



**MINUTES**  
**LANDRUM CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, March 14, 2023**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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**NOTE:**

- All interested citizens were invited to watch the City Council meeting live streamed on the City of Landrum Facebook page.
- 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 regular meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. in the Landrum City Hall Council Chambers. Members Present: Mayor Robert B. Briggs, Council Members: Johnny Carruth, Billy Inman, Shannon Dotson, Joyce Whiteside and Tammy Cox.

Members Absent: None

The Invocation was given by Pastor Mark Bishop of Landrum First Baptist Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Bob Briggs calls for a motion to accept the February minutes as written. Council Member Shannon Dotson states that a section from the minutes from the Special Work Session on February 7. Item number 2 on the continued discussion of minimum lot size for residential development was stated wrong. The Clerk made note and changed the minutes to reflect that the only residential development discussed under item 2 was in-fill housing, not minimum lot sizes of 10,000 square feet. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the minutes from February 7 and February 13, 2023, with the changes made to February 7. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve the minutes. Council Member Shannon Dotson second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**The Financial Statements**

The Financial Statements were accepted as written.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution No. 2023 – 02 In Support of the creation of the Saluda Grade Rail to Trail  
The resolution will be in support of the 31-mile trail which will begin in Inman, SC and pass through Campobello, Landrum, Tryon and Saluda before reaching Zirconia, NC. This resolution supports the transformation of the inactive Norfolk Southern Railroad line into the Saluda Grade Trail. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-02. Council Member Shannon Dotson makes the motion to approve. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. Council Member Billy Inman opposes with a vote of No. Council Member Johnny Carruth abstains from the vote. The remaining members vote yes. 3 agree with a vote of Yes. The motion carried. Resolution No. 2023-02 was approved.
  
2. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 03 Accepting a Petition for the Annexation of Property  
Contiguous to the City of Landrum (780 N. Trade Avenue)  
Mayor Robert Briggs call for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-03 annexing 780 N. Trade Avenue. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve the first reading. Council Member Tammy Cox second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.

3. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 04 Accepting a Petition For the Annexation of Property Contiguous to the City of Landrum (790 N. Trade Avenue)  
Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-04 annexing 790 N. Trade Ave. Council Member Shannon Dotson makes the motion to approve. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.
  
4. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 05 Accepting a Petition For the Annexation of Property Contiguous to the City of Landrum (800 N. Trade Avenue)  
Mayor Robert Briggs call for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-05 annexing 800 N. Trade Ave. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve. Council Member Shannon Dotson second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.
  
5. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 08 Amending Landrum Residential Zoning Code.  
Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-08 Amending the residential Zoning Code. Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion to approve the first reading. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. Council Member Shannon Dotson spoke and does not agree with the section pertaining to lot size for R-1, reducing the minimum lot size from 20,000 to 10,000 sq. ft. He voices his vote as NO. Mayor Robert Briggs states that council has been working on the zoning code for the last several years. In the discussions over the last two years the reducing of R-1 from 20,000 to 10,000 has been discussed many times. He also stated that around 30 new construction residential homes have been approved over the last few years using the 10,000 sq. ft minimum lots size requirement. City Clerk calls for a roll call vote. Council Member Johnny Carruth – NO, Council Member Billy Inman – YES, Council Member Shannon Dotson – NO, Council Member Joyce Whiteside – YES, Council Member Tammy Cox – NO. 3 votes – NO, 2 votes – YES.
  
6. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 07 – An Ordinance Rezoning a 0.64 Acre Portion of Parcel No. 1-08-02-004.02 on Thrift Circle from C-2 to R-1 (Single Family Residential)  
This item on the agenda was tabled until the next monthly meeting.
  
7. Proposed Fairwinds Park Acquisition:
  - a. Resolution 2023 – 03 Ordering a Referendum to be held on May 30, 2023 for the Issuance of GO Bonds Not to Exceed \$3.3 million for Acquiring a 119.328 Acre Parcel of Land  
During the Work Session it was discussed that having this presented to the voters for vote on May 30, 2023 would be too soon. The reading of Resolution 2023-03 was postponed.
  - b. Consideration of Proposal to Prepare a Conceptual Park Master Plan with Studio Main  
The Council decided that there would need to be a master plan in place to present to the public to educate them on the plans for the proposed uses of the land. The plans will cost \$10,500. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the acquisition of Park Master Plan with Studio Main for \$10,500. Council Member Shannon Dotson makes the motion. Council Member Billy Inman second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.
  - c. Appoint Proposed Park Acquisition Advisory Committee  
There have been around five citizens that have shown interest on being on this committee. The council would like to get a few more citizens to commit before they vote. This item has been postponed.
  
8. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 06 Updating the Landrum Municipal Code to Repeal and Replace Chapter 5 Articles 1 and 2.  
Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06 Updating the Landrum Municipal Code as discussed at the prior Work Session. Council Member Shannon Dotson makes the motion. Council Member Billy Inman second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.
  
9. First Reading Ordinance 2023 – 02 Entering into an Intergovernmental Relating to South Carolina Local Revenue Services through the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC)

For many years the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) has offered collection programs for certain business license taxes. The City of Landrum participates in the collection program. The MASC has rebranded these programs as Local Revenue Services and has renamed the three business license programs. As a result of the Local Services rebranding, the MASC is required to update the ordinances and agreements by which municipalities may participate in the Local Revenue Services. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2023-02 entering into an Intergovernmental agreement relating to South Carolina Local Revenue Services. Council Member Johnny Carruth makes the motion. Council Member Joyce Whiteside second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Approval of City of Landrum Sponsorship of Landrum High School May Festival  
At the February Council Meeting, student representatives for the Landrum High School Student Council Presented to the Mayor and Council the information for the fundraiser "Mayfest". The council decided to donate to the fundraising event with a sponsorship of \$1000. Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to approve the \$1000 sponsorship. Council Member Joyce Whiteside makes the motion. Council Member Tammy Cox second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Judy Henderson – Spoke about her concerns over zoning issues. Her written comments will be attached to these minutes when archived.

#### **Reports**

City Administrator, City Administrator Rich Caplan presented his report to the council. A copy of his report will be attached to these minutes when archived.

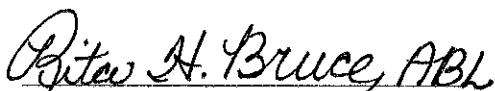
Police Department, No one was present at this meeting to give report.

Mayor Robert Briggs calls for a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss pending annexation litigation Council Member Billy Inman makes the motion. Council Member Johnny Carruth second the motion. All voted yes. The motion carried.

**Regular Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.**

**Executive Session adjourned 8:20 p.m.**

No action taken.



Rita H. Bruce, ABL

City Clerk / Treasurer

Approval Date: April 11, 2023

Public Comments  
City Council 03.14.23

I'm Judy Henderson and I live in the city limits. As always I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

I am once again going to talk about accountability and following the laws.

I am especially concerned about having a first vote on important zoning issues, such as square footage for R-1 lots and rezoning property without a Council Public Hearing. This says to the people of Landrum, your voice doesn't matter before we vote. That is unconscionable.

The City Administrator says the hearing can be at the second vote. Since when? Where does it say he has the authority to make this decision? Are you correctly following the zoning ordinance?

R-1 is currently 20,000 sq ft per lot for a single family dwelling. Now you're voting to allow someone to build two houses on 26,000 sq ft as R-1, before the zoning ordinance is legally changed. This is just horrible.

The City Administrator also says he can approve subdividing property regarding Jeff Smith's request. How is this possible? For a rezoning request in February of 2022, the request was tabled because the property owner had not officially subdivided the property with the County. How is it now that the City Administrator can do this? How is it that the Council allows him to make up rules like this? How is it that the property doesn't have to be properly subdivided before voting to allow the zoning change?

I have tried to speak at Work Sessions in the past and have been told I can't speak. Then when I listen to the February 7<sup>th</sup> Work Session, I hear many voices other than the Council Members. Again, making up rules as you go along to suit yourselves.

The Council decided they didn't want to adhere to a petition of the people who blatantly did not want the Claiborne Project. The authors of the petition used an unfortunate word – OUR drinking water, should Spivey Creek become toxic. The petitioners were thinking of the big picture, this creek could impact Spartanburg County Water. I recently read an article on the internet that said the toxicity in the creek in East Palestine, Ohio could impact drinking water all the way to Georgia. However, you, the Council Members want to ignore the voice of the people of Landrum once again over one word in a petition without thinking of the big picture and how our neighbors throughout the County could be impacted, or you yourselves if you go somewhere in the County and have a glass of tap water.

Where is accountability? Where is following the zoning laws?



**Potential South Carolina Conservation Fund for Proposed Fairwinds Park**

Upstate Forever staff and I are meeting next week with the Director of the South Carolina Conservation Fund about a major grant that may be possible for a portion of the Boatwright acquisition. There may also be some funding from a new Spartanburg County Land Trust. I will keep you posted on these exciting possibilities. Jay Boatwright and Landscape Architect Blake Sanders will also be attending the walk through.

**Anne Regan Butterfly Quilt.**

Be sure and drive by the Aging Well Center to see the butterfly quilt that has been hung on S. Shamrock side of the building. Butterflies were a favorite of Anne's so nothing could be more fitting.

**Restart on the Stubborn Mule Project Update.**

After a delay in construction, the owner stated that the project is moving forward again and he plans to be open this fall.

**Spring Road Patching.**

We are assembling a pothole list on city and county streets and will be filling them within the next month. If you have favorite potholes on non-state streets, let me know. All potholes on state streets are reported regularly to SCDOT.

**Market Pavilion Skylights.**

Half of the leaking skylights were replaced last week and the other half are scheduled to be completed probably this week, weather permitting.