

MINUTES
Lowell City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sandy Railey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those attending were Councilmember Ken Ervin, Councilmember Candy Funderburk, Councilmember Thomas Gillespie, Councilmember Sam Mitchem Jr., Councilmember Shane Robinson, City Manager Kevin Krouse, City Attorney Jim Windham, City Clerk Beverly Harris, Financial Officer Kevin Haney, Police Chief Scott Bates, and various citizens.

II. INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Gillespie led the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor Railey asked to amend the agenda by adding the recognition of Scott Bates as the Lowell Police Chief under section V, item C.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to adopt the amended agenda, followed by a second by Councilmember Ervin. The vote was unanimous.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Havan Guffie, Troop 33, Eagle Scout Service Project for the City of Lowell

Mayor Railey presented Havan Guffie a Proclamation recognizing him as an Eagle Scout Award recipient. Mr. Guffie chose the City of Lowell as his Eagle Scout Community Service Project.

B. Hank Graham and Randi Gates of the Gaston County MPO

Hank Graham, the Gaston County MPO Coordinator, presented an overview of the Gaston County MPO program, functions, and current planning work program.

C. Recognition of Chief Scott Bates, Lowell Police Department

Mayor Railey recognized Scott Bates as the new Police Chief for the City of Lowell.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt the Minutes from the December 12, 2016 Council meeting.

Councilmember Robinson did not agree with the unanimous vote under IV (Special Presentation), item A. He stated he did not vote in favor or against the Resolution. The city attorney stated the minutes could be amended to show the number of votes in favor.

Councilmember Ervin made a motion to amend the minutes by showing how many votes were in favor of the Resolution instead of showing it as a unanimous vote, followed by a second by Councilmember Gillespie. The vote was unanimous.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Planning Retreat Agenda Discussion

Kevin Krouse asked for topics from the Council in preparation for the upcoming Planning Retreat in February.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Change to the Zoning and Development Fee Schedule

Kevin Krouse presented a proposed zoning and development fee schedule to Council.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to approve the zoning and development schedule of fees with the amendment of changing the residential zoning accessory structure square footage to starting at 350 instead of 200 for both structures less or greater than line items, followed by a second from Councilmember Ervin. The vote was unanimous.

IX. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Jim Windham did not have anything new to report.

X. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Kevin Krouse did not have anything new to report.

XI. MAYOR AND COUNCIL GENERAL DISCUSSION

Councilmember Robinson asked for an update on the Financial Report. He was concerned with the rising administration expense line item.

Councilmember Mitchem would like to see more funding come in for Lowell this year.

Councilmember Funderburk asked for an update on Parks & Recreation and the volunteer dinner.

Councilmember Gillespie asked for contacts to be added back to newsletter.

XII. CLOSED SESSION NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3)

A motion was made at 8:15 pm by Councilmember Robinson to go into Closed Session in accordance with provisions of NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3), followed by a second from Councilmember Gillespie. The vote was unanimous.

The Council reconvened from Closed Session at 8:21 pm.

Councilmember Funderburk made a motion to approve all previous Closed Session minutes reviewed (September 12, 2016; October 10, 2016; November 14, 2016; December 12, 2016), followed by a second from Councilmember Ervin. The vote was unanimous.

XIII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Funderburk made a motion to adjourn the meeting, followed by a second from Councilmember Ervin. The vote was unanimous. The meeting ended at 8:24 pm.



Mayor, Sandy Railey



City Clerk, Beverly Harris