

Aiken City Council Minutes

April 28, 2003

WORK SESSION

Present: Mayor Cavanaugh, Councilmembers Clyburn, Cuning, Price, Smith, Sprawls and Vaughters.

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Gary Smith, Bill Huggins, Larry Morris, Richard Pearce, Sara Ridout, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, and about 15 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. He stated Council had two items that they would like to discuss in the work session.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONSRecreation CommissionTermsAppointmentGratop, JohnSnyder, David

Mr. LeDuc stated that at the last meeting City Council approved a Recreation Commission consisting of seven members selected by City Council and four student members at large. At this meeting Council needs to draw terms for their appointment to the Recreation Commission.

Councilmembers drew the following terms for their appointment:

Mayor Cavanaugh	2 years
Councilmember Clyburn	2 years
Councilmember Cuning	1 year
Councilmember Price	2 years
Councilmember Smith	1 year
Councilmember Sprawls	2 years
Councilmember Vaughters	1 year

Councilman Smith stated he would like to recommend that John Gratop, of 50 Shagback Court be appointed to the Recreation Commission as his appointment.

Councilwoman Vaughters stated she would like to recommend David Snyder, of 382 Plantation Drive, be appointed to the Recreation Commission. She pointed out he lives outside the city.

Council discussed whether appointees on the Recreation Commission could live outside the city and how many non-city residents Council should allow to be appointed to the Recreation Commission. After discussion it was pointed out over 50% of the citizens using the recreation facilities live outside the City of Aiken and it was felt the non-city residents should be represented on the Commission. Council limited the non-city appointees to two.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONSAppointmentsElection CommissionWood, KeithHousing AuthorityDicks, NathanielWood, SaraBuilding Code Appeals CommitteeFindley, James R.Black, Steve

Mr. LeDuc pointed out Council needs to make some appointments to other boards and commissions of the city.

Councilwoman Price stated she would like to recommend reappointment of Keith Wood to the Election Commission.

Mayor Cavanaugh stated he would like to recommend reappointment of Sara Wood to the Housing Authority.

Councilwoman Clyburn recommended that Nathaniel Dicks be reappointed to the Housing Authority.

Councilman Cuning recommended that James R. Findley be reappointed to the Building Code Appeals Committee.

Councilman Sprawls recommended that Steve Black be reappointed to the Building Code of Appeals Committee.

HIDDEN HAVENSilver Bluff RoadSale of LotCity PropertyTPN 134-01.0-01-106

Mr. LeDuc stated the City of Aiken annexed Hidden Haven in the early 1990's. At that time a septic system served this entire development which was eliminated approximately seven years ago. The land upon which the septic tank and field was constructed consists of .69 acres and has remained vacant and is city property. We recently received an offer from a couple who would like to purchase this property and place a manufactured home on the lot. The couple has offered \$16,200 for the lot, which was appraised by Don Toole at \$18,000. In reviewing this offer we feel that this is a fair amount for this property, and, as he stated in his appraisal, the City may want to consider lowering the appraisal in order to sell the property more quickly. We would like to discuss this proposal with Council, and, if Council agrees, we will include the sale of this property on the next Council agenda.

Council discussed the proposal and felt the offer was not a bad price for a lot in the Hidden Haven Subdivision, particularly since the lot had been the site of the former septic tank for the subdivision.

Mr. LeDuc stated, since Council had no objections, the matter would be placed on the agenda for Council's action at the next meeting.

WHISKEY ROAD OVERLAY

Whiskey Road Corridor Aiken County Council Overlay

Mr. LeDuc stated the overlay meeting with Aiken County Council, which had been scheduled for Thursday, May 1, had been cancelled and rescheduled for Thursday, May 8, at 6 P.M. at the County Council meeting.

After discussion, it was determined that a majority of City Council had other commitments and would not be able to attend the meeting on May 8. Mr. LeDuc was instructed to ask that the meeting be rescheduled.

LAND PLANNER

Toole Hill

Mr. LeDuc stated that on May 12, 2003, the designers for the Land Plan for the Northwest side of town, the Toole Hill area, will be starting their charrette process. He said they will appear before Council at the work session to explain to Council what they propose to do. Then over the next several days after that there will be a series of meetings with the neighborhood and other community leaders. From that they will draw up a set of plans. Then on Thursday, May 15, they will have the final charrette as to what they will be proposing for the land plan for the Toole Hill area.

VOLUNTEER LUNCH

Mr. LeDuc reminded Council of the Volunteer Lunch on Tuesday, April 29, in the Municipal Center.

BUDGET SESSION

Mr. LeDuc also reminded Council of the budget work session to be held on Monday, May 5, 2003, at 1 P.M.

PARTNERS IN FRIENDSHIP CITY

Orvieto, Italy

Mayor Cavanaugh pointed out that the Vice Mayor Stefano Mocio, of Orvieto, Italy, would be in Aiken on May 1, 2003, for ten days. Also, the artist who has been in Aiken previously, Livio Valentini, will be in Aiken at the same time.

CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

McGhee, Beatrice Code Enforcement

Mr. LeDuc pointed out all Councilmembers had received a letter from Beatrice McGhee regarding the code enforcement program. He discussed the process the city uses and the letters sent pointing out violations. He said this program had made a difference in the way areas appear in the neighborhoods. He said if Councilmembers have any questions concerning the program, he would be glad to talk with them about the program.

STREET

Fred Jones Lane NE

Councilwoman Clyburn pointed out she would like for the Public Works Department to check out the condition of a road known as Fred Jones Lane NE located between Horry and Sumter Streets.