

City of Fayetteville
Regular Mayor and City Council Meeting
Minutes
February 4, 2016

Call to Order

The Mayor and City Council of Fayetteville met in regular session on February 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Edward Johnson called the meeting to order, followed by Opening Prayer led by Councilmember Harlan Shirley, and then led those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were: Harlan Shirley, Kathaleen Brewer, Paul Oddo, Scott Stacy, and James Williams. Staff members present were City Manager Ray Gibson and City Clerk Anne Barksdale.

Oddo moved to approve the agenda as presented. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Shirley moved to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 21, 2016. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1. Councilmember Stacy abstained.

Recognitions and Presentations:

Mayor Johnson read proclamation for The Georgia City-County Management Association (GCCMA) 60th Anniversary. The GCCMA is celebrating 60 years of service to Georgia's leaders, cities, and counties.

Ray Gibson, City Manager accepted the proclamation.

Mayor Johnson called Pam Young, Executive Director of Southern Conservation Trust (SCT) to give an update of the organization and progress made at the Ridge Nature Area.

Mrs. Young delivered a power point presentation and detailed description of their work at the Ridge Nature Area along with other accomplishments by SCT.

New Business:

Mayor Johnson called Consider Contract Recommendation of Insurance Broker.

Ray Gibson, City Manager stated the City of Fayetteville solicited bids for employee insurance/benefit services on October 30, 2015 with a closing date of Thursday, December 3, 2016.

The four firms that submitted proposals for the City's consideration were, Edgewood Partners Insurance Center (EPIC), MSI Benefits Group, Inc., Ascension, and Shaw Hankins.

A selection committee consisting of Ray Gibson, City Manager; Alan Jones, Assistant City Manager; Mike Bush Director of Finance and Administrative Services; Barbara Dudley, Human Resources Manager and Carleetha Talmadge, Assistant Director of Finance and Administrative Services reviewed and evaluated the proposals based upon the technical criteria listed in the request for proposal. Champion Benefits, MSI Benefits, Shaw Hankins, Ascension, and Edgewood Partners Insurance Center (EPIC) all submitted proposals with the latter four companies receiving interviews. Champion Benefits did not submit a complete proposal, resulting in them being automatically removed from further consideration by the review committee.

He added, at the conclusion of the interview process, the selection committee, based on criteria outlined in the RFP, felt that Edgewood Partners Insurance Center (EPIC) was the best overall firm in meeting the City's employee insurance and benefit needs.

Staff recommends awarding the contract for the City's employee insurance/benefit services to EPIC and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Brokerage Service Agreement. The term of the contract will be for one year with four additional one-year terms.

Stacy moved to approve EPIC as the City's new Insurance Broker allowing the City Manager to sign the contract. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Johnson called Discussion of the Downtown Master Plan.

Brian Wismer, Director of Community Development stated the City of Fayetteville is currently in the process of developing a Downtown Master Plan with the assistance of Foley Design Group serving as consultants and designers of the plan.

He stated, this planning effort will develop a community vision that creates more opportunities for residents and business to thrive in an expanded downtown district. Important aspects in the plan will define appropriate density levels, creation of park/amenity space, improved vehicular traffic flow and safety.

He added, in November of 2015, the first draft was presented to the public in a Town Hall meeting and attendees were able to provide comments on the direction of the plan. Staff has worked with the consultants to incorporate those comments into the latest draft of the plan. A separate public forum will be scheduled to garner additional citizen comments, but this will allow City Council to view and comment on the plan in advance of that meeting, to be scheduled later in February.

Bill Foley of Foley Design Group discussed the plan as well.

Public comment was made by former mayor, Greg Clifton who stated we need to be careful not to forget the planning of the downtown area as we continue to plan the West Fayetteville/Pinewood area.

Mayor Johnson called Consider Appointment for Fayette County Transportation Committee.

Ray Gibson, City Manager stated Council needs to appoint a representative to the newly formed Fayette County Transportation Committee. He suggested Chris Hindman, Director of Public Services be appointed to this committee since his expertise is in this area.

Oddo moved to appoint Chris Hindman to serve on the Fayette County Transportation Committee. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager and Staff Reports:

Ray Gibson, City Manager announced that our Council Retreat will be held all day on March 11th at the Old Courthouse, 3rd floor meeting room.

City Council and Committee Reports:

Councilmember Stacy thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers in the passing of his father.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Johnson said the town hall meeting that was held January 26th was well attended and very informative. He added that we had some good discussions and he urged the public to attend future town hall meetings.

Public Comments:

Local artist Vicki Turner presented a new wooden sign to Brian Wismer depicting the change in hours and days at the Holiday-Dorsey-Fife-House Museum. The museum is now open Tuesday - Saturday from 10:00 – 3:00 each day.

Former councilmember, Al Hovey-King, commended Southern Conservation Trust on their outstanding work at the Ridge Nature Area.

He also commented, asking Council to revisit our sign ordinance and clean up the looks of the city with stricter enforcement. He suggested adding a category for temporary signs.

Shirley moved to adjourn the meeting. Oddo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Barksdale, City Clerk