
City Council Meeting March 7, 2023

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 06:00 PM

Members Present:

Mayor Mike Fuesser
Mayor Pro Tem Ed Brown
Councilmember Matthew Hickey
Councilmember Marion Ramsey

Councilmember Stephanie Jarrett
Councilmember Charles Brewer
Councilmember Kellie Harrold

Staff Present:

City Manager Dalton Pierce
Municipal Clerk Amy Craig
Finance Director Jeff Wilkins
Police Chief Brian Trail
Planning Director David Breakfield

Participants:

Charlie Barrineau

Others Present:

(See Sign-in Sheet)

1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mike Fuesser

- Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. PRAYER

Mayor Pro Tem Ed Brown

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mike Fuesser

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1. MEO Institute Honor Roll Recipients

MASC Field Representative Charlie Barrineau presented Council with a crystal plaque for their completion of the Municipal Elected Officials Institute. City of York is one of seventeen of the two hundred seventy-one municipalities in the state of South Carolina that have made the Honor Roll this year. The MEO Institute training is done voluntarily, but our Council willingly went through this training to gain knowledge and serve the citizens of York well. This is the first time that Councilmembers have graduated from the MEO Institute collectively.

4.2. New Employees

Chief Brian Trail introduced Evan Schmitt as a new officer with York Police Department. City Manager Dalton Pierce introduced Bryan Johnson as a new Utilities Crew Member and Jeff Wilkins as the new Financial Director.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

5.1 Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension

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No public comments were made

6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments were made

7. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

7.1. Budget Schedule for FY 23-24

City Manager Pierce provided a schedule for the Budget for FY 23-24 that begins on March 22, 2023, that enables staff to know what is expected. The schedule possesses three phases with dates and timing that allows transparency for Council to be aware of the work that is being done to prepare the Budget FY 23-24.

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to adopt the Budget Schedule FY 23-24, which was Seconded by Councilmember Jarrett. With no discussion, the Motion was passed unanimously.

7.2. Wayfinding Historic District

City Manager Pierce spoke about the Wayfinding programs and signs for Congress Street, Madison Street, and Liberty Street. In June 2022, this item went before the BAR and was accepted. Council gave approval as well. The signs were to be paid for through the hospitality taxes budgeted at \$150,000. After approval, SCDOT required a minor change regarding the white rose on the signs. The rose has been removed and City Manager Pierce went before the BAR at the March 6, 2023 meeting. He requested a Certificate of Appropriateness for the minor change, which was approved. City Manager Pierce stated that the only change was the removal of the white rose on the sign and that he would like approval of the minor change so the project could be completed by the end of the Fiscal Year.

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to adopt the wayfinding sign as presented in the packet to remove the white rose watermark in the budget as described, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. In Discussion, Council inquired if the size of the rose was the issue with the original sign, but it was clarified that SCDOT required a retroreflectiveness, in which the sign did not possess. The white rose was simply a transparent logo. With the sign not possessing the retroreflectivity, it was removed as to not change the aesthetics of the sign. With no other Discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

7.3. Redistricting Formal Adoption Timeline

City Manager Pierce stated he and Municipal Clerk Amy Craig spoke with Dr. John Ruoff about the Redistricting Timeline to obtain clear direction of the redistricting proposal. The proposal has been added to the City's webpage and social media, in addition to a Public Hearing announcement being made in the local newspaper over a month in advance. City Manager Pierce requested that Council adopt a timeline for the Second Reading since the April 4, 2023 Council meeting will allow for Public Comments. In Discussion, Council stated that a Second Reading for the April Work Session would work well.

Councilmember Brewer made a Motion to adopt the Redistricting Timeline with April 17, 2023, being the Second Reading, which was Seconded by Councilmember Ramsey. With no other Discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

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8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- Council Meeting, February 6, 2023, Council Work Session, February 20, 2023, and Special Called Meeting, February 20, 2023
Councilmember Ramsey made a Motion to approve the Minute from the previous meetings, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no discussion, the Motion passed unanimously.

9. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

9.1. Finance Director Jeff Wilkins stated that the auditors are still working but are nearing the end of the process. He discussed the updated finances for February. He stated that we are doing well with revenues as property taxes have begun being received. He further stated that we are well ahead of the budget. He expects that revenues will be over what was forecasted last year. As far as expenditures, we are approximately 12% more than where we would like to be due to items being expensed earlier in the budget season. Also, he stated that we are able to use earned interest as a revenue source, which is unheard in the history of municipalities. The LGIP accounts are giving a significant increase throughout the year. In the future, he would like to utilize funds that are idle and invest them to draw more interest as well.

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.1. ORDINANCES:

Second Reading Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension

During Council's Work Session on February 20, 2023, the First Reading of Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension was approved for a Second Reading of Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension to extend until August 1, 2023. The moratorium extension is imposed for certain types of residential subdivision/development and invokes the application of the pending ordinance doctrine. Staff and the Planning Commission recommends that the Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension be imposed to allow necessary changes to be implemented to the zoning ordinance, comprehensive plan, and land use map. approved through August 1, 2023.

Councilmember Brewer made a Motion to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 23-687, Moratorium Extension through August 1, 2023, which was Seconded by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no Discussion, the Motion was approved 6-1, with Councilmember Hickey voting in opposition.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1. ACCOMMODATIONS TAX GRANT APPLICATIONS:

- York County Memorial Day Service
- York County Veterans Day Service
- Silver in the City Saturday Night Concerts
- Downtown Concert Series 2023
- York Summerfest 2023
- York Summerfest 5k & Afterparty

Councilmember Jarrett made a Motion to approve the six Accommodations Tax Grant Applications provided on the Agenda, which was Seconded by Councilmember Harrold. With no Discussion, the Motion was approved unanimously.

11.2. ORDINANCES:

- First Reading Ordinance 23-688, Procurement/Purchasing Amendment

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City Manager Dalton Pierce stated that in order to have a more structured approach and to do utilize tax dollars more efficiently, that the procurement code would need to be updated as follows:

Sec. 2-356 Not to Exceed \$1,500

Sec. 2-357 Exceeding \$1,501 but less than \$5,500

Sec. 2-358 Exceeding \$5,501 but less than \$25,000 Sec. 2-359 Single Purchase Orders Exceeding \$25,001 required competitive sealed bid

Sec. 2-361 Add Sole Source Procurement

Any request by an agency or department head that procurement be restricted to one potential source shall be accompanied by a letter from the using department signed by the department head stating why no other source will be suitable or acceptable to meet the needs. A contract may be aware for a property, supply, service, or construction item without competition when the City Manager or designee determines in writing that there is only one source for the required property, supply, service, or construction item or that the proposed award to a single source is a permitted, non-competitive procurement as established herein, After verification of a sole source vendor or the justification of a sole source purchase is warranted, the City Manager, or designee, has the authority to negotiate the price, terms, and conditions of the procurement. Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to approve Ordinance 23-688, Procurement/Purchasing Amendment as described, which was Seconded by Councilmember Ramsey. With no Discussion, the Motion was approved unanimously.

- First Reading Ordinance 23-689, Amendment, B-1 Central Business District Revisions
Planning Commission and staff were tasked with the revisions of the B-1 District prior to the Moratorium Ordinance being approved. The revisions have been finalized after being provided several times.

Councilmember Harrold made a Motion to Table Ordinance 23-689, Amendment B-1 Central Business District Revisions until the Work Session on March 20, 2023, for Council to have more time to discuss the items listed, which was Seconded by Councilmember Jarrett. With no Discussion, the Motion was approved unanimously.

- First Reading Ordinance 23-690, Rezoning Ratliff Heights
At the February 20, 2023, Work Session, Eastwood Homes provided Council with a presentation and proposal to rezone the Ratliff property at Carroll Avenue and Kings Mountain Street. The rezoning would be from R15 to R5.
Councilmember Brewer made a Motion to approve First Reading Ordinance 23-690, Rezoning Ratliff Heights, conditioned upon installation of sidewalks down Kings Mountain Street to Hillcrest Street in order to maintain continuity in walking all the way to the downtown area, either in the form of the developer installing it or providing the funding to the City to install the sidewalks, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. With no Discussion, the Motion was approved 6-1 by a show of hands, with Councilmember Ramsey voting in opposition.

- First Reading Ordinance 23-691, Equivalent Residential Unit Amendment
City Staff has reviewed the Sewer Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) factor in the current City ordinance and found it to be outdated. With the current and future growth of the City, Staff is asking council to consider adopting and amending Article II of Sec. 44-58 to reflect a standard ERU of 325 gallons per day of Water and the SCDHEC calculations for loading found in Sec. 61-67 of the Standards for Wastewater Facilities and Construction.
Councilmember Jarrett made a Motion to approve on First Reading Ordinance 23-691, Equivalent Residential Unit Amendment, which was Seconded by Councilmember Ramsey.

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In Discussion, it was clarified that this is basically an update to the Ordinance to allow engineers and future developments to accurately calculate the equal to residential unit in regard to various types of development. With no other Discussion, the Motion was approved unanimously.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fuessler stated that Saturday, March 11, 2023, at 10:00am, The City will have a community cleanup day. He stated that if anyone is interested that all participants will meet at the White Rose Mall parking lot. On April 15, 2023, the City will hold a citywide clean-up day. Mayor Fuessler requested that if anyone would like to participate to let him know by March 20, 2023. Also, the National Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps from York Comprehensive High School will be assisting with the City with this community project. Also, Moore Park will have improvements made. The City will pressure wash the gazebo, Lowe's has donated paint, while mulch has been donated by a local contractor. The York Historical Society has planned workdays for April 1 and April 15 to get the work accomplished at Moore Park. On March 24, 2023, The McCelvey Center will be placed on the National Register at 10:30am in Columbia. If anyone would like more information, please contact the mayor.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 To Discuss Personal Matter Related to Municipal Judge

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss Personal Matter Related to Municipal Judge, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. The Motion was adopted unanimously.

Councilmember Ramsey made a Motion to exit Executive Session, which was Seconded by Councilmember Hickey. The Motion was adopted unanimously.

14. UPON RETURNING TO OPEN SESSION, COUNCIL MAY TAKE ACTION ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Brewer made a Motion to accept the resignation of Judge Faulkner for March 31, 2023, and appoint Judge Benfield starting April 1st for the remaining term of Judge Faulkner, which was Seconded by Councilmember Ramsey. The Motion was passed unanimously.

15. ADJOURN

Councilmember Hickey made a Motion to Adjourn, which was Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Brown. The Motion was adopted unanimously. The meeting Adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amy Craig
Municipal Clerk