



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
City Council Chambers
Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 3:00 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mayor Becky S. Smith called the meeting to order.

Members Present

Mayor, Becky S. Smith, Council Members: Joe Will, Kay McCathen, Brent Guffey, Brenda Boyd, Dan Boling, and Donnie Griffin were all present. City Manager, Josh Ross and department heads was present as well. A quorum was present.

Department Head Reports

Bessemer City department heads gave reports on their department's status:

JoD Franklin, Parks and Recreation Director- Mr. Franklin addressed Council regarding the Christmas in the City Festival, Parade, and Tree Lighting on Sunday, November 20. City Staff received many positive comments about the parade. This year we had the most units than any other parade. City Council inquired about the rules and regulations regarding political activity and candy throwing. Light discussion ensued regarding the potential of a dog park. City Staff stated that the Parks & Recreation Advisory board will be creating a Master Park plan. A community wide survey will be conducted during that time to aid in the development of the plan.

By general consensus, City Council will review the parade application at an upcoming work session. A discussion will be held on if and how political entries will be regulated.

Jamie Ramsey, Assistant City Manager- Mr. Ramsey addressed Council regarding the water plant project and the leaf pick up units. The water plant project is going well. However, we are down one leaf vacuum truck. Thus, there will be a delay in picking up leaves.

Nathan Hester, City Planner – Mr. Hester addressed Council regarding Osage Mill, Foundry Commercial, Lennar Homes, Kintegra, and a private drug store. Osage Mill will be closing on their financing on December 9th and will begin construction in January 2023. The Foundry site and Trinity Capital is going well. Kintegra is fully permitted thru the City and County, the project will be bid soon. A private drug store is underway on Gastonia Highway. There is a lot of development going on at the moment.

Tom Ellis, Police Chief- Chief Ellis addressed Council about ongoing investigations and new Police Department equipment. The new cameras that were purchased to monitor traffic are working out well. There are plans to build a public safety building in the years to come. However, City Staff is not working on these endeavors currently.

City Manager's Report

Josh Ross, City Manager- Mr. Ross addressed Council regarding the health of City Staff, the Allan Farris Community Center, Stinger Park, and the employee Christmas Party. City Staff will be bringing proposed changes to the AFCC rental and user agreement in a future work session. A ribbon cutting will be held in the Spring of 2023 for Stinger Park.

Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Council member, Dan Boling inquired about the lighting at Stinger Park. City Staff informed him that a procedure manual is currently being divorced. Council member, Donnie Griffin inquired about Stinger Park lights are LED or globe lights. Mr. Griffin commended City Staff on a job well done.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM by motion of Brenda Boyd and unanimous vote.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk