

Council Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 5, 2023
5:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall

Council Present: Mayor Pro Tempore, Rick Floyd; Councilmembers Grant Bumgarner, Kelly Byers, Shaniece Criss, Lisa Lane, Sherry Marrah, Wayne McCall, and Brantly Vest

Staff Present: Eric Vinson, City Administrator; Beth Sigginano, Administrative Assistant; Greg Robertson, Fire Chief; Ben Ford, Police Chief; Mike Forman, Planning Director; and Phillip Tate, Public Works Director

Absent: Brandy Amidon, Mayor; Amanda Connolly, City Clerk

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tempore Floyd called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tempore Floyd introduced Joshua Gilmore, Director of Community Connection & Ministry Mobilization at North Greenville University. Joshua spoke about his inspiration behind the Travelers Rest Adventure Guide. There are over 50 adventures in the book separated by season. Nothing is cost prohibited, everything is accessible, and within an hour of Travelers Rest. The council thanked Joshua for sharing his adventures with us.

2. Public Works Committee

Members: Shaniece Criss (Chair), Lisa Lane, and Sherry Marrah

- a. Chair Criss called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Committee member Marrah made a motion to approve the minutes from the Committee meeting held on May 8, 2023. The motion was seconded by Committee member Lane.
- c. The Committee reviewed the Public Works report for May. Director Tate noted the Public Works department has been busy with the finishing touches to the Adventure Park playground. Discussion ensued between Committee members and staff regarding the zip line weight restrictions, park repair funds, donor plaques, number of trees planted, whether the park shelters can be rented, and if additional playground equipment is in the budget. Director Tate mentioned that two public works employees will become certified as playground inspectors. Councilmember Bumgarner reminded the Committee that the playground equipment comes out of hospitality expense budget, so it doesn't need an additional line item in the budget. Committee member Criss asked to move forward with purchase of an additional swing set. Administrator Vinson noted that Greenville County currently is

responsible for repairs of the park however, at any point in the future that the city takes over the park, the city will then be responsible for the repairs. Greenville County is participating in 50% of the costs along with the city. We will work with Greenville County regarding shelter rentals for parties, etc.

- d. Chair Criss showed appreciation for the recycling handout and questioned how it will be distributed to the community. Director Tate noted that the flyer will be mailed at the end of this week to residents in addition to advertising on all social media outlets and ConnectTR mobile app notification. Committee member Marrah asked that “how to get a recycling cart” be removed from our website and update it with the new information being populated. Director Tate noted that the garbage form has been updated and the recycling option has also been removed.
- e. Councilmember Bumgarner addressed the septic tanks that were pumped this month and questioned whether they were on the list to receive letters? Director Tate mentioned that the septic tank pump letter will be mailed out to the 44 residents by the end of June.
- f. Councilmember Lane made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilmember Marrah seconded the motion.

3. Public Safety Committee

Members: Kelly Byers (Chair), Grant Bumgarner, Shaniece Criss, Wayne McCall, and Brantly Vest

- a. Chair Byers called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Councilmember McCall made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on May 8, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bumgarner.
- c. The Committee reviewed the Public Safety reports for May. Police Chief Ford mentioned that the police department had a rather turbulent weekend with several crimes; car break-ins (cars were unlocked), and appliances stolen out of vacant units at Pinestone. The department does have fingerprints on the Pinestone thefts and have leads on the suspects. Discussion ensued regarding the number of increased DUIs. Councilmember Floyd remarked that we should use the new ConnectTR notification app to remind residents to lock their vehicles and other crime related concerns.
- d. Fire Chief Robertson noted that there was nothing new to report for the Fire Department. Chief Robertson gave an update on Chief McMakin noting he is feeling better since his surgery.
- e. Administrator Vinson noted that there was an increased jump in building permit activity, which is to be expected during the summer months.
- f. Nothing new to report regarding the Municipal Court.
- g. Committee member Bumgarner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Committee member Criss seconded the motion.

4. Planning & Development Committee

Members: Brantly Vest (Chair), Grant Bumgarner, Kelly Byers, Shaniece Criss, and Wayne McCall

- a. Chair Vest called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Committee member Byers made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on May 8, 2023. The motion was seconded by Committee member Bumgarner.

- c. Director Foreman informed the Committee that they will start to see some comp plan activity as it is being brought to the planning commission this month (June) for their first review. He noted the U.S. Census Bureau did release their data from the 2020 census, therefore we will have data to compare.
- d. Director Foreman stated the Swamp Rabbit Trail numbers continue to increase every month, noting we are one-tenth the size of the City of Greenville and we have 50% of riders on the trail.
- e. Committee member Byers questioned the construction activity next to Starbucks. Director Forman noted there will be a Jersey Mike's going into one of the suites and it's yet to be determined who will occupy the other suites.
- f. Committee member Bumgarner made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Committee member Criss seconded the motion.

5. Ways & Means Committee

Members: Grant Bumgarner (Chair), Kelly Byers, Shaniece Criss, Rick Floyd, and Brantly Vest

- a. Chair Bumgarner called the meeting to order by roll call.
- b. Committee member Floyd made a motion to approve minutes from Committee meeting held on May 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Committee member Vest.
- c. Chair Bumgarner noted that there will be a second reading of the budget at next week's council meeting. There will be a few adjustments made to the budget; the hospitality budget will increase slightly to cover the costs of the skate park plan, including additional playground equipment (swing set) for the Trailblazer Adventure Park. The Fee Schedule will also be updated to include the fire alarm fee.
- d. Committee member Byers questioned whether there will be a public hearing at the Council meeting on June 15th concerning the budget. Administrator Vinson confirmed there is a hearing before the Council.
- e. Committee member Vest made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Committee member Criss seconded the motion.

6. Old Business

- a. None

7. New Business

- a. Administrator Vinson discussed the renewal of the CDBG Urban County Cooperative Agreement. This requalification is for FYs 2024-2026. This Agreement is with the County of Greenville and the Greenville County Redevelopment Authority (GCRA) and the renewal is required every three years for the community block grant fund. GCRA serves as the administrator of those funds.

8. Miscellaneous Matters

- a. Administrator Vinson acknowledged that an employee appreciation lunch will be held on Thursday, June 8th at the fire station. This luncheon is sponsored by our insurance broker, Southeastern Insurance Consultants (SIC). All employees and council members are welcome to attend.
- b. Administrator Vinson welcomed our new intern, Haley Hopkins. She began her internship on June 5th and will be assisting Director Forman with the comp plan updates and other projects.

- c. Administrator Vinson noted that Chief Ford found a great deal on two hybrid police Ford Explorers that were budgeted for next year. Due to the backlog on these vehicles, the Explorers were purchased out of our Capital Project fund and we will reimburse ourselves after we receive the Master Lease.
- d. Administrator Vinson stated that the City is still in negotiations with the parking agreement regarding terms and concerns that were addressed by the council. As soon as it is prepared, and agreed upon, we will bring it back to council for consideration.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council Committee, Councilmember Bumgarner made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lane seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Floyd adjourned the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Brandy Amidon Brandy Amidon, Mayor
Completed by Amanda Connolly Amanda Connolly, City Clerk
Eric Vinson Eric Vinson, City Administrator