



**MINUTES**  
**LANDRUM CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

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**NOTE:**

- **In accordance with the State of South Carolina DHEC COVID-19 regulation proclamations, attendance in person at the City Council meeting will be restricted.**
- **All interested citizens were invited to watch the City Council meeting live streamed on the City of Landrum Facebook page.**
- **Public comments were accepted during the Public Comment segment by calling City Hall via telephone (864)457-3000. All comments would be directly aired to the Mayor and Council.**

Mayor Robert B. Briggs called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Landrum City Hall Council Chambers.

**Members Present:** Mayor Robert B. Briggs, Council Members: Johnny Carruth, Billy Inman, Daniel Prince, Shannon Dotson, Joyce Whiteside, Tammy Cox

**The Invocation** was given by Mayor Robert Briggs and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Robert Briggs made a motion to accept the April 14, 2020 minutes as written, this motion was carried by all members.

**The Financial Statements**

Financial statements from April 2020 were accepted as written.

Mayor Robert B. Briggs advised council members the Executive Session previously scheduled immediately following the regular meeting to discuss land acquisitions would be disregarded due to the property owner declining proposed sale of the property.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Item one under new business was introduced by Mayor Robert B. Briggs as approval of Tolling Agreement for Bennett Landfill Superfund Site. Among much discussion of members, it was founded that not enough information had been provided on this matter to decide or make a motion at this time. Rich Caplan, City Administrator advised council he would reach out for additional information on this agreement, it's origin and other details.

Item two under new business, guidelines for reopening city businesses was addressed by Police Chief Kris Ahler whom highlighted the guidelines for reopening the cities hospitality district. Additional directives are scheduled to be released May 18, 2020 that will allow businesses to enter a new phase of indoor/outdoor dining

allowances. City Administrator Rich Caplan opened the discussion for item number three of new business, street closures and street dining privileges. Caplan encouraged continued use of restricted areas along main street sidewalks for outdoor dining until restaurants are back to full serving capacity. Council Member Tammy Cox suggested optional road closures to allow additional seating for outdoor dining, possibly Rutherford Street during certain hours or only on certain days. Council Members Shannon Dodson and Daniel Prince both opposed closure to Rutherford Street due to the high volume of traffic. Council Member Shannon Dodson added that the city just doesn't have the infrastructure to re-route such heavy volumes of traffic off the main road. Council Member Daniel Prince recommends offering "back ally dinning." He added, "it would be much easier to close back alleyways to allow these additional seating options vs main, heavier trafficked roads." Police Chief Kris Ahler expressed his concern with any additions to the sidewalk dining options, the sidewalks may become overly congested and become more of a liability for the city by restricting walking areas or by having pedestrians rerouted off the sidewalks to clear these areas. In conclusion of further discussion Mayor Robert B. Briggs advised council that a member from the LABA would poll the restaurant owners along Main Street to see if they would be interested in adding additional outdoor seating to the back alleyways of their businesses to offer more seating in addition to allowing them the continued use of the sidewalk area surrounding their store fronts.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

City Administrator Rich Caplan addressed the council in reference to item number one in Old Business, continued discussion on reopening certain facilities and returning to regular activities within the city. Caplan reports that City Hall offices will reopen on May 11, 2020 after recent measures to ensure social distancing. Council Member Shannon Dodson shared suggestions and ideas from surrounding Farmer Markets on ways to implement safe marketing for reopening of the Landrum Farmer's Market. After much discussion among members, all were in agreeance that the Farmer's Market would set it's opening date for Saturday, May 23, 2020 following the strict guidelines for Farmer's Markets set forth by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Council Member Johnny Carruth recommends that Brookwood Park, pavilion and playground equipment remain closed at this time. However, all members agreed to reopening in June if there has been no spike in the number of cases in our area or any additional recommendations against doing so by the state at that time. Caplan addressed the council on matters of the city sponsored event "Music at the Tracks." Council Member Billy Inman states with this event being held outside and not scheduled to start until June that the city should proceed as scheduled with these events unless there have been additional restrictions set in place at the time of these scheduled dates. All members agreed. The Landrum Depot will remain closed until the first week in June 2020. At that time the city will require an amended signed agreement by each renter prior to receiving access to the facility. This agreement will include cleaning responsibilities and social distancing requirements that each renter will have to agree upon prior to their event. The city will also provide contracted cleanings after each use of this facility.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None at this time.

### **Reports**

City Administrator- Rich Caplan announced that about 80% of the city's business licenses have been paid at the current time. The 2020-2021 Budget will be available to council members in the coming days. Further discussions provided two tentative dates for the first and second reading of the budget. First reading of the budget will be held on June 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM. Second reading to be held on June 16, 2020 at 5:30PM.

The Planning Commission will hold a meeting to discuss a proposal to rezone a residential lot on N. Randolph Ave. near Dodd Street to accommodate multi-use town homes. This date is TBD.

Police Department – Police Chief Kris Ahler reports that the Landrum Police Department continues to follow and enforce the directives provided by the state’s Governor in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Personal protective equipment for the department’s responders has been supplemented by citizen donations, national stockpile and purchases made by the city. To date, the Police Department has no recordable exposures and continues to practice social distancing and safe tactics to ensure the safety of the department and officers. Chief Ahler also reports that rifles were deployed to officers recently during a standoff within the city limits as mutual aid to Spartanburg County and the Campobello Police Departments. A select number of officers still require specialized training by the departments Firearms Instructor prior to implementing this weapon system on duty. Rifle training sessions have been scheduled in a secured range setting. The departments SRO’s completed proficient testing with the MCK’s, their qualifications with the system will take place during rifle range sessions.

Chief Ahler states Officer Travis Stamey will be retiring at the end of the Month after 25 years of service. Officer Caitlin Wallace has completed agency specific training and is now working as a solo officer. Officer Parrott has returned to work after the birth of his son. The department has been in contact with Officer Craft’s wife and he is scheduled to return to the department from his military leave in August. Officer Brad James and Officer Chris Godfrey both have upcoming community outreach programs. Officer James will host a video gaming tournament with the youth in our community and Officer Godfrey is working to build and supply a small food pantry bank in a common area to provide aid within the community.

Fire Department – The Landrum Fire and Rescue report was a printed version provided to each member during the meeting and was not narrated. The report states the department responded to a total of 35 calls for the month of April 2020.

There were no reports provided at this time due to the limited number of individuals allowed to attend the meeting based on restrictions from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Landrum Area Business Association-

Code Enforcement-

Landrum Rescue Squad –

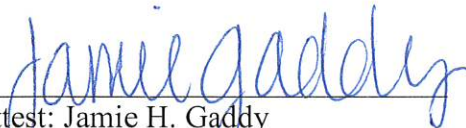
Spartanburg County Report –

Friends of the Library –

Council Member Shannon Dodson made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for “personnel matters.” All Members were in favor with a unanimous vote.

**Regular meeting adjourns at 8:00 p.m. to Executive Session.**

**The regular meeting reconvened and adjourned at 8:45 p.m.**

  
Attest: Jamie H. Gaddy  
Assistant City Clerk/Treasurer