



City of Claremont Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, August 3, 2015

The regular City Council meeting of the City of Claremont was held in the council chambers located at Claremont City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 3, 2015.

The following members of the Claremont City Council were present: Mayor Shawn Brown, Councilmember Timothy Lowrance, Councilmember Dayne Miller, Councilmember Nicky Setzer, Councilmember Dale Setzer and Councilmember Dale Sherrill.

The following personnel of the City of Claremont were present: City Manager Catherine Renbarger, City Attorney Bob Grant, Finance Officer Stephanie Corn, City Clerk Wendy Helms, Police Chief Gary Bost, Fire Chief Bart Travis and Recreation Coordinator Michael Orders.

Others in attendance were: Scott Ramsey, Charles Helms, Robert Winrow, Luisa Agathon, Johnny Wear, Donna Sigmon, Gary Sigmon, Allen Long, Robert Smith, Rupert Little, David Morrow, Brian Helms, Kathy Lowrance, Jennifer Lowrance, Elinor Hiltz, Wesley Frye, Bruce Hartsoe, John Oyster, Brian Bixby, Tyler Terry Roger Ham, Jason Lowrance, Julie Pruitt and Gene Monday.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Shawn R. Brown called the Claremont City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Reverend Wesley Frye from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. Councilmember Timothy Lowrance led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Brown did not have a report.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. July 6, 2015, Regular Meeting Minutes – Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept July 6, 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Dayne Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. July 6, 2015, Closed Session Minutes – Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept July 6, 2015 closed session minutes as presented. Councilmember Dayne Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CITIZEN’S CONCERNS & COMMENTS- none

7. PRESENTATIONS-

Mayor Brown and Fire Chief Bart Travis administered the oath of office for the 2015-2016 Fire Department Officers. Jason Lowrance and Bruce Hartsoe were sworn in as Assistant Chiefs. Kevin Little and Brian Helms were sworn in as Captains, along Mike Hathaway, Eddie Chapman and Ray Ball as Lieutenants.

8. OLD BUSINESS- There was no old business.

9. NEW BUSINESS-

A. Resolution 04-15 Adopt the Greater Hickory MPO Memorandum of Understanding-

The Greater Hickory Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has presented a memorandum of understanding, which was amended May 2015. The major changes to this document are the addition of participation by Taylorsville and NC Department of Transportation. This Memorandum of Understanding provides cooperative, comprehensive, and continuing transportation planning services for Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba Counties and many municipalities within the four counties.

Councilmember Nicky Setzer made the motion to accept Resolution 04-15. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Resolution 05-15 Dedicating the Claremont Fire Station in Honor of Gary W. Sigmon-

Mayor Shawn Brown and Councilmember Timothy Lowrance, along with retired Fire Chief, Gary Sigmon, stood while the Resolution was read and presented.

Former Chief Gary Sigmon served the Claremont community for more than 30 years. He was instrumental in the building of the current fire station. This resolution honors Chief Sigmon by naming the station the Gary W. Sigmon station and ensures that his legacy will forever be remembered.

Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made the motion to accept Resolution 05-15. Second was made by Councilmember D.B. Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Ordinance 03-15 Amending the FY 2016 Budget-

At the July 7, 2014 Council meeting, Councilmember Lowrance made a motion to appropriate \$30,000 for equipment for the new fire truck. However, no action was taken. This item amends the FY2015-2016 budget appropriating \$30,000 from fund balance into the fire department's small capital line item for equipment for the new truck.

Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made the motion to accept Ordinance 03-15. Second was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

10. DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Monthly Department Dashboard Report- The monthly dashboard report was presented.

Planning- Interim City Planner, John Wear introduced Elinor Hiltz to Council. Elinor will hold office hours on Mondays and Wednesday afternoons.

Fire- Chief Travis spoke about the delivery of the new fire truck. The new truck will be taken to Raleigh for the NC State Fire Convention.

11. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Renbarger advised Council that applications for the PJ Stanley Scholarship are available. She also spoke about the City hosting a Local Business Meeting. Council was given two dates to consider. Ms. Renbarger gave a brief update on the drought conditions. The Catawba River Basin is now in Stage 1, she reminded everyone to be mindful of their water consumption. A contract has been awarded for construction of a waterline to the Bunker Hill Covered Bridge. M & M Construction out of Banner Elk will be performing the work. The City agreed to purchase the fire hydrants for this project.

12. CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to go into a closed session in reference to G.S. 143-318.11(a) (4) at 7:22 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to go back into open session at 8:00 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller.

City Manger Renbarger made Council aware that the lease on the city car is up. Council advised her to turn in the car and a stipend of \$250 monthly will be given to her when she drives her personal vehicle. They have asked that she log her mileage for a couple of months. Catherine will also be checking with the NCLM about whether the City insurance would cover her in a personal vehicle.

City Manager Renbarger polled Council about supporting the opposition to House Bill 117. The budget would convert sales tax distribution in the state from the current 75%/25% point of sale/per capita split to a 80%/20% per capita/point of sale split, resulting in some counties and cities gaining money while others are projected to lose revenue. Claremont would lose up to \$10,000 in sales tax revenues. City Council advised her to place Claremont on the list in opposition.

13. ADJOURN

Motion was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. Helms, City Clerk

Shawn R. Brown, Mayor

Attested:

Wendy L. Helms, City Clerk