

Aiken City Council Minutes

June 14, 2004

WORK SESSION

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

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Bill Huggins, Gary Smith, Larry Morris, Ed Evans, Sara Ridout, Richard Pearce, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, Josh Gelinis of the Augusta Chronicle, Channel 12, and about 40 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M. He stated Council had one item that they would like to discuss in the work session.

TRAFFIC IMPACT ORDINANCE

Mr. LeDuc stated that in May, the Planning Commission approved on a 4 – 3 vote a proposed Traffic Impact Ordinance. There was a lot of discussion at this meeting and comments that City Council should consider a number of items in their deliberation of the Traffic Impact Ordinance. These included:

- a. What threshold traffic generation should trigger a study?
- b. The effect this would have on small businesses.
- c. To what degree should traffic at 5 and 10 years after build up be considered?
- d. How would this impact the entire city growth?
- e. How does this impact the respect for property rights?

Since then, we have received numerous calls from individuals wanting to speak to City Council about this subject. For this reason, the staff and the Mayor have discussed holding a public meeting with City Council to receive input on the Traffic Impact Ordinance prior to formal Council action. Since this public hearing will probably last for more than two hours, we are suggesting that it be held on a non-City Council evening. We are also suggesting that Council consider canceling their second meeting on June 28. We would like to suggest that Council consider Tuesday, June 29, or Thursday, July 1 to hold this public meeting. Roger Dyar is available, and we suggest starting this meeting at approximately 6:30 in the evening. Once the public meeting has been held, Council can decide what action they would like to take for staff to move forward with the Traffic Impact Ordinance.

Roger Dyar, Traffic Consultant, reviewed the proposed traffic impact ordinance and the process which had been followed in developing the proposed ordinance. He stated the ordinance would be a planning tool for the staff and Council. He stated a map had been prepared which shows the level of service on the major arterial streets in the city and explained the meaning of each level and how the streets were measured to determine the level of service. He said the ordinance had been developed and the next phase would be to look at a driveway design ordinance to help control points of access. He said this phase of the work is just beginning. He said the proposed Traffic Ordinance is a combination of many other ordinances from other cities and tries to fit the needs of Aiken. He said he had incorporated most of the comments from the Planning Commission. He pointed out that any development that would not create 100 trips per day would not have to have a traffic study done. He said the level of service of the road the development is on and the amount of traffic that will be generated by the new development determines whether the study will be a Type 1 or 2 and also determines whether a radius of one-fourth of a mile or a one-half mile will be studied for a Type 1 Study or a mile for a Type 2 study. He said it is also recommended that the city look at current conditions at full build-out and at five years.

Council then discussed the ordinance and asked questions concerning the proposed ordinance. They were especially concerned about Whiskey Road and the proposed

ordinance discouraging annexation of properties along Whiskey Road because of the mitigation fees.

Council then briefly discussed whether to hold a special work session on the Traffic Ordinance on June 29. It was pointed out that matter would be decided later on the agenda.

Aiken City Council Minutes

REGULAR MEETING

June 14, 2004

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

Others Present: Roger LeDuc, Bill Huggins, Gary Smith, Anita Lilly, Larry Morris, Ed Evans, Pete Frommer, Susan Mimmie, Sara Ridout, Philip Lord of the Aiken Standard, Josh Gelinas of the Augusta Chronicle, and about 52 citizens.

Mayor Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 7:14 P.M. Roger LeDuc led in prayer, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to approve the agenda. Mayor Cavanaugh moved, seconded by Councilwoman Clyburn and unanimously approved, that the agenda be approved as submitted.

MINUTES

The minutes of the work session of May 4, 2004, the work session and regular meeting of May 10, 2004, and the joint City Council and Planning Commission work session of May 24, 2004 were considered for approval. Councilwoman Price moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cuning and unanimously approved.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Appointments

Bishop, Jerry

Building Code Appeals Committee

Mayor Cavanaugh stated Council needed to consider one appointment to the various boards and commissions of the city.

Mr. LeDuc stated there are 2 pending appointments to boards and committees of the city and 1 appointment is presented for Council's consideration.

Councilman Smith has recommended reappointment of Jerry Bishop to the Building Code Appeals Committee. If reappointed his term would expire May 12, 2006.

Councilman Smith moved, seconded by Councilman Cuning and unanimously approved, that Council reappoint Jerry Bishop to the Building Code Appeals Committee with the term to expire May 12, 2006.