

CITY OF TRAVELERS REST
City Council Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 8, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

The City has implemented changes to our Public Meetings due to COVID-19. We invite the public to join us. You may connect by smart phone, tablet or computer and use this weblink: View on Facebook live <http://www.Facebook.com/DiscoverTravelersRest> or [Zoom https://us02web.us/j/87264589491?pwd=T041bEFJb0ZwYUg3TEYrQXA1ejVsQT09](https://us02web.us/j/87264589491?pwd=T041bEFJb0ZwYUg3TEYrQXA1ejVsQT09)
Meeting ID: 872 6458 9491 Passcode: 706791

The following members were present at City Hall: Brandy Amidon, Mayor, Harvey Choplin, Mayor Pro-Tempore, Grant Bumgarner, Shaniece Criss, Kelly Byers, Rick Floyd, Jeff George, Brantly Vest. Also present were Eric Vinson, City Administrator, Charlene Carter, City Clerk, Ben Ford, Police Chief, and Greg Robertson, Fire Chief. The media were notified, and members of the public attended through Zoom online.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Amidon called the meeting to order.

2. Public Works Committee

Committee members: Kelly Byers, Sara Gilstrap, Jeff George

- a. Chair Byers called the meeting to order by roll call, Sara Gilstrap attended via zoom
- b. Councilmember Byers made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held August 10, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember George.
- c. The Committee had reviewed the Public Works Report for August. The Committee asked for information of which contracting service serves downtown areas. Administration provided information regarding the City's enrollment into the SC 811 Utility locate program.
- d. Chair Byers made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember George seconded the motion.

3. Public Safety Committee

Committee members: Rick Floyd, Harvey Choplin, Jeff George, Brantly Vest and Kelly Byers

- a. Chair Floyd called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Councilmember Choplin made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on August 10, 2020. The motion was seconded

by Councilmember George and carried unanimously.

- c. The Public Safety Committee inquired on update of fire truck delivery and Chief is hoping by year end.

Chief Robertson stated Fire has 2 new hires starting on September 29th which will make department fully staffed.

Police personnel update with the hiring of dispatcher Kayla Campbell as a police officer and interviews being conducted for dispatcher vacancy.

Police call volume about the same with influx of people during the Labor Day weekend downtown. Corporal Lewis is biking the trail and offering a presence in the community. Police and Fire are attending the same calls if possible. Building permits were lower in August. Municipal Court is meeting twice per month.

- d. Chair Floyd made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Choplin seconded the motion.

4. Planning and Development Committee

Committee members: Brantly Vest, Grant Bumgarner, Kelly Byers, Harvey Choplin and Shaniece Criss

- a. Chair Vest called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Councilmember Criss made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on August 10, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bumgarner and carried unanimously.
- c. The Committee received an overview from Administrator Vinson regarding the Short-Term rental proposed ordinance. Councilmember Bumgarner and Byers requested clarification on the fees to include business license and registration. Administrator provided specific example of Folly Beach licenses, fees, and information. Councilmember Byers asked how this would be implemented with B&B and business license. Councilmember Choplin asked if the City would incur any liability. Administrator Vinson and Councilmember Bumgarner reiterated that the City currently has short term rentals in residential areas illegally and at least this will provide guidelines for going forward. Councilmember Criss asked about the violations and language in the way documents written and made suggested changes. Violations in the proposed ordinance were discussed. Councilmember Byers asked for consistency as to the radius of property owner to the rental-50 miles. Administrator Vinson and Chief Robertson did reference the building code when discussing occupancy. Councilmember Byers inquired as to how the occupancy of 8 per rental was calculated. Mayor Amidon voiced concerns and reservations regarding turnover and locations. Councilmember Bumgarner stated most HOA

bylaws would handle the situations. Mayor Amidon made the point there are people who do not live in a HOA. Councilmember Bumgarner stated the notifications and business license would align with current policy timeframes for businesses.

Chair Vest asked a few last questions and asked the Committee what they would like to do. Councilmember Bumgarner made the motion to move on to full Council for approval as written and amend any language/issues later for amendment to the short-term rental code and Councilmember Byers seconded the motion.

Chair Vest called on Clerk Carter to discuss the MASC Hometown Economic Development Grant application. If awarded, the grant would be for \$25,000 and would require a City match of \$2500. The funds will be used to make outdoor improvements to multiple areas for locals and visitors to enjoy. Clerk Carter also mentioned these funds would combine with grant awards the City recently received. The City was just awarded the Duke Energy grant of \$10,000. Councilmember Bumgarner made the motion and Councilmember Byers seconded the motion to move approve a Resolution for the MASC grant application and matching funds on to full Council.

d. The Committee had no further business and Councilmember Vest made a motion to adjourn with a second from Councilmember Byers.

5. Personnel Committee

Committee members: Harvey Choplin, Rick Floyd, Grant Bumgarner, Kelly Byers and Brantly Vest

a. Chair Choplin called the meeting to order by roll call.

b. Councilmember Vest made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on August 10, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd and carried unanimously.

c. Councilmember Choplin made a motion to enter Executive Session discuss personnel retirement policy with full Council. Councilmember Byers made the second and carried unanimously. Councilmember Choplin made the motion to return from Executive Session and Councilmember Vest made the second. Mayor Amidon stated the session only resulted in an informational discussion.

6. New Business

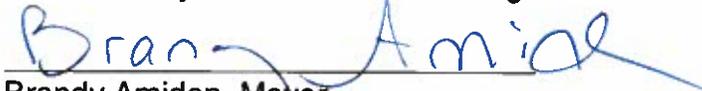
- a. Mayor Amidon made the motion and Councilmember Criss seconded the motion. Councilmembers Bumgarner and George were nays. The ordinance was approved 7-2. Emergency Ordinance O-17-20 to extend the Face Mask Coverings from the original ordinance passage of O-16-20 July 18, 2020-September 16, 2020 to November 15, 2020.

7. Miscellaneous Matters

None

8. Adjournment

There being no further business before Council and/or Committee, Councilmember Bumgarner made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember George and carried unanimously.



Brandy Amidon, Mayor

Completed by



Charlene Carter, City Clerk & Treasurer

Reviewed by



Eric Vinson, City Administrator