



**Work Session Minutes  
Landrum City Council  
Monday, February 13, 2023**

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, ON THE CITY WEBSITE AND THE CITY FACEBOOK PAGE, THE MEDIA WAS DULY NOTIFIED.

Meeting started at 5:20 p.m.

Members present, Mayor Bob Briggs, Council Members, Johnny Carruth, Billy Inman, Daniel Prince, Shannon Dotson and Tammy Cox.

Members absent: Joyce Whiteside

1. Presentation of City FY2021/2022 Audit – Will Walls, CPA representative from Love Bailey CPAs  
Will Walls presented the completed audit to the Mayor and Council. He stated that they audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information for the FY ending June 30, 2022. It is their opinion that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities of each major fund. He also stated that the City's current financial situation was great, with at least 4 months of expenditures funds in reserve. The recommended balance in reserve funds for a city is 2 months. He reports that the city financials are well maintained and the internal controls of financials by Treasurer Rita Bruce and City Administrator Rich Caplan are within recommended governmental standards. The entire audit may be viewed on the City website.
2. Discussion of proposed Fairwinds Road Land (Boatwright property) Acquisition:
  - A. Proposal to prepare a conceptual Master Park Plan  
The potential purchase of this major track of land would be used for creating a new community park for the current and future residents of Landrum including new ball fields, soccer fields, walking trails and other recreation uses to be determined. The acquisition of this land would remove the land from an anticipated large residential subdivision. The land is a 119-acre parcel on the west side of Fairwinds Road. The asking price is approximately \$3+million. In order to seriously pursue this opportunity, the city would need to raise city property taxes and issue a general obligation bond.
  - B. Discussion of potential date for Special Bond Referendum  
To raise taxes enough to cover the cost of the bond, a referendum would be required to be placed on the ballot for city registered voters to authorize the increase and issue a bond measure. If the city decides to proceed with the voter referendum, it is also recommended that a conceptual plan for the parcel be prepared so the public may have a better vision of what the park can look like. The firm Studio Main has worked for the city on other projects, submitted a proposal to the City Administrator. Amy Vinter from First Tryon presents the financial funding approach at the regular meeting. The council also discussed the possibility of obtaining state grants and holding fundraisers.
3. Update on Saluda Grade Trail and appoint Advisory Committee Representatives.  
The area's non-profit group PAL is the lead South Carolina partner in the proposed Saluda Grade Rail to Trail project. In the effort for securing and planning the trail, PAL is also seeking to establish a steering committee representing all of the communities along the rail trail, from South Carolina and North Carolina, to assist in the initial planning study for the future project. They were also hoping to announce a signed letter of intent with Norfolk Southern for the purchase of the rail line.
4. Discussion of SCDOT Supplemental funding request re: N. Randolph Avenue Sidewalk.  
SCDOT is requesting an additional \$39,624.77 (20% match by the city) for additional costs incurred from the N. Randolph Avenue Sidewalk. The City was required and did provide a 20% match of \$99,919 in additional funds in 2019 from the city's road fund for the project. The council suggested that the Mayor and City Administrator contact our State representative, Josiah Magnuson, for suggestions on how to proceed with this problem.

Adjourn to Regular Meeting: 6:15 p.m.

*Rita H. Bruce, ABL*

Attest: Rita H. Bruce, ABL

City Clerk / Treasurer

Approval Date: March 14, 2023