

**CITY OF TRAVELERS REST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 16, 2022 6:00 P.M.**

The following members were present: Brandy Amidon, Mayor, Rick Floyd, Mayor Pro Tempore, Lisa Lane, Kelly Byers, Brantly Vest, Sherry Marrah, and Wayne McCall. Also present were: Eric Vinson, City Administrator, Lori Sondov, City Clerk, Ben Ford, Police Chief, Phillip Tate, Public Works Director, Mike Forman, Planning Director, Mac McMakin, Assistant Fire Chief, and Dan Kobler, Police Investigator. Absent was Grant Bumgarner. The media were notified. There were eight members of the public in attendance.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Mayor Amidon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Council and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance

B. INVOCATION

1. The invocation was given by Councilmember Floyd

C. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Councilmember Vest made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on May 19, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Floyd and carried unanimously.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Travelers Rest City Council Public Hearing for FY23 Budget. No one from the public commented.

E. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (5-minute max)

1. Duke Energy Foundation Presentation of Grant Award of \$3,250 – postponed to a future Council meeting
2. Heather Gatchell with the Greenville Homeless Alliance described her organization's purpose, presented its newly released 2021 Report, and discussed highlights as related to Travelers Rest, especially schoolchildren being affected by homelessness. Mayor Amidon asked who local homeless persons should contact for assistance. Ms. Gatchell stated a first point of contact is United Housing Connections and said the Greenville County School District has a resource person who deals with these issues. Councilmember Byers asked with which other non-profits does GHA work. Ms. Gatchell said GHA has a person working at Foothills Family Resource and GHA works with teachers at Furman University

Commercial Property) (TR 21-16). Councilmember McCall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Councilmember Vest gave a summary of the Ordinance.

2. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Resolution R-02-22 for a master lease agreement in the principal amount of not exceeding \$750,000 relating to the financing of equipment for municipal purposes; authorizing the execution and delivery of various documents; and other matters relating thereto. Councilmember Criss seconded the
3. motion, which carried unanimously. Administrator Vinson gave a brief summary of the Resolution.

I. OLD BUSINESS

None

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrator Vinson discussed a Public Parking Agreement with Resurrection Power Ministries. Administrator Vinson stated the agreement will allow the City to build a public parking lot on their property, the same agreement as at last month's Council meeting but with a different property owner. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to accept the agreement. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

K. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

1. Administrative Updates—Administrator Vinson recognized both the Fire and Police Departments for the grants they have recently obtained; stated there has been a \$50,000 donation to the Dicey Langston Statue Fund; said he had a productive meeting with Duke Energy regarding the electric charging stations; and added he might have a meeting with the South Carolina Department of Transportation regarding advancing the safety and crosswalk on Main Street.

L. ADJOURNMENT

1. There being no other business to come before Council, Councilmember McCall made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Byers and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.



Brandy Amidon, Mayor

Completed by 

Lori O. Sondov, CMC, City Clerk/Treasurer



Eric Vinson, City Administrator

regarding students. Ms. Gatchell noted GHA wants to have more collaboration with the area residents.

3. Kane Carrera spoke in favor of having a skatepark commission, related how important skateboarding has been to him since his family relocated several times, and stated how beneficial it would be to have a skateboard park in the Travelers Rest area.

4. Korinne Carrera, Kane's mother, also spoke in favor of having a skateboard park in Travelers Rest and what the sport means to her son and the other members of the skateboard community. Mrs. Carrera asked what steps the skateboard community should take next.

Mayor Amidon stated she thinks Greenville County is interested in having a skateboarding park and said she will speak with City officials about using Trailblazer Park as a skateboarding park. Councilmember McCall asked who would assume liability in this type of park. Mrs. Carrera stated at some parks, there is a waiver for the skateboarders to sign. Councilmember Lane pointed out a scrivener's error regarding her statement about a skateboarding park in Spartanburg: she was suggesting the Travelers Rest skateboarders look into how the park there works, not that they travel there to skateboard. Mr. Carrera said he is familiar with this park and it is a 45-minute drive for local skateboarders. Mayor Amidon obtained Mrs. Carrera's information and told her she would be in touch with her.

F. ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING

1. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Ordinance O-3-22 to adopt FY 2022-2023 General Fund Budget (to include the Rate Fee Schedule and CIP plan). Councilmember Lane seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to amend the Police Department Budget to include an additional \$20,000 for necessary equipment with the funds coming from the Fund Balance as well as the City has recently received a \$127,900 grant to fund a School Resource Officer for the Department and the School Resource Officer funds used will come back to the City through this grant. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion.

Councilmember Criss made a motion to consider the Ordinance as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chief Ford recognized the process of obtaining the SRO grant for the City. Councilmember Marrah asked if the officer would just serve Gateway Elementary School. Chief Ford said yes because the Greenville County School District covers Northwest Middle School. Councilmember Byers asked if the City is prepared to absorb this salary if the grant does not come through next year. Administrator Vinson said the City will look at the position and the grant annually going forward next year.

2. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Ordinance O-4-22 to adopt FY 2022-2023 Local Hospitality and Local Accommodations Budget. Councilmember Criss seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
3. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Ordinance O-5-22 to adopt FY 2022-2023 Sewer Fund Budget. Councilmember Criss seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
4. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Ordinance O-6-22 to adopt FY 2022-2023 Victims Advocate Budget. Councilmember Criss seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
5. Mayor Pro Tem Floyd made a motion to consider Ordinance O-7-22 to adopt General Obligations Bond-GO Bond, Series 2022A and Series 2022B. Councilmember Criss seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
6. Councilmember Vest made a motion to consider Ordinance O-8-22 to make an Amendment to the City of Travelers Rest Zoning Ordinance to introduce a table of permitted uses applicable to various zoning districts and other amendments related thereto. Councilmember Marrah seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Councilmember McCall asked for a mention on record recognizing Planning Director Forman for the good job he did completing this task.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Criss provided a summary of the June 6, 2022 Public Works Committee report. Chair Criss thanked Vice Chair Lane for leading the meeting when she was absent.

Chair Byers provided a summary of the June 6, 2022 Public Safety Committee report.

Mayor Pro Tem and Vice Chair Floyd provided a summary of the June 6, 2022 Ways and Means report. Mayor Pro Tem and Vice Chair Floyd made a motion to accept the May Financial Reports. Councilmember McCall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chair Vest provided a summary of the June 6, 2022 Planning and Development Committee report.

H. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FOR FIRST READING

1. Councilmember Vest made a motion to consider Ordinance O-09-22 to rezone +/-4.65 acres from C-1, Commercial District, R-M, Residential, Multiple Family District and I-1, Industrial District, to PD-R, Planned Development District (Pinestone-State Park Road