple Heart

Veterans and asked him to introduce the people with him. Mr. Miller is a wounded Vietnam Veteran and a Purple Heart recipient. He travels all over to talk about Purple Heart Veterans. All counties in SC are a Purple Heart County. We are the 2nd state to become a purple state. The Purple Heart is the oldest metal that is given to honor a soldier and it is an honor to receive the award. The men with him were from Anderson and all Purple Heart recipients, Phil Harris, Jerry Free, Don Saxton and Stanley Brown. Mayor Bagwell presented Mr. Miller and his group with a proclamation from the City.

First Reading of Ordinances: Ordinance No. 2018-14 to re-zone 59.440 acres located at the end of Briggs Drive and Iris Drive, Easley, South Carolina, tax map number 5028-10-46-8403 from R-10 to R- 7.5. Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Moore. Councilman Robinson abstained from the discussion and vote due to Robinson Law Firm representing Youngblood Development. Mayor Bagwell called on Mr. Holcombe to explain. Youngblood Development owns this property and they want to make the lots smaller but not add any more homes as R-10 states. The Planning Commission was good with the plan, there were about 13 residents that attended and had a healthy discussion. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the rezoning. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-0 with Councilman Robinson abstaining.

Ordinance No. 2018-15: to amend the City of Easley FY18/19 Operating Budget Councilman Garrison made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Mann. Mr. Steese gave a brief explanation. This is to add two additional school resource officers which will bring our total up to six school officers. We had already passed our budget before the school district had their final reading on their ordinance. There was no further discussion. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

New Resolutions: Resolution No. 2018-19 to adopt the Pickens County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Councilman Garrison made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Mann. Mayor Bagwell called on Chief Womack who gave a brief explanation. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution No. 2018-20: to award CMAR for the construction on joint operations and maintenance facility and renovation of Fire Station one. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Wright. Mr. Steese gave an explanation. This person will work with the architects and construction to make sure we build within budget. J. Davis Construction was chosen. They will go through the pre-construction process and have a maximum not to exceed price for construction. We can proceed with one or both projects. Councilman Dykes called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Resolution No. 2018-21: To proclaim the City of Easley as a Purple Heart City. This resolution was changed to a proclamation and given out at the meeting. There was no vote.

Resolution No. 2018-22: authorizing the negotiation, execution, and delivery of lease no. 004-0668201-103 between the City of Easley, South Carolina and VGM Financial Services, a division of TCF National Bank. Councilman Mann made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese explained this is to lease equipment for the recreation department that was in the budget. Some of the equipment can be shared with public works. This equipment is replacing some of the equipment that is over twelve years old. Councilman Dykes called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Bagwell stated that City Attorney David Allison will be leaving and we will be looking for a new City Attorney. He wished Mr. Allison well in his new job. There was no other discussion.

Councilman Garrison made the motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

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Work session

Easley City Council met for a work session on August 13, 2018 all members were present except Councilman Wright. The press was notified.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Discussion began with Ordinance No. 2018-14 to rezone 59.44 acres at Briggs Drive and Iris Drive. Councilman Robinson abstained from the discussion due to Robinson Law Firm handling the sale of the property. Mr. Steese turned the discussion over to Tommy Holcombe, Building Official to explain. The Planning Commission voted in favor of this. There were about 13 neighbors at the meeting. Their main concern was traffic. The developer, Danny Youngblood requested the zoning change to give more density. He is not going to add any more houses than what R10 will allow. He is looking to do smaller yards which sells better. There is approximately 12-15 acres that is not usable. The citizens present were pleased. The developer is planning to put a retaining pond near the wetlands. There was no further discussion.

Adoption of Pickens County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mr. Steese called on Chief Womack to explain. This started in 2015 with the County hiring a group to update the plan. The Chief and Tommy Holcombe were on the committee. There were representatives from other cities also. The goal is to reduce impact, loss of life, property, etc. In order to receive Federal aid from FEMA there must be an emergency management plan in place. If the County plan is not adopted, each jurisdiction would be required to establish their own mitigation plan to receive Federal Mitigation Funds. Councilman Dykes asked if other cities were adopting this. Chief Womack said they have the opportunity to. Mayor Bagwell asked if anyone saw a downside to this? No one did. There was no further discussion.

Budget Amendment to add two School Resource Officers per Pickens County School District request. Mr. Steese called on Chief Tollison to explain. The school district asked us to add two additional offices so all schools have an officer on duty. At the time the school district was waiting on their third reading of the ordinance and we had already passed our FY18/19 budget. Mr. Steese commented we budgeted for three SRO in the revenue side but four on the expense side. The amendment will be a total increase in revenue. There will be an increase of \$53,864 to the miscellaneous expense in the general fund. The remainder will go to cover the cost of the two in the police budget. The school district will have contract security for Adult Ed at West End Hall. The SRO salary and fringe is funded by the Pickens County School District. We are responsible for uniforms, training, etc. When school is not in session we get the benefit of the officers with a 60/40 split. SRO can only be in schools for seven years then they have to rotate out.

Mayor Bagwell asked if we were retaining officers since the new pay scale. Chief Tollison said we had one officer retire and one that didn't make the cut. There was no further discussion.

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Work Session

Project updates from Mr. Steese and Mr. Sanders

GO Bond: Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) has a guaranteed maximum price and works with the architect and owner to insure constructability, value engineering and schedule. The selection committee reviewed six proposals and interviewed three contractors. The committee recommends entering into a preconstruction contract with J. Davis Construction. Doing both projects at one time will keep cost down. A survey has been requested. We have told the architect to begin work. Projected started date is January 2019. Our bond rating was AA- with an interest rate of 3.44%. Mr. Sanders will be meeting with J. Davis next week.

TIF Bond: The shade structure for the amphitheater will be delivered sometime around September 28th with installation after October 6th. There will be three outlets on each post and the ceiling is wired for speakers and lights. Councilman Moore asked if this is going to help shade the sun. Megan Wallace commented that the sun goes behind the downtown buildings around 7:00 in the evenings. The structure is tall enough to still have the movies.

City Green and Farmers Market: Mr. Steese explained that the front parking lot is to be turned into a green space with parking on North 1st Street. North 1st Street will be one way and traffic will either need to turn onto Runion or in front of City Hall. Work on the city green should start sometime after October 1 and be finished by the end of the year. Councilman Moore said that Rosa suggested a mural on the side of her building. Mr. Sanders stated the trees are magnolias along her building and they will be taken out and replaced with Oak to match the other side. This would allow the side of her building to be visible. Farmers market structure to be determined later.

Railroad Safety: Mr. Sanders has called Norfolk Southern numerous times with no response. We can not move forward until we hear from them. Councilman Moore stated they have been very complimentary about the plan but it has been sent to the real estate department in Atlanta for approval.

TIF: Mr. Sanders stated that there will be parking lot maintenance and improvement at West End Hall. We hope this will be completed by mid-October. Paving in Old Market Square to be done sometime between November and December and Coffee Street to be complete by December 1st.

Downtown Refresh: This project is out for bid and due by September 7th. We hope to have on agenda for September 10th and construction to begin sometime after October 1st. This project is scheduled to be complete by December.

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West End Master Plan: We are working on an alternative to get Doodle Trail from Wilbur to the Woodside area. A way to market the silos and other properties in the area. Mr. Sanders is meeting with DOT about a cross walk from the trail to the silo area.

There will be a call Council Meeting next Friday which will be in Executive Session. The location is still to be determined.

Mayor Bagwell adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk