

**CITY OF LIBERTY WORK SESSION MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2008- 6:00 P.M.
ROSEWOOD CENTER
MINUTES**

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

Absent: Michael Sheriff, Dwight Yates, Rick Clark

Others Present: Chief Sargent, Assistant Chief Rowland, Chief Miller, Barry Chappell, Dean Thomas, and Ray Clark.

Mayor Deese welcomed everyone and the meeting started at precisely 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION: RECOMMENDATION FORM FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

Mayor Deese stated Terry Baker, Vice Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission was here tonight to relate to council how they came to their decision regarding a request for rezoning of three properties. Mr. Baker explained that these same three properties had come before the Planning Commission before to be rezoned to Neighborhood Commercial. This request was to be re-zoned to Office Commercial. Mr. Baker explained that the Planning Commission in listening to people from the neighborhood and others had decided that it would not be in the best interest for that neighborhood on Peachtree Street to become commercial property. He explained that it had nothing to do with Office Commercial or Neighborhood Commercial. The problem was rezoning the property to commercial. Mr. Baker stated that Mrs. Worden on Front Street could go ahead and do what she wanted to do. He stated he thought she asked for the wrong thing. Mr. Baker said once she understood that, she stated she did not want the property on Peachtree Street rezoned to commercial property either. Mayor Deese asked council if they had any questions regarding the recommendation from the Planning Commission. The consensus from council was to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission. Mayor Deese stated this would be on the agenda for next Monday's council meeting.

DISCUSSION: COMMERCIAL GARBAGE PICKUP

Mayor Deese stated that after reviewing the figures he had put together and given to each councilman, he had gotten a recommendation from a couple of councilmen to go with a flat fee. Mayor Deese asked for discussion and suggestions in this matter. CM McJunkin stated he thought that it was unfair to the small business to pay that much more for commercial garbage pickup when some of them did not have anything more than a wastebasket full of trash. Mayor Deese stated he tried to base the amounts as evenly as he could. He stated that Pickens charged a flat fee of \$50 for pickup three times a week and we are still well below that. In my report I received today Pickens was around 83 tons and we were around 72 tons. So the amounts are not that far apart in tonnage. CM McJunkin stated the City based its business license fee on the amount of business the business does and it would be better if we based this fee on the amount of trash the business has. He stated he did not feel it would be right for a small business paying \$10 for pickup to be asked to pay \$30. Mayor Deese stated having been in business for 30 years, he would agree with CM McJunkin. Mayor Deese stated there are 102 users. Around 27 of those are large users. CM Petersen stated we need to have a tiered structure based on usage. He stated small offices are not going to generate that much garbage and with most people recycling, it would be even less. We need not pose an undue penalty on those that make an attempt to recycle. Mayor Deese stated he would come up with a three tiered program for a small, medium and large

user. Mayor Deese stated he would present it to council for their review. He stated we need to have a 1st reading on it. We can still critique it more if necessary before the 2nd reading. Council agreed to do this. Mayor Deese stated we want to work something out that is fair to everyone. We do not want to have to do this at all, but the County is forcing us to.

DISCUSSION: VISION RETREAT MARCH 1ST

Mayor Deese reminded everyone that the Vision Retreat is March 1st and to be sure to have that on their calendars.

Mayor Deese stated we own the property next to Mrs. Crowe on Ruhammah Road where the railroad crossing was abandoned and we have the street there and that little triangle. One of the son-in-laws of Mrs. Crowe's wants to park his camper there and cover it. He wants to buy or lease the property from us. Mayor Deese stated he was not in favor of selling the property, but he thought the City could lease the property to him. Mayor Deese asked for council's feedback on the situation. CM McJunkin stated he did not see anything wrong with him parking his camper there. CM Petersen stated he did not have any objections, but to be sure a lease would be up for renewal annually.

Mayor Deese stated council needed to go into Executive Session regarding an employee matter and ask for a motion for same.

- CM Petersen made motion to go into Executive Session to discuss an employee matter.
- CM McJunkin seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor

Mayor Deese asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session.

- CM Petersen made motion to come out Executive Session.
- CM McJunkin seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor

Mayor Deese stated there was only one thing left to discuss. Barry Chappell had brought the hand pooper scooper bags which will be placed in the park for council to see. Barry explained how they were going to make the holders out of PVC pipe and mount them to a tree. These will not be provided by the City for people who walk their dogs around town and other places.

Mayor Deese stated he received a letter from the Superintendent of Schools for a meeting Thursday night at the middle school pertaining to where to relocate the middle school. We have an interest in that property so I will be attending that meeting. We do not want to see that property torn down because the City can use it.

There was some discussion regarding Highway 93. Mayor Deese will be calling Bill McCall and stated he would have Corky meet with them to tell them what they may need to do there. Mayor Deese stated we were approved in GPATS for the top ten improvements in the next 10 years. CM Petersen reminded everyone that the ladder fire truck purchased from Easley could only be stored at Easley until possibly the end of April. He stated we need to be making arrangements now on where we are going to house the fire truck, whether it is building on a temporary bay or what. Mayor Deese relayed that the application went in yesterday for the building for the fire department and we applied for \$300,000.

Adjourn

- CM Petersen made motion to adjourn.
- CM McJunkin seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor

Verification/Mayor

V. Sue Woods, Clerk

Approval Date