

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2017

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of Mayor and Council of February 20, 2017, called to order by Mayor David Lockhart at 6:10 p.m.

Invocation: The invocation was given by Dr. Beeler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor Lockhart and Councilmembers, Tommy Smith, Dabouze Antoine, Sandra Bagley, Latresa Wells and Allan Mears.

Also present were Al Wiggins, City Manager; Mike Blandenburg, Director Finance; Jeff Eady, Director Public Works; Jonathan Jones, Director PB & Z; Management Analyst, Angela Redding; Director Recreation & Leisure Services, Elaine Corley; Chief Dwayne Hobbs, Police; Chief Eddie Buckholts, Fire; Director Support Services, Christine Terrell; Major Chris Matson, Police; and City Attorney, John O'Neil.

Comment Period: Douglas Pratt, 5087 West Street. In regards to the corner of Springdale and West Street, commercial buildings, addressed the rezoning issue.

Carl Evans, 4726 Burks Rd., addressed the high tax rate in the city.

Shirley Nichols, 5171 Springdale Rd. addressed the rezoning issue.

Dianne Lunsford, Skyland Drive. Addressed the trash issues on the streets in the city.

Approval of Minutes: Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to amend the minutes of the January 17, 2017, Regular Meeting, to reflect that Councilman Antoine made a motion to amend the pending motion to correct the election date to November 7th and then approve. Councilman Mears seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Public Hearing: Councilman Smith made a motion to recess for public hearing with respect to the proposed Charter amendment related to the Municipal Court Judges. Councilman Mears seconded. Voting in favor was Councilwoman Bagley, Councilman Smith and Councilman Mears. Councilman Antoine and Councilwoman Wells abstained. The motion passed three (3) to nothing.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to close the public hearing and reconvene our Regular Meeting. Councilman Smith seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Ordinance: Ordinance to amend the Charter of the City of Forest Park by
Charter Amend- revising Section 4.11 (“Chief Judge; Associate Judge”) of
ment Article IV (“Municipal Courts”) therein. Councilman Smith
made a motion to adopt this Ordinance. Councilman Mears
seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Ordinance: Ordinance to amend Chapter 5 (“Municipal Court”) of
Municipal Court Article A (“General Provisions”) of the Code of Ordinances,
City of Forest Park, Georgia, by amending Sections 2-5-17,
2-5-18, 2-5-18.1, and 2-5-19. Councilwoman Bagley made a
motion to adopt the Ordinance. Councilman Smith
seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Resolution: Resolution to establish compensation and frequency of
Compensation payment of such compensation for the Chief, Associate and
Judges Judges Pro Tempore. Councilman Mears made a motion to
adopt this Resolution. Councilman Smith seconded. Voting
was unanimous.

Ordinance: Ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest
Department Park, Georgia, to establish a Department of Technology
Technology Services by amending Subsection A of Section 2-3-1
Services (Departments Established) in Article A (General Provisions)
of Chapter 3 (Administration) in Title 2 (General
Government) and by enacting Title 12 (Technology Services)
and Chapter 1 (Department of Technology Services) in said
Title. Councilman Antoine made a motion to table this
Ordinance. Councilman Mears seconded. Voting was
unanimous.

Appointment: Appointment of Technology Services Director.
Technology Councilwoman Wells made a motion to accept the
Services Director appointment of Darren Duke as Technology Services Director to be effective immediately upon the establishment of a Department of Technology Services. Councilman Smith seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Appointment: Appointment of Chief Hobbs as interim assistant City
Chief Hobbs Manager, effective immediately, which position will convert
Interim City to interim City Manager on March 7, 2017, with a ten
Manager percent (10%) pay increase over his current compensation, which increase shall take effect immediately and continue until he ceases to serve as City Manager. Councilman Mears made a motion to appoint Chief Hobbs as Interim City Manager effective March 7, 2017, with a ten percent (10%) pay increase over his current compensation. Councilman Smith seconded. Those in favor were Councilmembers Mears, Smith, and Bagley. Those opposed were Councilmembers Antoine and Wells. Motion carries.

Public Hearing: Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to recess for Public Hearing concerning proposed rezoning. Councilman Smith seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Greg Hecht, Attorney representing Doug & Donna Pratt with regard to 5828 Springdale Rd. & 5087 West St., stated that he is opposed to the particular rezoning on the agenda tonight.

Mrs. Lunsford stated her concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Ms. Hartsfield stated her concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Mr. Finch stated his concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Ms. Shannon Dunleavy stated her concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Mr. David Moore stated his concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Ms. James stated her concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Mr. Doug Pratt stated his concerns about the proposed rezoning.

Councilwoman Wells made a motion to close the Public Hearing and reconvene the Regular Meeting. Councilman Smith seconded. Voting was unanimous.

Ordinance:
Official Zoning
Map

Ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map, City of Forest Park, Georgia by rezoning certain parcels of real property. Councilwoman Wells made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilman Antoine seconded. Those in favor were Councilmembers Antoine and Wells. Those abstaining were Councilmembers Mears, Smith, and Bagley. The motion fails.

Councilman Antoine asked the city attorney if a no vote is considered a yes vote. The city attorney stated that an abstention is considered an abstention. The City Council cannot pass something unless there is a majority vote of the Council which means one person perhaps could abstain, but two (2) voting yes and three (3) abstaining, I don't know that it would constitute a majority necessary in order to pass the motion.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to open the Public Hearing with respect to Board of Zoning Appeals membership. Councilman Smith seconded. Those in favor were Councilmembers Antoine, and Bagley. Those abstaining were Councilmembers Mears and Wells. That motion fails.

Ordinance:
Board of Appeals

Ordinance to amend Section 8-8-121 ("Establishment of Board of Appeals") of Article I ("Board of Zoning Appeals") of Chapter 8 ("Zoning") in Title 8 ("Planning and Development") of the Code of Ordinances, City of Forest Park, Georgia by repealing the current language in said Section in its entirety and enacting new regulations in lieu thereof.

Councilman Smith made a motion to reconvene the Regular Meeting. Councilwoman Bagley seconded. Those in favor were Councilmembers Smith, Mears, and Bagley. Those abstaining were Councilmembers Antoine and Wells.

Mayor Lockhart stated that the Ordinance to amend Establishment of Board of Appeals is rendered mute by the decision to open the Public Hearing.

Legal Matters:

None

Adjournment:

Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Bagley. Voting was unanimous.