

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANFORD
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA**

The City Council met at the Sanford Municipal Center, 225 E. Weatherspoon Street, on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers. The following people were present:

Pro Tem Byron Buckels
Council Member Jimmy Haire
Council Member James Williams
Council Member Rebecca Wyhof Salmon
City Attorney Susan Patterson
Deputy City Clerk Vicki Cannady

Council Member Sam Gaskins
Council Member Charles Taylor
Council Member Norman "Chas" Post, III
City Manager Hal Hegwer
City Clerk Bonnie Davis

Absent:

Mayor T. Chet Mann

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mann called the meeting to order. Council Member Williams led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Attorney Susan Patterson requested that a closed session be added under "Other Business" as Item 11-A. Council Member Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Council Member Williams, the motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Interlocal Committee Meeting Minutes dated January 6, 2022 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Electronic Workshop Meeting Minutes dated January 11, 2021 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Meeting Minutes dated January 18, 2022 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Meeting Minutes dated February 1, 2022 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Retreat Meeting Minutes dated February 10, 202 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Retreat Meeting Minutes dated February 11, 2022 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Meeting Minutes dated February 15, 2022 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Meeting Minutes dated March 1, 2021 (filed in Minute Book #)

Council Workshop Meeting Minutes dated March 8, 2021 (filed in Minute Book #)

Resolution Authorizing the City of Sanford to Enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Broadway for Leaf and Limb Disposal and Interlocal Agreement for Leaf and Limb Disposal – Town of Broadway (Exhibit A)

Hiring Additional Finance Staff for Grants Administration (Exhibit B)

Ordinance Amending the Annual Operating Budget of the City of Sanford FY 2021-2022 – Finance (Exhibit C)

Conveyance of 1314 Boykin Avenue to Brick Capital Community Development Corporation (Exhibit D)

Resolution for Accepting Nondiscrimination Policy – Recitals (ARP/CSLFRF Award) – (Exhibit E)

Record Retention Policy: Documents Created or Maintained Pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF Award (Exhibit F)

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL AGENDA

Update on the Status of Temple Theatre

This updated was not presented and will be made at a later date.

Update from the Commission on the Opioid Abuse Epidemic (Exhibit G)

Rebecca (Becky) Whitaker, Chair of the Commission on the Opioid Abuse Epidemic, provided an update and reviewed information shown on the attached Exhibit G. The commission began meeting at the end of 2019 and only recently resumed after suspending them when the pandemic began in March 2020. She stressed the importance of buy-in from the community and governmental agencies and encouraged everyone to examine their own pre-conceived notions about substance abuse disorder. Fellow commission members Nathan Cochran, Daniel Owens, Chris Thompson (Lee County Sheriff's Department representative), Marshall McNeill (Sanford Police Department representative), Council Members Chas Post and Charles Taylor (City Council liaisons) were recognized. Mayor Pro Tem Buckels thanked Ms. Whitaker for her presentation and the commission for its work. Council Member Taylor suggested there is no single approach to the opioid abuse epidemic and the problem is not confined to any sector or demographic. He applauded the committee's work, suggested that are ready to examine issues that would require funding, and expressed hope that the County will take this work and the committee's suggestions very seriously. Council Member Gaskins questioned whether the 211 program (a phone database of health and human services) provides guidance. Ms. Whitaker responded that the 211 program would likely refer callers to a local management entity/managed care organization (LME/MCO) or the Sandhills Opioid Response Consortium.

CASES FOR PUBLIC HEARING

There were no cases for public hearing.

DECISIONS ON PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no decisions on public hearings.

REGULAR AGENDA

Petition for Contiguous Annexation by Forge Investment Group, LLC, and Swartz Family Members' Properties (Exhibit H)

Senior Planner David Montgomery explained that a petition for annexation was received for property located at the intersection of Wicker Street and Franklin Drive as shown on the attached Exhibit H. A request will be made for the Clerk to certify that the petition is sufficient and Council will then consider a resolution setting the date of the public hearing for May 3, 2022.

- Receive Certificate of Sufficiency (Exhibit I)
City Clerk Bonnie Davis verified that the petition was valid and sufficient.
- Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31 (Exhibit J)
Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing for May 3, 2022, on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.

Petition for Contiguous Annexation by MAD M&R Properties (Exhibit K)

Senior Planner David Montgomery explained that a petition for annexation was received for property located on Kelly Drive as shown on the attached Exhibit K. A request will be to the Clerk to certify that the petition is sufficient and Council will then consider a resolution setting the date of the public hearing for May 3, 2022.

- Receive Certificate of Sufficiency (Exhibit L)
City Clerk Bonnie Davis verified that the petition was valid and sufficient.
- Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31 (Exhibit M)
Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing for May 3, 2022, on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Petition Requesting Contiguous Annexation by Billie Kelly Foushee, John Calvin Foushee, Lex Allen Kelly, Mary C. Kelly, Kathryn Joye Kelly, Jerry M. Boyes, and Kim Boles (Exhibit N)

Senior Planner David Montgomery explained that petition for annexation was received for 31.791 acres on Tramway Road as shown on the attached Exhibit N. He reminded Council that a rezoning request for this townhome project in the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) was approved several months ago and annexation is being sought now to connect to the City's sewer system.

- Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate a Petition for Contiguous Annexation Under G.S. 160A-31 (Exhibit O)
Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate a Petition for Contiguous Annexation Under G.S. 160A-31. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.
- Receive Certificate of Sufficiency (Exhibit P)
City Clerk Bonnie Davis verified that the petition was valid and sufficient.
- Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31 (Exhibit Q)
Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing for May 3, 2022, on Question of Annexation Pursuant to G.S. 160A-31. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant – Wastewater Treatment Grant (Exhibit R)

Utilities and Engineering Director Paul Weeks explained that with increased development in our area, staff believes it would be prudent to help determine our capacity and explore options at our facilities. The State has about \$80 million in planning grant funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for qualifying entities up to \$400,000 and staff would like to file a grant application.

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to approve the Resolution by Governing Body of Applicant – Wastewater Treatment Grant. Seconded by Council Member Williams, the motion carried unanimously.

Renewal of Health Insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield (Exhibit S)

City Manager Hal Hegwer reminded Council that employees must make health care decisions prior to budget approval. Several discussions have been held regarding the City’s health insurance and he recommended a two percent funding increase of about \$97,500 annually (\$72,500 for the General Fund, \$25,000 for the Utility Fund). Co-pays and out-of-pocket payments would remain unchanged for employees and the City would pay this increase into our self-insured fund to cover expenses.

Council Member Taylor commented on the success of the weight management program and recommended holding two weigh-ins annually (rather than one) to encourage behavioral changes rather than crash dieting just before the deadline. Mr. Hegwer confirmed this had been considered previously but the pandemic made it difficult for the company performing the weigh-ins. He acknowledged the success of this program, as well as the diabetes and hypertension management programs offered to employees, and agreed to investigate this option again.

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to renew the health insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Seconded by Council Member Salmon, the motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Taylor questioned whether the Fire Department could “take down” (burn) houses for developers like it does for individual property owners. He thanked staff for helping manage water related issues yesterday on Horner Boulevard (which is state-maintained) and questioned whether staff could write state officials about mitigation efforts done on their behalf.

Council Member Gaskins suggested revisiting the Depot Park rental fee structure recently presented to perhaps include a graduated fee structure.

Council Member Haire questioned whether progress had been made to address dilapidated properties throughout the City, particularly one on Ray Avenue that is near collapse. City Manager Hegwer stated that City Attorney Patterson suggested that property may be in the foreclosure process. Several others are being sold and he agreed to update Council on this issue. He noted that these properties require a great deal of time from our Code Enforcement staff and are a nuisance for neighbors.

Council Member Salmon reminded everyone of several upcoming activities, including the Block Party; the Roots and Branches concert; the One Concert/One Depot event; and the return of the Pottery Festival. She anticipates attending along with members of the community since the pandemic made this very difficult for the past two years.

CLOSED SESSION

Council Member Gaskins made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body to preserve the attorney-client privilege. Seconded by Council Member Post, the motion carried unanimously.

RETURN to REGULAR SESSION and ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Post made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Council Member Taylor, the motion carried unanimously.

ALL EXHIBITS CONTAINED HEREIN ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THESE MINUTES.

Respectfully Submitted,



T. CHET MANN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BONNIE DAVIS, CITY CLERK