

Council Minutes
November 11, 2019

Easley City Council met for its regular monthly meeting on November 11, 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 thanked all of the veterans for their service and sacrifice to our country.

Prior to the meeting Council met in Executive Session and no action was taken.

Councilman Moore gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the previous meetings were approved as written.

Mayor Bagwell called on Council for their reports.

Ward 1: Councilman Garrison- Thanked all veterans for their service. Congratulated all the candidates that won in the election and wish those in the run off good luck.

Ward 2: Councilman Dykes – Congratulated all the winners of the election and wished the candidates in the run off good luck. Wished everyone a happy Veterans Day. Easley is in a high growth time and it is exciting to be a part of it.

Ward 3: Councilman Mann – Happy Veterans Day to those that serve our country. Happy early Thanksgiving to all. Congratulated Butch Womack on his win and to Councilman Garrison who won his Ward. Wished those in the run off good luck. Wished Jennifer Jennings a happy birthday.

Ward 4: Councilman Moore – Ditto to what everyone has said. Glad to see the good crowd of citizens in attendance.

Ward 5: Councilman Wright – Congratulations to the winners of the election and good luck to those in a run off.

Ward 6: Councilman Robinson –Agreed with all the comments that were made by the other council members.

Mayor Bagwell called on Mr. Steese for his report: The November meeting of the Pickens County Municipal Association will be November 25th at SWU. City offices will be closed on November 28th and 29th for Thanksgiving holiday. December 14th is the Christmas parade at 6:00 followed by the tree lighting in Old Market Square.

Swearing in of new Part-time Associate Judge Elaina Ellis.

Citizens wishing to address council:

Bob Fedder – Informed Council of Kitty Norris’s passing. Mayor Bagwell commented that Sam Norris (Kitty’s husband) is a dedicated member of our community and has worked a lot with Council and the City.

Jon Humphrey – Would like more information about the ordinance that Council will be discussing concerning capital assets.

David Little – He wanted to express his appreciation to the crew that is keeping the medians look great.

Old Business: Second reading of ordinances – There were no ordinances for second reading.

New Business: First Reading of ordinances:

Ordinance No. 2019-24 - To rezone Tax Map Number 5039-15-74-4220 (approximately 16.858 acres) and Tax Map Number 5039-16-73-9671 (approximately 2.696 acres) of real property located on Rolling Hills Circle, Easley, South Carolina, 29640 from GC to GR2. Councilman Garrison made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese gave a brief explanation. This property is at Town Center. The Planning Commission reviewed and approved the request.

Councilman Moore asked about the entrances and exits onto the new Hwy 153 extension. Mr. Steese commented that the DOT will have the final say on that.

Councilman Dykes asked about the number of units being built. Mr. Steese stated the zoning designation calls for 14 units per acre. No plans have been submitted yet.

Mayor Bagwell commented that this is another project by Cedarwood Development and we have always had a good working relationship with them. There was no further discussion and Councilman Garrison called for the question. The motion passed 7-0.

Ordinance No. 2019-25 - to amend the FY 2019-20 City of Easley operating budget. Councilman Dykes made the motion to approve with a second from Councilman Moore. Mr. Steese gave a explanation. This is to handle two topics of concern the traffic issues at Forest Acres Elementary and West End Elementary. The Pickens County School District has some preliminary designs and pricing for the projects. They are in the process of getting State approval before they can move forward. They asked us to contribute \$207,000 to the project. If we are unwilling to provide the funds, they would only be able to do one project not both.

Councilman Mann stated he has a problem that the School District can come up with 90% of the money and they want us to pay for improvements on a State road and to their property. He will be voting no on this.

Councilman Garrison stated that he doesn't like funding school district property but he will vote yes because the projects need to be done. Before second reading he has some questions that will need to be answered on the School District's finances.

Councilman Moore likes the idea and it seems like a small price to get traffic off the road.

Councilman Dykes asked if the price was an estimate. Mr. Steese stated is the maximum we would have to pay.

Mayor Bagwell stated that the City has been trying to get this done for many years. McAlister Road is terrible during school time and becoming more and more dangerous. The City lets the School District use a lot of our property, sometimes relationships are not about money.

Councilman Garrison called for the question and the motion passed 6-1 with Councilman Mann voting no.

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

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk