



MINUTES

LANDRUM CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, December 13, 2022
6:30 p.m.

NOTE:

- Due to technical difficulties, the Council Meeting was not streamed live on Facebook, nor was it recorded.
- In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, Section 30-4-80, the time, date and location of the meeting was posted at City Hall, the City website, and the City Facebook page. The media was duly notified.

Mayor Robert B. Briggs called the meeting to order at 6:346 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 and Tammy Cox.

Members Absent: None

The Invocation was given by Council Member Billy Inman, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 8, 2022 meeting was accepted as written.

The Financial Statements

The financial statement for the month of November 2022 were accepted as written.

It was announced that the auditors would present the Financial Audit for FY 21/22 at the January10, 2023 meeting

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Condemnation for Home on Property Located at 211 Camelia Circle

The home located at this address burned 3 years ago. The owners have failed to clean up the property after multiple requests by the City. The City has received multiple complaints from neighbors due to health and safety concerns. The City Ordinance Officer has issued a ticket to the owner. The owner has been given multiple courtesy Landrum Municipal Court extensions. Landrum Municipal Judge John Rollins stated that the Municipal court has done everything that it can do in reference to these ongoing matters and has advised the City to seek counsel to progress any further with the demolition process. After seeking legal counsel, the Mayor and Council have decided to proceed with demolition process. Mayor Robert Briggs call for a motion to approve the demolition of the damaged home located at 211 Camelia Circle. Council Member Daniel Prince makes the motion to approve. Council Member Billy Inman second the motion. All voted yes. The motion to demolish the home at 211 Camelia Circle carried.

2. First Reading Ordinance 2022 – 10 - An Ordinance of the City of Landrum, South Carolina Annexing 20101 Asheville Highway @ Sunset Road (David Swain parcel)

Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No.2022-10. Council Member Shannon Dotson makes the motion to approve. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. All voted yes. The motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-10 annexing 20101 Asheville Highway carried.

3. Award Bid for Landrum Rail & History Museum Platform to MADCO Contracting & Consulting
The City advertised on the State of South Carolina Business Opportunities web site and noticed 26 contractors to bid on the revised Landrum Railcar Museum Platform. It was advised to award the contract to the lowest bidder. MADCO Contracting was the low bidder. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to award the contract to MADCO. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve the contract. Council Member Johnny Carruth second the motion. All voted yes. The motion to award the contract to MADCO carried.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Second Reading Ordinance No. 2022 – 06 – An Ordinance Accepting a Petition for the Annexation of Property Contiguous to the City of Landrum (Robinson Parcel)
Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-06 accepting the annexation of the 6.62-acre property located at 1509 E. Rutherford Street. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to accept the petition for annexation. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. Council Member Shannon Dotson abstained from the vote. All others voted yes. The motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-06 annexing 6.62 acres located at 1509 E. Rutherford Street carried.
2. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2022 – 09 An Ordinance Amending the City of Landrum Land Use and Zoning Map Rezoning 65.64 acres bounded by W. Rutherford, W. Finger and W. Jones Streets and South Randolph Avenue from C-2 to a Flexible Review District (FRD). Mayor Robert Briggs call for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-09 rezoning 65.64 acres from C-2 to a Flexible Review District (FRD). Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve the rezoning. Council Member Shannon Dotson second the motion. All voted yes. The motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-09 rezoning 65.64 acres from C-2 to a FRD carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Any citizen of the City of Landrum shall be entitled to address Council at regular meetings to discuss municipal matters. (Landrum Municipal Code Section 2.212)

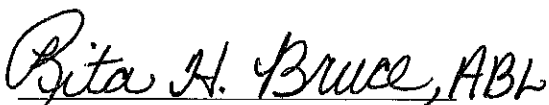
Judy Henderson – Her written comments will be attached to these minutes when archived.
Madelon Wallace – She voiced her concerns over storm water issues.

Reports

City Administrator. City Administrator Rich Caplan presented his report to council. A copy of his report will be attached to the regular meeting minutes.

Police Department. Chief Jason Coffin presented council with his monthly report. A copy of this report will be attached to the regular meeting minutes and may also be requested by calling the City Clerk's office at (864)457-3000.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.



Rita H. Bruce, ABL
City Clerk / Treasurer
Approval Date: January 10, 2023

December 13, 2022 City Administrator Report

- Bridge over Vaughn Creek to be Replaced

A meeting of the Blue Wall stakeholders was held, and it was confirmed that the bridge accessing the city's property over Vaughn Creek will at long last be replaced in the coming months. Public notice will go out when construction starts as access will be limited during that time.

- County Shared Road Costs:

Good news. We received notice that the county will pay for 50% of the street paving for N. Oak and Thrift Circle. Their projected cost is \$110,000 of which 50% will be county money and 50% from the city's street fund.

- Highlights of 2022

The City Council should look back on 2022 and be proud of many of the positive changes in the city over the past year.

1. Opened the Market Pavilion in May
2. Renovated and Opened the Anne Regan Aging Well Center in June
3. SCDOT completed the N. Randolph Avenue sidewalk project
4. The City enacted the Flexible Review District and Updated the Commercial Code
5. 10 new single family homes in 2022,
6. The Depot was rented 232 times in 2022. (We have missed out 7 or 8 times on renting the Market Pavilion because of Saturday conflicts with the expanded Farmers Market schedule. This needs to be considered by the City Council in 2023.)

Also in 2023, we look forward to opening the Landrum Rail and History Museum. We will also see the reopening of a new grocery store, ALDI, this coming spring, as well as a new KFC, Starbucks, and Dollar General. I believe we can be proud of the positive changes that are occurring, despite the challenges ahead of managing the continued interest by residents and businesses that want to be part of Landrum.

I want to thank the outstanding city staff who have all contributed in some manner to the success of these project. I also want to thank and commend the City Council for their support of the city staff and leadership on many of these successes.



Chief of Police

Jason M. Coffin

100 North Shamrock Avenue Landrum, South Carolina 29356
Phone: 864.457.7281 Fax: 864.457.2702

Incidents For Landrum Police Department Oct-2022

From: 11/01/2022 00:00:00

To: 11/30/2022 23:59:59

October 2022 stats

Criminal Offenses: **27 Cases**

Alarms: **15**

Investigation's: **27**

Total Citation's: **24**

Total Warning's: **45**

Wreck: **10**

Total Agency Call's: **211**

November 2022 stats

Criminal Offenses: **23**

Alarms: **6**

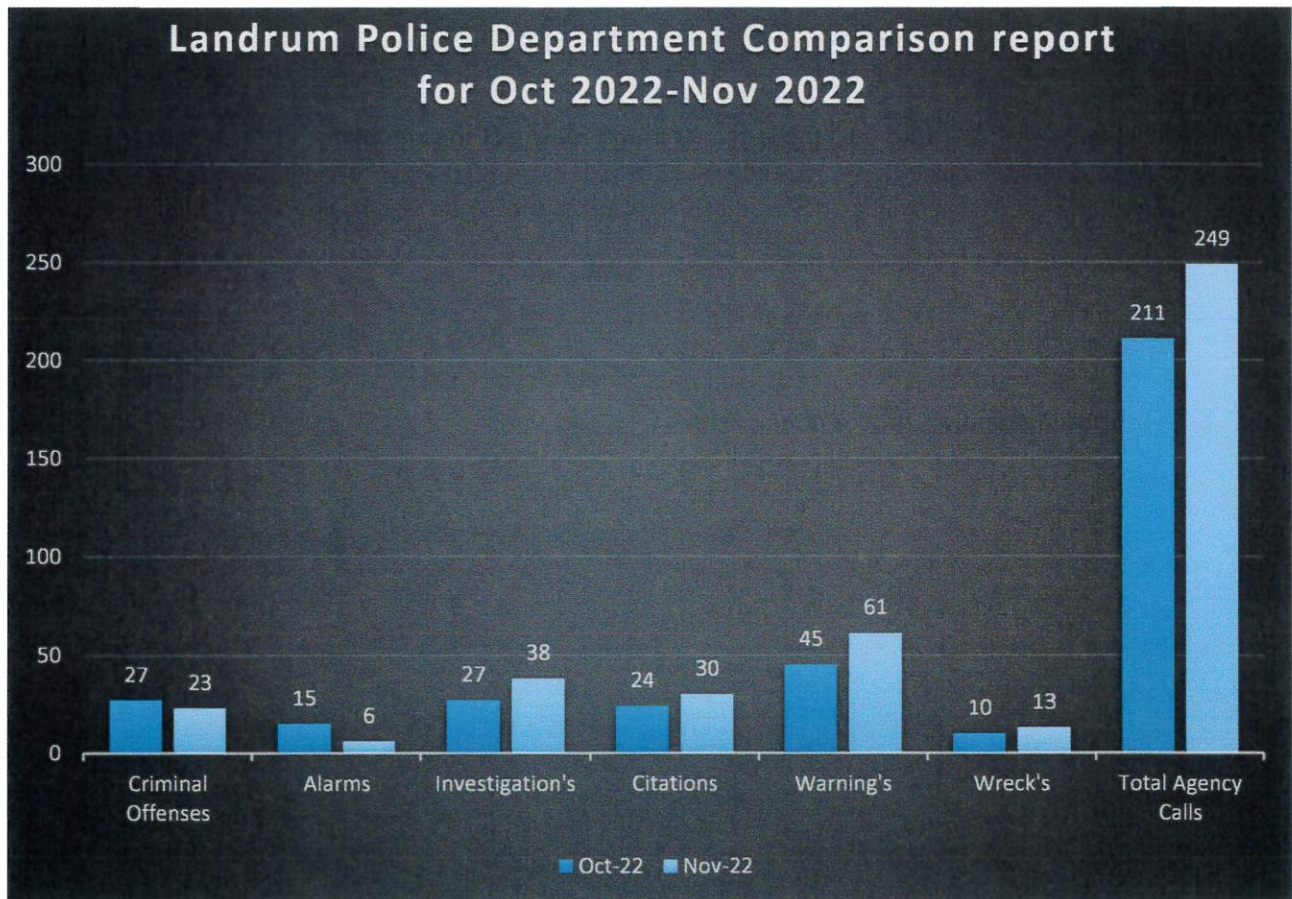
Investigation's: **38 (Criminal/Non-Criminal)**

Total Citation's: **30**

Total Warning's: **61**

Wreck: **13**

Total Agency Call's: **249**



Public Comments – Judy Henderson 12.13.2022

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

The Mayor has accused me of providing misinformation at the neighborhood meeting for the Claiborne project. I would like to clear this up. My role at the meeting was to explain zoning. I gave facts about the Flexible Review District. Instead of asking me my intentions, he told me my intentions were misinformation. I strongly believe in giving facts and letting the people of Landrum make up their own minds.

The Mayor has also accused me of opposing everything. This is not true. I have opposed dense development and I am opposed to Claiborne because of how the council functions. I have seen a council with little or no accountability who seems to make up their own rules as they go. In the last almost three years, we have had three proposed developments. Most or all the signs for public hearings have not been in accordance with the zoning ordinance requirements. Once maybe can be understood. Three times is unacceptable and no one, to my knowledge, has been held accountable.

I see a Council who passed a Flexible Review District and then doesn't follow it. The FRD was supposed to put more responsibility on the developer, yet on the latest project the Planning Commission Public Hearing and the City Council Public Hearing were convened without all the required information. The Mayor called this a minor technicality. The Council has also made their own rules regarding the public hearings. The Planning Commission Public Hearing was about the Claiborne Development. The developer gave a presentation and there were multiple people making comments and asking questions. Suddenly, the Council Public Hearing was not about Claiborne, but only about zoning and no one could ask the developer questions even though he came to the meeting.

The law requires the Planning Commission to be seven people with at least four living in the city limits. Currently this is not the case. There are also Commissioners who have the potential of profiting from dense development, which I consider an egregious conflict of interest for the people. It is not right they vote for the city when they stand to personally profit.

The City Council has now decided they do not have to abide by the Freedom of Information Act law. They are refusing to answer Freedom of Information Act requests without any grounds to do so. They have also decided that people who have a Landrum address are not interested parties regarding issues happening in Landrum and won't let them speak at public hearings. Again, making up their own rules.

One thing I am really opposed to is the behavior of a particular Council Member. The Council always offers prayer before the council meetings, then on November 8th the very member who prayed yelled at a constituent and threw the petition towards her. The Mayor or no one on the council said this was unacceptable behavior. The Council may be praying to God, but my question is are they listening to God?

Shannon, you asked us to trust the Council. It is very hard to do that when there are so many examples of the Council not following the law. There is no example I can think of regarding accountability because the same errors continue.

We had a chance to have a first class museum with the team that designed the Ford's Theatre in Washington DC working on the train car. For reasons unknown to me, the City Administrator stopped working on the museum and we lost that team of designers. We have only had two museum board meetings in two and a half years. Again, no accountability. I have asked about this at multiple council meetings, yet still, no accountability.

The Council has decided to ignore the opinions of the people regarding Claiborne. They have decided the petition is void because they decided on the interpretation of language for one point on the petition. Mr. Mayor at the neighborhood meeting you said we had voted for you so we must like what you are doing. At least 209 people that we know of voiced opposition to Claiborne, more on social media. Only 131 people voted for you.

