

CITY OF TRAVELERS REST
City Council Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 9, 2021 – 5:00 P.M.

The City has implemented changes to our Public Meetings due to COVID-19. We will meet in Council Chambers and will allow a maximum of 12 guests for this meeting. We invite the public to join us on Facebook live <http://www.Facebook.com/DiscoverTravelersRest> also.

The following members were present: Brandy Amidon, Mayor, Harvey Choplin, Mayor Pro Tempore, Grant Bumgarner, Rick Floyd, Brantly Vest, Shaniece Criss, Kelly Byers, and Jeff George. Also present were Greg Robertson, Fire Chief, Lori Sondov, City Clerk, Ben Ford, Police Chief, Phillip Tate, PW Director, and Brennan Williams, Planning Director. Absent were Eric Vinson, City Administrator, and Sara Gilstrap. The media was also notified.

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.
- b. Councilmember Byers made a motion to approve minutes from the Committee meeting held July 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember George and carried unanimously.
- c. Councilmember Choplin asked about the sewer evaluations being done. Director Tate stated the evaluations are done to determine if a resident can or cannot access sewer.
- d. Councilmember George made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Byers seconded the motion.

3. Public Safety Committee

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

- a. Chair Floyd called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Councilmember Vest made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held July 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember George and carried unanimously.
- c. Councilmember Choplin asked if the number of response calls had increased. Chief Robertson stated the number of calls is not increasing tremendously, but the time spent on scene has been longer due to waiting on the arrival of Greenville County EMS. Chief Robertson referred to a wait time of 50 minutes in one call. Councilmember Floyd asked if the department is on calls long enough to ask for assistance from other departments. Chief Robertson stated it has happened infrequently but could become an issue with the growth in the area if the EMS situation does not improve. Chief Robertson added the

County continues to move stations around to determine the best locations.

Chief Robertson stated his department is doing more training with other departments rather than only in-house trainings.

The Fire Department received thank you cards from the Make-a-Wish Foundation for providing a parade for a young boy and the MUSC Burned Children's Fund for a donation.

- d. Council thanked Chief Ford and the Police Department for the recent Night Out held at Trailblazer Park. Since two officers recently retired and another is leaving for a different position, Chair Floyd asked about the recruitment of officers. Chief Ford said he and his officers are actively recruiting individuals and stated a new police officer had started last week with another one scheduled to start before the end of the month. Councilmember Floyd recognized Chief Ford for his work, noting the department is not losing employees to other Police Departments but to retirement and different pursuits.
- e. Chief Ford stated Municipal Court is running smoothly and added he believes Jury Trials will be held later this month.
- f. Chief Robertson said the building report shows that the numbers are down, possibly due to cost of construction materials and time of year.
- g. Councilmember Choplin made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Floyd 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 July 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Byers and carried unanimously.
- c. Director Williams provided an overview of the planning report.
- d. Councilmember Choplin made a motion to adjourn and Councilmember Byers seconded the motion.

5. Ways and Means

Committee members: Grant Bumgarner, Harvey Choplin, Rick Floyd, Jeff George, and Shaniece Criss

- a. Chair Bumgarner called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Councilmember Floyd made a motion to approve the minutes from July 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Criss and carried unanimously.

3. An application is being presented to the C-Fund Committee to ask for half of the \$4.2 million Poinsett Project.
4. An air conditioning unit went out in the Old City Hall and Public Works Director Tate had it replaced.
5. The City has received the picnic tables it purchased through a grant. The Public Works team will be installing these in several areas throughout the City, including Trailblazer Park and near the History Museum.
6. A free mini-library will be installed in the upcoming week in Trailblazer Park.

L. ADJOURNMENT

1. There being no other business to come before the Council, Councilmember Bumgarner made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Brandy Amidon

Brandy Amidon, Mayor

Completed by Lori Sondov

Lori O. Sondov, CMC, City Clerk and Treasurer

Eric Vinson

Eric Vinson, City Administrator