

**City of Fountain Inn
Council Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2017 – 6pm – Council Chambers**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL PRESENT:

Matthew King
Mayor, Sam Lee
Phil Clemmer
Andrew Stoddard

Berry Woods, Jr.
Rose Ann Woods
John Mahony

STAFF PRESENT:

Lori Cooper, Public Works
Sue Weil, Public Works
David Holmes, City Attorney
Mike Pitman, Interim City Administrator

Russell Alexander, Fire
Tammy Finley, Judicial
Russell Haltiwanger, Recreation
Ashlee Tolbert, Special Events

VISITORS: 17

Call to Order – Mayor, Sam Lee

Invocation - Councilwoman, Rose Ann Woods

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Melvin Younts and Debbie Alphin, Executive Director, on behalf of CAFFI, thanked the city for the opportunity to keep the Younts Center running.

Debbie Alphin invited everyone to the Season Reveal August 25th at 7pm.

Introduction of new employees:

Ashlee Tolbert – Community Development/Special Events Manager
Matthew Hembree – Firefighter
Robert Joskoskie – Public Works CDL Driver

Consent Agenda – *There will be no discussion of Consent Agenda items unless a Council member so requests in which event the item in question will be considered separately.*

July 2017 Preliminary Financial Report
July 13, 2017 Council Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2017 Council Webinar Workshop Minutes

Motion by Andrew Stoddard, 2nd by Rose Ann Woods to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**City Administrators Report – Interim City Administrator, Mike Pitman
(Attached)**

Unfinished Business

Final Reading Ordinance No. 2017-008- An ordinance to amend the city code of ordinances, Article II Business Licenses, Sec .11-46 (B) entitled “Classification and Rates” by adopting a new rate schedule to be designated as Appendix A; and to make other provisions related thereto.

David Holmes explained that the city has been looking at its revenue streams and this is one that is vitally important. We have compared with neighboring cities and feel this increase will get us in line with other municipalities. Staff recommends that Council pass the ordinance on second reading.

Motion by Phil Clemmer, second by Andrew Stoddard to pass Ordinance No. 2017-008 on second reading. The motion carried unanimously 7/0.

Final Reading Ordinance No. Z 2017-001 - An ordinance to amend the official zoning map of Fountain Inn, Docket # FI 2017-004, 308 West Jones Street to be rezoned from I-1 Industrial to C-1 Central Business District.

David Holmes explained that this is a small house and the owner wishes to make improvements and the C-1 Central Business District appears to be appropriate given the surrounding land use.

Motion by Matthew King, second by Andrew Stoddard to pass Ordinance No. Z 2017-001 on second reading. The motion carried unanimously 7/0.

New Business

Election Commission – Appoint Harriett Dease, completing unfinished term 1/1/2015-12/31/21

Mayor Lee explained we have a vacancy on the Election Commission and he requested that Council appoint Mrs. Dease to the Election Commission.

Motion by Rose Ann Woods, second by Phil Clemmer to appoint Harriett Dease to the Election Commission. The motion carried unanimously 7/0.

Resolution 2017-004 Accepting Andrew Stoddard’s resignation and call for special election.

Mayor Lee expressed that we have some sad news that Councilman, Andrew Stoddard has rendered his resignation effective August 26th.

David Holmes explained that council will need to accept the resignation, declare the seat vacant and call for a special election. The Resolution before you does exactly that.

Motion by Rose Ann Woods, second by John Mahony to approve Resolution 2017-004 accepting Councilman Stoddard's resignation and call for a special election. The motion passes unanimously 6/0.

David Holmes commented that filing for Ward 2 will begin at noon on August 25th and close at noon on September 5th. The election will take place on November 7th.

Mayor Lee thanked Councilman Stoddard for his service.

Note: Councilman Berry Woods left the meeting before the vote.

Resolution No. 2017-003 - A resolution to approve a law enforcement assistance, support, and jurisdiction agreement between the City of Fountain Inn Police Department, Greenville Police Department, Greer Police Department, Mauldin Police Department, Simpsonville Police Department, and Travelers Rest Police Department.

David Holmes explained that Sherriff Lewis has submitted a new mutual aid agreement. The agreement is standard and staff recommends that council adopt this agreement.

Motion by Phil Clemmer, second by Matthew King to pass Resolution No. 2017-003. The motion carries unanimously 6/0.

First Reading Ordinance No. 2017-009 – An ordinance to change form of government.

David Holmes explained that this is an ordinance that calls for a referendum to be on the general election ballot on November 7, 2017 asking if the form of government for the City of Fountain Inn should change from the Mayor/Council form of government to the Council form of government. South Carolina law requires that if this ordinance passes the referendum should have specific language.

Should the Municipality of Fountain Inn, South Carolina change its form of government from Mayor/Council form of government to Council form?

There are only two choices one is "yes" and one is "no". The ordinance says if it passes the general election in November the effective date of the ordinance would be the 1st of July 2018. I have been asked why the effective date might be that long...it is because we have to rewrite a number of ordinances to be adopted to reflect the Council form of government. This will give us time to get that in place. The statute requires if the ordinance passes the election must take place no sooner than 30 days, but no more than 90 days after it passes. So, if council passes this tonight and intends to get it on the

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November 7th ballot we will have to have a special meeting to have 2nd reading so that it can get on the ballot. Greenville County has to publish the ballot 60 days in advance of the election. If we do not do it now, but you still want to move forward we will have to have a special election that the city of Fountain Inn would have to conduct itself and pay all of the expenses.

Motion by John Mahony, 2nd by Andrew Stoddard to pass Ordinance No. 2017-009 on first reading.

Mayor Lee: I guess the other six members of Council have been discussing this for a while. It was just brought to my attention Tuesday. I feel a little blindsided...everything people have been saying about us for the last 30 to 60 days have proven to be true. They have been meeting in private and there have been polls taken. I was assured this was going to pass on Tuesday. I am a little sadden by that. The change of form of government is not something I am opposed to...I am opposed to the way it was done. If someone had to come to me in the beginning and said lets change it...actually, I approached our former City Administrator when I was first elected and said let's look at changing our form of government and he said you don't want to do that...you are the Mayor, you need to be a strong Mayor and that's the form of government we need to stay in. To me...to poll council members, in my opinion, is unethical and possibly illegal. I just don't feel right about it. Not saying I don't feel right about giving the people a chance vote. I just don't feel right about how it was done. If anyone up here had a problem with the way the city has been run by myself or Mike Pitman... we have taken every meeting with anybody and everybody has been invited to our meetings. I just feel like I was blindsided. That my two cents on it.

Phil Clemmer: I'm not sure it should be discussed in open forum.

Mayor Lee: How many closed door sessions do we want to have about it.

Matthew King: I have not broken any rules.

Mayor Lee called for the vote.

6 Aye, 1 No. The motion carried.

Executive Session

For the discussion of employment, appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, release, or contract matter of an employee in the administration department, gas department, and special events department and to receive legal advice concerning these employment issues. Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in executive session

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Motion to go into executive session by Matthew King, second by Andrew Stoddard. The motion carries unanimously 6/0.

Motion to go back into regular session by Matthew King, second by Andrew Stoddard. The motion carries unanimously 6/0.

David Holmes commented that no action was taken during executive session. Mayor we recommend that you take the action you discussed during executive session.

Motion by Matthew King to take action on the item discussed in executive session, second by John Mahony. The motion carries unanimously 6/0.

Motion by Rose Ann Woods to adjourn, second by Andrew Stoddard. The motion carried unanimously 6/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra H. Woods
City Clerk

**CITY OF FOUNTAIN INN
COUNCIL MEETING – AUGUST 10, 2017
ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

❖ **BUDGET STATUS FOR FY2017:**

- SEE REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2017 (POSTED THROUGH 8/8/2017)

❖ **WOODSIDE MILL PROJECT – (NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ENCUMBRANCE EXCHANGE) DIAMOND TIP BLVD FOR VALLEY VIEW:**

- NOTHING NEW – CONTACTED AMY BLINSON (SC DEPT. OF PARKS) AND SHE IS CHECKING FOR AN UPDATE
- CURRENT INVESTMENT ~ \$594,994
- SUBMITTED REVISED PLAT TO SC DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM
- REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO TAKE ABOUT 1 YEAR TO COMPLETE

❖ **WOODSIDE PARK:**

- MET WITH ADC AND DESIGN GROUP TO DISCUSS THE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT DRAWINGS – NEXT MEETING WITH THE ARCHITECT IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16TH AT 2:00PM
- PRELIMINARY MAPS DRAWN FOR 3 OPTIONS BASED ON FUNDING AVAILABLE

❖ **WOODSIDE STREETScape PROJECT:**

- \$489,000 IN BOND FUNDS AVAILABLE
- WORKING WITH ARBOR ENGINEERING & SCDOT TO GET THE PROPER ROW AND PERMITTING IN PLACE

❖ **WOODSIDE PARK CONNECTOR:**

- PROJECT WILL BE TO CONVERT AN OLD WALKING PATH TO A 10’ WIDE MULTI-USE TRAIL CONNECTING WOODSIDE PARK TO FOUNTAIN INN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND WILL COST \$149,250 TO COMPLETE
- RECEIVED A TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT OF \$119,400
- CITY MATCH AMOUNT OF \$29,850

❖ **RECREATION DEPARTMENT:**

- PROJECT TO INSTALL PARKING LOT LIGHTS AT THE ACTIVITY CENTER ARE BEING REEVALUATED DUE TO THE POWER LINES RUNNING THROUGH THE PARKING LOT – WAITING ON BIDS
- FUNDING FROM GCRA FOR THE PROJECT

❖ **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- 2 NEW DISPATCHERS HIRED – 1 STARTED MONDAY, AUGUST 7TH AND THE 2ND WILL START ON MONDAY, AUGUST 28TH

❖ **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

- LAURENS COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVED AN INCREASE OF 1.31% ON THE FIRE SERVICE FEE FOR FY 2018
- HIRED 1 NEW EMPLOYEE/FIREFIGHTER – MATTHEW HEMBREE

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❖ **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- NEW EMPLOYEE – ASHLEE TOLBERT – SPECIAL EVENTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
- ECLIPSE EVENT - MONDAY, AUGUST 21ST AT WOODSIDE PARK FROM 1PM – 4PM
- HALLOWEEN EVENT – TRUNK OR TREAT ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH ON MAIN STREET IN FOUNTAIN INN
- CHRISTMAS EVENT – IN THE PLANNING STAGES WITH MORE TO COME

❖ **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

- “RETAIL RECRUITMENT PLAN” WEBINAR WAS PRESENTED ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 26TH BY RETAIL STRATEGIES – PLAN DETAILED THE DATA AND RESEARCH COLLECTED AND A TIMELINE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THEM TO PROCEED WITH RECRUITING OF BUSINESSES TO THE FOUNTAIN INN AREA

❖ **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**

- 1 CDL DRIVER HAS BEEN HIRED – ROBERT JOSKOSKIE
- OPEN POSITION FOR 1 CDL DRIVER

❖ **PALISADE APARTMENT PROJECT (NORTH WOODS DRIVE):**

- 396 UNIT COMPLEX
- FOOTING IN PLACE AND INSPECTED – WATER & SEWER TESTING COMPLETE
- EXPECTED START DATE FOR CONSTRUCTION IS SEPTEMBER ‘2017
- RECEIVED A CHECK FOR \$173,500.25 FOR PERMITTING FEES FOR THE PROJECT

❖ **JONES MILL CROSSING SUBDIVISION:**

- 136 LOTS PLANNED
- CURRENTLY 11 HOMES ARE PERMITTED AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION – 4 COMPLETED
- WORKING ON AGREEMENT WITH A 3RD PARTY TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE LIFT STATION FOR THIS PROJECT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A GRAVITY MAIN IS CONSTRUCTED

❖ **FOUNTAINBROOK SUBDIVISION:**

- TOTAL OF LOTS FOR DEVELOPMENT > 400
- TO DATE 51 PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED
- PHASE 4 IS IN PROGRESS WITH 72 LOTS PLANNED
- PHASE 5 WILL BE REVIEWED WITH UTILITY PROVIDERS ON JUNE 27TH AT 6:00PM – 38 LOTS PLANNED

❖ **VILLAGE AT FOUNTAIN INN SUBDIVISION:**

- 70 TOTAL LOTS
- 26 PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED AND 15 HOMES COMPLETED

❖ **QUILLEN MANOR ASSISTED LIVING:**

- PERMITTING FOR EXPANSION PROJECT OF 18 NEW UNITS

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❖ **OAKS AT GULLIVER SUBDIVISION:**

- 51 LOTS PLANNED
- SEPTEMBER START DATE FOR PERMITTING

❖ **WEST FARM SUBDIVISION:**

- PHASE I IS COMPLETED WITH 96 LOTS
- PHASE II IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION WITH 32 LOTS PLANNED – 5 PERMITS PULLED AND 1 HOUSE COMPLETED

❖ **TUCKER BRANCH SUBDIVISION:**

- 98% COMPLETED (53 LOTS) WITH 4 LOTS REMAINING

❖ **TRAILSIDE AT GARRETT SUBDIVISION:**

- JUNE 19TH PLANNING MEETING
- 30 LOTS ARE PLANNED

❖ **LAKEVIEW CHASE TOWNES:**

- 52 TOWNHOMES PLANNED – 1 LOT IS SOLD
- EXPECTED TO START IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER ‘2107

❖ **OAKS OF HUNTER SUBDIVISION:**

- CLEARING LAND FOR 125 LOT SUBDIVISION
- EXPECTED START DATE OF LATE SUMMER FOR PERMITTING

❖ **EMPLOYMENT NEEDS:**

- 1 CITY ADMINISTRATOR
- ? NATURAL GAS EMPLOYEES