

**CITY ON LIBERTY WORK SESSION MEETING
APRIL 5, 2010 – 6:00 PM
ROSEWOOD CENTER
MINUTES**

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Deese. Present were Council Members: Josh Harrison, Michael Sheriff, Dwight Yates, Brian Petersen and Walt McJunkin.

Absent: Rick Clark

Mayor Deese called the meeting to order at precisely 6:00 p.m.

READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 10-0402, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY FOR CONDUCTING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMISSION FOR PICKENS COUNTY, QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS, SECTION (b) ADJUSTING THE TIME FOR OFFICERS TO TAKE OFFICE

Mayor Deese explained this ordinance was discussed during the work retreat. He asked council if there was any further discussion regarding this matter and stated it would be on the agenda for vote at Monday night's council meeting. Mayor Deese stated this ordinance would change the date for elected officials to take office from "the Friday following certification, to December 1st".

ARCHITECTUAL STANDARDS

CM Sheriff stated he has the basic architectural standards guidelines from several cities that he is looking at and incorporating some of their ideas into our standards, using them as a guide. He stated hopefully within the next month we can put together a set of standards for council to review. Mayor Deese stated we need standards to basically say what we want our city to look like architecturally. The council discussed core commercial, general commercial and neighborhood commercial. CM Sheriff appointed a committee of CM Petersen and CM Harrison to serve with him on the Architectural Standards Committee and to make recommendations on re-zoning certain areas of the city.

DOORS FOR ROSEWOOD

Mayor Deese stated CM Sheriff would discuss the doors for Rosewood and he would like to discuss moving the wall they talked about during the work retreat. Mayor Deese stated he would like to get some estimates on what it would cost to move the wall back and have some kind of petition to close it off especially when court was in session and be in keeping with the building's historical register. CM Sheriff stated he would include that in his estimates. CM Sheriff stated we have finished Phase 1 of the remodeling process and would like us now to take some TIF monies and move into Phase 2 of this remodeling such as replacing the front doors, pricing out the lift and sprucing up the stage façade. CM Sheriff stated he would try to have some prices by the next work session.

UPDATE ON CITY PROJECTS

Mayor Deese brought council up to date on all the projects going on around town such as all the sidewalk work. He stated the main street funding came from the State Maintenance money. The work being done on Front Street was part of the Federal Stimulus Funds and we were thankful because they replaced a lot of sidewalk we were looking at using our C-Funds for. Mayor Deese stated now that they have finished, we are going back and marking areas to repair using our C-Funds. He reported to council that the pad at the gym is finished with a sidewalk going all the way around. We also have reworked the sidewalk at Family Pharmacy. He stated we put a pad closer to Celestial Flowers to put the grease drum and garbage there and can be utilized by all the businesses located there. He stated we are now starting to work on some sidewalk areas around town, Main Street further down in front of Newtons, Mills Avenue and also we are going to request some bids to see if we have enough money to have a connecting sidewalk from Palmetto to the park. Mayor Deese stated he talked with Olen and he assured him he would be working at Pedestrian Park tomorrow. Mayor Deese stated our recycling center opened this past Monday. He stated the county would be back to re-asphalt the parking area. He stated he would be sending a letter to the county because they really stepped up to the plate for us. Mayor Deese informed council there is a website which talks about recycling and they list the percentage of recycling by county and Pickens County is the number one county in the state for recycling at 37.1%. Mayor Deese shared a post card with council from the city clerk to send out to the community informing them of the new recycling site. The city clerk stated she has applied for a \$50,000 grant to put the shed, fence the area and so forth for the recycling center. She also informed council she has applied for a grant for 75 recycling bins for drink cans. Mayor Deese stated we thank DHEC for their help with the grant and Gerald Wilson at the county for his help. CM Sheriff reported that the fire station project is on schedule and there are no change orders to date. The clerk also noted that the new school being built has quite a few change orders which affect the total of the gross on their business license. Council informed her to contact ACOG for information concerning that. CM Brian Petersen discussed coming up with a slogan for "Liberty Going Green".

CM McJunkin stated he discussed with Barry the potholes and other problems on Lakeview Drive. He stated the county has really helped us out more this year than ever and he thought Barry was partly responsible for that.

CM Petersen stated we need to make sure we step up to the plate in keeping our core parameter trimmed neatly. He also stated in talking with Tony Boiter, there has been some discussion about moving Woodside playground over to the ballpark and making that a parking lot to keep people from parking on the roadway. CM Petersen stated we should move on that because it was a good suggestion. Mayor Deese stated he would have to talk to Ms. Woodson to make sure that was all right with her since that is Woody Woodson Park.

CM Sheriff stated he thought we should start seriously thinking about hiring an experienced landscaper for in town. There was some discussion on the pruning of the Crepe Myrtles in the park. CM Clark stated he thought to support the landscape project

at Pedestrian Park we need two things, irrigation and a landscape contract. Mayor Deese stated we need to define the areas to be maintained. CM Petersen stated he agreed with that 100%. CM Sheriff stated we have worked for years making Liberty a welcoming community, now we need to work on making it a bike friendly community. Mayor Deese stated according to GPATS there is money available if we come up with the plan on where we want the paths to go and what it will cost to do that. CM Sheriff stated Easley is working on bike paths and so is Pickens. According to Vision 2025, they are working on a plan to pull these three cities together and make a sort of triangular bike path. Mayor Deese stated he would be in touch with the Mayors of Easley and Pickens regarding the bike paths. CM Sheriff stated the Census tracked the returns from the Census and as of now Liberty leads with the highest number of returns. Mayor Deese stated Josie appealed 51 property locations and got 50 of the properties accepted.

CM Yates stated we need to look at someone cleaning up around the spring at the Mill gym and the drain in the back. He stated also he would like to see blocks, with a cap on top of that, put there to avoid washing out. He also stated he was disappointed with the completion of Pedestrian Park and last year his complaint was the light that shines on the flag in Sarlin Park is out again and we need to get an electrician to look at it so it can be properly fixed. CM Yates stated they also talked about moving the monument there over where you can see it because the bushes have gotten so tall. CM Yates stated there needs to be a couple of poles erected to pick the cable wire off the ground and run it between two poles. Council discussed getting cord ramps. CM Yates also stated when they are trimming around town they are allowing the clippings to blow back into the bushes. He stated they need to clean that up a little better.

CM Harrison stated in one of the hand outs sent out by the MASC there was an article about using face book or twitter as another venue to get announcements out. He stated obviously it would have to be heavily monitored and you would not want just anyone having access to it. CM Sheriff stated we need a sign out front of city hall to put announcements and events on. CM Harrison will look into this idea and get back to council with a report.

Mayor Deese thanked everyone for coming and their input into this meeting.

ADJOURN

CM Michael Sheriff made motion to adjourn

CM Brian Petersen seconded the motion

Vote: All in favor

Sue Woods, City Clerk

Verification/Mayor

Approval Date