



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

City Council Chambers

Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM

MINUTES

Members Present

Mayor, Becky S. Smith, Council Members: Brent Guffey, Kay McCathen, Brenda Boyd, Dan Boling, Joe Will, and Donnie Griffin were all present. City Manager, James Inman and City Attorney, Dan O'Shea were present as well.

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. First United Methodist Pastor, Tripp Hord led the audience in prayer. Mayor Smith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustment and Approval of the Agenda

By motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote, the March agenda was approved with no revisions.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. The following individual came forth:

- Melissa Toye of 109 N. F St. – Mrs. Toye addressed Council regarding the City's emergency response plan. This morning Mrs. Toye's water was shut off, due to a water main break. Mrs. Toye inquired about the process to notify residents.

Consent Agenda

The following items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by motion of Dan Boling:

- **Approval of Minutes:** City Council will consider adopting the Regular Meeting Minutes of the February 14, 2022 meeting.
- **Street Closure-Sounds of Summer 2022** - City administration is requesting the temporary closure of the 100 Block of West and East Virginia Avenue and the 100 Block of North and South 12th Street for the 2022 Sounds of Summer Series on the 4th Saturday of each month from April to October from the hours of 2:00PM-10:00PM.
- **Street Closure-34th Annual Down Home Festival Ordinance** - City administration is requesting the temporary closure of the 100 Block of West Virginia, East Virginia, West Pennsylvania Avenue, and the 100 Block of North and South 12th Street for the 34th Annual Down Home Day Festival on Friday, May 6th and Saturday, May 7th, 2022.

Resolution – Approving the Sale of Beer and Wine

City Manager, James Inman reminded Council that said resolution is a yearly requirement for the backpack program. The Bessemer City Crisis Center sales beer at the Summer Concerts & Cruise-Ins as well as Down Home Day Festival to raise funds for the backpack program. However, prior authorization from Mayor and Council is required for the State ABC Board to approve the Crisis Center to sale at City events.

By motion of Joe Will and a 5:1 vote, with Brenda Boyd in opposition, the resolution was adopted. A copy of the resolution is available at City Hall.

Public Hearing –Petition for Voluntary Annexation (Trinity Capital):

City Council held a public hearing regarding a petition for voluntary annexation received from Trinity Capital for property located at 902 Edgewood Rd. Parcel #306415 (Edgewood 85 Commerce Park) 118.84 acres (*recombination of Parcels #152636,152628,153633, 152634, 152647,152631, 153067*).

By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the public hearing regarding the petition for voluntary annexation was opened at 7:11 PM.

Mayor Smith asked if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the petition for voluntary annexation. There was none.

Mayor Smith asked if there was anyone present to speak in opposition of the petition for voluntary annexation. There was none.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the public hearing regarding the petition for voluntary annexation was closed at 7:12 PM.

Ordinance for Zoning Map Amendment:

City Planner, Nathan Hester addressed Council regarding the petition for voluntary annexation. The City currently has water and sewer on this property. Trinity Capital has agreed to pave the road for the one resident located next to the property on Crescent Lane.

By motion of Joe Will and unanimous vote, the zoning map amendment regarding the extension of the Bessemer City corporate limits to include the Edgewood 85 Commerce Park was approved. A copy of this ordinance is on file at City Hall. This zoning map was adopted along with the plan consistency and statement of reasonableness. The requested rezoning is reasonable and consistent with the Bessemer City Planning & Economic Development Comprehensive Land Use Vision.

Resolution Directing Clerk to Investigate- Voluntary Annexation Lennar Homes

City Clerk Hayes is hereby directed to investigate the petition for voluntary annexation from Lennar Homes to ensure General Statute is followed for contiguous annexation.

Upon motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the resolution was adopted. A copy is on file at City Hall.

Establish Public Hearing:

City Staff is requesting the establishment of a public hearing for Council to hear comments from citizens regarding a petition for voluntary annexation from Lennar Homes for property located off of Costner School Rd. Parcel Number #305559. The property is currently zoned Rural (R) and I-2 (Gaston Co. Zoning Jurisdiction).

By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, a public hearing regarding a petition for voluntary annexation from Lennar Homes will be held on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00PM in Council Chambers. Public notice will be given per NCGS.

City Manager's Report

City Manager James Inman, addressed Council regarding the following:

- Budget Amendment: City Manager, James Inman requested a budget amendment to move \$45,000 in the General Fund where property was sold. By motion of Kay McCathen and unanimous vote, the budget amendment was approved.
- Budget Amendment: City Manager, James Inman requested a budget amendment to move \$30,000 in the General Fund where grant funds were received for the Police Department. By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the budget amendment was approved.
- Budget Amendment: City Manager, James Inman requested a budget amendment to move \$15,000 in the General Fund where grant funds were received for the Carolina Thread trail. By motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote, the budget amendment was approved.
- Capital Project Ordinance: City Staff is requesting the approval of a Capital Project Ordinance regarding a \$500,000 grant from the State to rehabilitate property in the downtown area. By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the Capital Project ordinance was approved.
- General: City Manager, James Inman commended the Parks & Recreation, Public Works, and Police Department on working together during a time of need in the City. Mr. Inman reported on general affairs of the City.

Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Council member, Dan Boling inquired about a sink hole on the 200 Block of E. Tennessee Avenue. Council member, Joe Will inquired about the possibility of a 4 way stop at the intersection of W. Virginia Avenue and 14th Street. Council member, Brenda Boyd reported on the status of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Council member, Brent Guffey inquired about a Code Enforcement case regarding property on Costner School Rd. Council member, Donnie Griffin inquired about the CDBG rehabilitation project and City landscaping. It has improved.

Adjournment

Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Brent Guffey and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk