



CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council Members was held on September 13, 2016 in the Council Chambers in Springfield, GA. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Alderman at 6:02 p.m.

MAYOR BARTON ALDERMAN AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Charles Hinely
Steve Shealy
Gary Weitman

Jerry Maennche
Kenny Usher

Council Member Cribbs was unable to be present at the beginning of the meeting, but did arrive during the executive session. A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT:

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Lauren Meadows, Assistant City Attorney
Erin Phillips, Community Development Director

GUEST PRESENT:

Richard Walls
Joyce Alderman

Chris Tolleson
Clint Hodges

INVOCATION – Given by Councilman Weitman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Barton Alderman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Usher made a motion to amend the Agenda to add “pending litigation” under executive session.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consideration for approval of the minutes of the 08/09/2016 Public Hearing

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve the minutes of 08/09/2016 Public Hearing.

Second: Maennche seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Consideration for approval of the minutes of the 08/09/2016 regular meeting

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the minutes of the 08/09/2016 regular meeting.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Consideration for approval of the minutes of the 08/15/2016 planning workshop

MOTION: Shealy made a motion to approve the minutes of 08/15/2016 planning workshop.

Second: Maennche seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SRC - Erin spoke about the barrier on Cleveland Street in hopes that everyone will be happy with this when it is finished. Usher would like to keep track of school children who have assisted with this project.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration for approval of a Resolution (#R2016-05) to approve the Watershed Protection Plan

Chris Tolleson from Integrated Science stepped to the podium. This is the final document for the project. This commits city to implementing the watershed protection plan. Mr. Tolleson discussed the strategy and preparation of the plan. They focused on the greenway along Ebenezer Creek to show EPD that we are already trying to monitor water quality, etc. and protect water resources. The City will not be required to acquire any serious new programs. No significant water problems were found. A discussion followed.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to approve the Resolution reference the Watershed Protection Plan.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

First Reading of an Amendment to Code of the City of Springfield, Georgia, Part II, Subpart A "General Ordinances," Chapter 1 "General Provisions," Sec. 1-7 "General Penalty,"

Assistant City Attorney Lauren Meadows discussed the amendment, whereby the amendment will provide the municipal court more discretion on penalties.

Consideration for approval to appoint Rick Rafter as Judge for a day (officiate wedding)

Rick Rafter entered the Council Chambers at approximately 6:23 p.m. and stepped to the podium. Rafter's son is getting married the week of Thanksgiving and Attorney Rafter requests to be appointed as Judge for a day on November 26, 2016 in order to perform the wedding ceremony.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to appoint Rick Rafter as Judge for a day, on 11/26/16, in order for him to officiate the wedding.

Second: Shealy seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Consideration to authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages at special movie events at the Mars Theatre

The City Manager explained that there are several adult orientated movie events in which responsible adults may wish to have a glass of wine or perhaps a beer. Alcohol would not be served at all movie events. The Council could designate a person, such as the City Manager, or whomever they wish to make the decision on which movies alcohol could be available. This would alleviate the need to come before Council on each request. Brett Bennett also advised that he has been very pleased with the lack of problems at alcohol events.

A discussion followed in which pros and cons were expressed.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages at the two upcoming special movie nights scheduled for "ladies night out".

Second: Maennche seconded the motion.

Another discussion followed

MOTION PASSED by a vote of 4 Yes (Hinely, Maennche, Shealy, and Weitman), 1 No (Usher).

Consideration to authorize the city manager to purchase benches and trash cans for the streetscape project

The City Manager would like some direction as to what Council wishes him to do in regard to the purchase of benches and trash cans, (how many and placement) for the streetscape project. Bennett suggests metal coated trash cans which city crews would empty once or twice weekly. Erin Phillips suggests perhaps a dozen or so benches.

Council Members Steve Shealy and Gary Weitman and citizen Joyce Alderman volunteered to serve on the committee along with Brett Bennett and Erin Phillips in order to come up with a plan to bring back before Council at a future meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

General government was not discussed at this time.

REPORTS

Police Department – the monthly police report was available in Council packets for review.

Fire Department – the monthly fire report was available to Council prior to the beginning of the meeting for review. Mayor Alderman commended the Fire Department for the excellent job performed during the recent storm.

Code Enforcement – the code enforcement report was provided to Council prior to the beginning of the meeting for their review.

Mayor Alderman read a thank you letter received from Phyllis Shearouse in reference to the sidewalks placed on Early Street and Pine Street providing for a much easier and safer walking experience. Ms. Shearouse also thanked Brett Bennett and the Council for all that is being done to make Springfield better.

Mayor Pro Tem Usher suggested consideration for future sidewalks on Stillwell Rd or New Stillwell Rd.

MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
Reference real estate and pending litigation

MOTION: Weitman made a motion at 6:53 P.M. to move from the regular meeting into an executive session reference real estate and pending litigation.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Council Member Cribbs arrived at approximately 6:59 p.m. and took his seat along with the other members of Council.

MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION BACK INTO THE REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Cribbs made a motion at approximately 8:08 p.m. to move from the executive session back into the regular meeting.

Second: Maennche seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

TAKE ANY ACTION NEEDED ON ITEM(S) FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No actions were taken.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

MOTION: Maennche made a motion at approximately 8:09 p.m. to adjourn this meeting.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Approved 10/25/2016