

Easley City Council
Work Session Minutes
November 11, 2019

Easley City Council met for a work session on Monday, November 11, 2019 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The press was notified. Lisa Chapman, City Clerk served as the recording secretary.

Mayor Bagwell called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. and turned the meeting over to City Administrator Stephen Steese.

The first agenda item is the rezoning of 18.50 acres on Rolling Hills Circle from General Commercial to General Residential 2. Mr. Steese ask Tommy Holcombe, Building Official for a brief explanation. This track will be apartments by Cedarwood Development. It will take approximately .24 months to complete the project. The other development they did was a good asset.

Councilman Dykes stated the relationship with Cedarwood has been good and their developments are appreciated.

Councilman Robinson asked how many encroachments did the DOT allow. A representative from Cedarwood was in attendance and he stated there will be two maybe three.

Councilman Dykes inquired about the site plan. Mr. Holcombe stated that after the rezoning then City staff will review the site plan and a third party does the building plan review.

Councilman Robinson asked about the third-party review. Mr. Holcombe stated that Anthony Rivera is the engineer that reviews large developments. Mr. Holcombe said he would notify Council when the plans were in if they wanted to review them. There was no further discussion.

Agenda item two is an amendment to the FY 19-20 budget. Mr. Steese gave an explanation. There was a recent meeting with the Pickens County School District concerning the traffic issues at Forest Acres Elementary and West End Elementary. The plan calls for the walking track at West End to be resurfaced to handle cars but can still be used as a walking track. This would get traffic off Hwy 135 and Hwy 8. At Forest Acres they would construct a new traffic line that would be on land they already own. It would get cars off McAlister Road. The total project cost is approximately 2.3 million for both schools. They are asking the City to contribute \$207,038.00. The projects would be done during the summer. The funds needed would go over two fiscal year budgets.

Councilman Dykes asked if we have the funds for this project.

Mr. Steese commented that we have a surplus in the budget and the money we receive from the MASC is more than budgeted for.

Councilman Garrison stated that it is a small price to pay, and is needed. Although our relationship is better with the District, it should not be a habit to fund the school district.

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Councilman Robinson stated he thought it was a good idea. There was no more discussion.

Mr. Steese asked Blake Sanders, City Planner, for project updates:

Paving projects are completed at Kings Park. The paving at Woodside Park will begin this week. The striping for the tennis courts is almost finished and then the nets go up. Doodle Park has an additional shelter ordered per the master plan. Two new sets of playground equipment have been ordered for the J. B. Red Owens Complex. We are waiting on a signed lease from JSCI for the Doodle Trail parking.

The landscaping along the railroad will begin after all of the fence is complete. The Wayfinding Signage design will go to the committee for approval. The basketball court at Head Start is being repaved. City streets are being repaved per the recommended list.

Grading has begun at the Operations and Maintenance Facility. Biweekly construction meetings will begin next week.

Other topics for council discussion:

The owner of Chick Fil A asked if the City would do a traffic study for a turn lane at the red light at their new store/Cookout/Popeyes. Mr. Steese commented that we don't normally get involved on private property issues. This is part of a larger discussion we need to have for traffic issues. (see attachment for recommendations from Davis and Floyd)

Councilman Moore asked where we stand on impact fees.

Mr. Steese stated a contract had been signed and there will be a meeting in December with staff. There will be a presentation to Council sometime in the first quarter of the year.

Mr. Holcombe reported back to Council concerning construction hours. Several cities were looked at and Clemson has the best, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Construction sounds are allowed at any time for emergency repairs to restore power and/or utility service to protect life or property. If there are no objections, we will proceed with getting an ordinance together. There was no further discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk