



CALL TO ORDER

A regularly scheduled meeting of the City of Springfield Mayor and Council Members was held on April 11, 2017, in the Council Chambers in Springfield, GA. This meeting was called to order by Mayor Alderman at 6:00 p.m.

MAYOR BARTON ALDERMAN AND THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

Justin Cribbs
Jerry Maennche
Kenny Usher

Charles Hinely
Steve Shealy
Gary Weitman

A quorum of Council was represented at this meeting.

ALSO PRESENT:

Brett Bennett, City Manager
Linda Rineair, City Clerk

Ben Perkins, City Attorney
Erin Phillips, Comm. Dev. Dir.

GUEST PRESENT:

Joyce Alderman

Clint Hodges

INVOCATION – Given by Weitman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Barton Alderman

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to amend the agenda to remove item "f" under "New Business" (reference an amendment to the agreement with the Effingham County Tax Commissioner, fire fees), and approved the agenda as amended.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consideration for approval of 03/14/2017 minutes of regular meeting

MOTION: Hinely made a motion to approve 03/14/2017 minutes of regular meeting.

Second: Cribbs seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of an Ordinance reference the City of Springfield Fee Schedule

An ordinance reference the City of Springfield Fee Schedule was presented. The Business License (Occupation Tax) portion of Schedule of Fees will remain the same it has been over the last several years.

This Ordinance will come back before Council for consideration for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Presentation of an Ordinance to set the Springfield Planning and Zoning Board Members compensation for services

This ordinance was presented during this portion of the meeting and will come back before Council for consideration for approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Consideration to authorize acceptance of Proposal for services provided for Springfield Historic District

City Manager Brett Bennett advised that there are several benefits for going through the Downtown Development Authority. If the building is a qualified building in the DDA projects, 35% tax credits eligibility applies. This creates incentives to renovate buildings while maintaining the historic integrity.

Community Development Director Erin Phillips discussed the proposal for services. Ray, Ellis & LaBrie Consulting will draft a Historic District nomination along with necessary photos and exhibits. After review of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Nomination the consulting firm will address comments to get the district nomination to be reviewed by the Georgia National Register Review Board.

The City will assist with research, a base map, additional photography, etc. This project is estimated to take around 2 ½ months. If approved, we may be eligible for tax credits for renovation. Reserving historical character is the goal.

MOTION: Usher made a motion to authorize acceptance of Proposal for Services Provided for Springfield Historic District as proposed to be paid out of General Government funds.

Second: Hinely seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Consideration to authorize the City Manager to purchase a van in the amount of \$16,000

At the March meeting Council Members had authorized the City Manager to purchase a used passenger van not to exceed \$12,500. This vehicle would be used for the Effingham County inmate crew per the contract recently approved. This has come back before Council for consideration to increase the amount to \$16,000.

MOTION: Weitman made a motion to authorize the City Manager to purchase a used van in the amount of \$16,000.

Second: Cribbs seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

Consideration for an appointment to the DDA Board to fill Van Horton’s unexpired term which ends in March 2020

This appointment is in reference the resignation of Van Horton from the DDA Board. With no names being offered to fill this post, this item will be brought back to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Discussion of dates for a City Council Planning Retreat

Different dates were mentioned for the City Council Planning Retreat. Saturday June 3, 2017 has been set as the tentative date.

Reminder of Ole Effingham Day

The Olde Effingham Day Festival will be held on Saturday, April 22nd at the Effingham Museum and Living History Site from 10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

REPORTS

City Manager Reports

Rezone of property from R1 to R3 - A piece of property off McCall Road, next to Spring Branch, is being requested to be rezoned from R1 to R3. This request will come back before Council in the form of an Ordinance for presentation at the next meeting. A Public Hearing will be scheduled for May 22, 2017, with a called meeting set for May 23, 2017 so action may be taken.

FEMA - The City has been approved for the first part of FEMA “category B” in the amount of \$26,000. The “category A” should be coming up soon.

City Charter - The City of Springfield Charter was approved during the last week of legislative session.

Mars Theatre Expansion – A meeting was held last week. The next step is to meet next Friday with the engineers.

Azalea – This is still on our list. Legal requirements such as notice prior to street closure will need to be addressed.

Yellow Ribbon Campaign – Yellow ribbons will be placed on light poles in downtown Springfield from City Hall to JoAnn’s Florist and on power poles in Rincon, to welcome home and honor US Army Specialist, Winston Hencely. Winston is a 2014 graduate of Effingham County High School. He was one of 16 critically injured by a suicide bomber in Afghanistan on November 12, 2016. Ribbons will be put up by May 6th and stay up until after July 4th.

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

Fire Department – monthly report was available in Council packets for review.

Code Enforcement – the code enforcement report was available in Council packets for review. Erin Phillips briefly discussed the code enforcement report.

**MOTION TO MOVE FROM THE REGULAR MEETING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION –
Reference Real Estate, Personnel, and Threatened Litigation**

MOTION: Weitman made a motion at approximately 6:57 p.m. to move from the regular meeting into an executive session reference real estate, personnel, and threatened litigation.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

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

MOTION: Usher made a motion at approximately 7:26 p.m. to move from the executive session back into the regular meeting.

Second: Weitman seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

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

No Action taken

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

MOTION: Hinely made a motion at approximately 7:27 p.m. to adjourn this meeting.

Second: Usher seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED unanimous without opposition.

05/09/2017 Approved