

Council Minutes
April 8, 2019

Easley City Council met for its regular monthly meeting on April 8, 2019 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 7:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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: Councilman Garrison: The recreation committee met to discuss the request for more pickle ball courts from four to eight. This request was approved and it will add approximately \$13,000 to the current project cost.

Ward 2: Councilman Dykes –Attending the ribbon cutting for the Born Learning Trail at Doodle Park. This was given by the 2019 Pickens County Leadership Team. It is ten outdoor games that engage children with learning opportunities. There was a kindergarten class from Geer that attended. The Fire department attended and brought one of the fire trucks. Scott Lang, Business License officer was part of this leadership class. It was a good event.

Ward 3: Councilman Mann – Recently attended the CJ Fuller Football camp event presented by his family. They have formed a foundation to help children. There were professional football players and Clemson players that helped out. They are really making a difference in the lives of young people.

Ward 4: Councilman Moore – The Spring Fling was a great event. There were lots of people downtown all day. Thanked the fire department for helping his sister with a situation.

Ward 5: Councilman Wright –Spring Fling was great and well attended.

Ward 6: Councilman Robinson – Congratulation to Lisa on a fantastic Spring Fling.

Mayor Bagwell called on Attorney Brian James to swear in two new municipal judges. James Sterling as Chief Municipal Judge and Samuel Tooker as Alternate Associate Judge.

Mayor Bagwell called on Mr. Steese for his report: The budget books were handed out to you tonight. There will be a work session on Tuesday April 16th at 5:30 and on the 18th if needed. The PCMA meeting is the 22nd in Liberty. The Baptist Easley Hospital Gala is May 4th please advise if you would like to attend. Party on Pendleton will start May 3rd and will go every Friday until September. The Farmers Market is now open every Saturday.

Councilman Dykes gave a reminder about the Easley Clean up day on April 27th.

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Citizens wishing to address council: Thomas McCCase – He is representing the Foothills Playhouse. He invited everyone to attend Charlotte's Web and gave tickets to all of council. On May 4th they will have their reveal party to announce the 2019/20 season. The season is being extended it to eight (8) shows and will run through December.

Dr. David Jones – Mr. Jones played a video about the dangers of small cell wireless 5g devices. He talked about the dangers of 5g and the effects it has on the human body.

Ashley Corso – During the last six-month trial period of the food truck ordinance none of the brick and mortars have been hurt. The entire downtown is benefiting from the food trucks. Some people are experiencing them without going into any businesses. Would like to request that food trucks be allowed on Main Street. On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday the only restaurant open is Joe's. Allowing trucks on Main Street would give another option for downtown dining.

Michael Corso – The Pint Station has brought business downtown and given people a new place to hang out. Food trucks have benefited the downtown and added value. You can compare the hospitality numbers and see that they are not hurting the brick and mortars. Would like for the ordinance to be amended to allow trucks on Main Street.

Old Business: Second reading of ordinances. Ordinance No. 2019-06 to establish the standards for the placement of small wireless facilities in covered areas in the City of Easley, South Carolina; and for other purposes. Councilman Moore made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Wright. Councilman Robinson commented on the very technical FCC ruling that was given by the MASC. Local governments cannot band the installation of the 5Gs but we can adopt regulations for them. He advised Dr. Jones to contact the FCC. Mr. Steese commented that both the House and Senate introduced legislation for 5Gs. The House amended theirs to go along with the model by the MASC. If we do not pass an ordinance then the State would dictate what we can and can not do. Mr. Ford with AT&T was present and Councilman Robinson asked him to explain the design of the devices. Councilman Dykes stated that we need to control our area. Councilman Mann called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

New Business: First Reading of ordinances: Ordinance no. 2019-07 Approving the execution and delivery of a development agreement with Project Bravo. Councilman Garrison made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese explained this project has been in the works for a long time. The developer is spending approximately \$30,000,000 on this project. We can provide a grant back for plan and review fees, permitting fees, and a declining business license rate for five years. At the second reading the name of the business will be announced. There was no further discussion and Councilman Moore called for the question. The motion passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2019-08: To adopt City Ordinance §121 (mobile food vendors) to regulating mobile food vendors operating inside the City of Easley. Councilman Robinson made the motion that the ordinance be adopted as is with a second from Councilman Dykes. Councilman Garrison commented that several options were discussed at the work session but things seem to be going well as is. There was no further discussion and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilman Mann opposing.

Ordinance No. 2019-09 Approving the execution and delivery of a development agreement with Project Alpha. Councilman Mann made the motion to bring to the floor for discussion with a second from Councilman Dykes. Mr. Steese commented this is renovation of a downtown business in the TIF District. It will be over a million-dollar investment creating approximately 20 full time jobs. This is for a grant back for review and permitting fees, declining business license rate over five years. The business will be identified at second reading. There was no further discussion. Councilman Moore called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

New Resolutions: Resolution No. 2019-08: To designate April as Fair Housing Month in the City of Easley. Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Mann. Mr. Steese gave a brief explanation and there was no further discussion. Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 7-0.

Councilman Mann made the motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk