



City Council Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, May 7, 2012

The regular City Council meeting of the City of Claremont was held at the Claremont City Park at the picnic shelter at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 7, 2012.

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

The following personnel of the City of Claremont were present: City Manager, Doug Barrick, City Attorney, Bob Grant, Finance Officer, Stephanie Corn, Administrative Support Clerk, Mandy Buff, Police Chief, Gerald Tolbert, Police Captain, Gary Bost, Fire Chief, Gary Sigmon, Public Works Director, Tom Winkler and Public Works Lead Supervisor, Garrick Butts.

Others in attendance were: Henry Helton, Laurie LoCicero, Susan Tucker, Jennifer Lowrance, Jason Lowrance, Robert Smith, Andrea Ramsey, Hunter, Sheila, Daniel, Taylor Hamm, Kevin Cline, John Lentz, Rupert Little, Ashley Wike, Jan Morrow, Maggie Hamm, Steve Hamm, Diana Scott, Annette Forbes, Gene Monday, Buddy Little, Bryan Little, Pastor Jerry and Benita Beard.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Morrow called the Claremont City Council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as presented.

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was led by Reverend Wesley R. Frye from Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. Councilmember Shawn Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT & PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor David Morrow reported there was a good attendance at the Business breakfast that took place on May 3rd. There was also a good attendance at the events that occurred on May 5th. Mayor Morrow thanked the Councilmember's for helping out at the Claremont Rescue Squad's pig picking and poker run and the pancake breakfast. The tailgate market starts May 18th.

A. Claremont Police Week 2012 – Mayor Morrow read the proclamation for Claremont Police Week 2012.

B. Claremont Public Works Week 2012 – Mayor Morrow read the proclamation for Claremont Public Works Week 2012.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Regular Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2012 - A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance to accept the minutes from April 2nd regular meeting as presented. Councilmember Shawn Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Closed Session Minutes – April 2, 2012 - A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance to accept the minutes from April 2nd closed session as presented. Councilmember Shawn Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CITIZEN'S CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

Anne Webster – 3547 East Highway 70 – Mrs. Webster has been having issues with Advance Pierre Foods. Advance Pierre Foods took down the trees behind Mrs. Webster's house and they haven't finished the fence that is supposed to replace the trees. She stated it appears Advance Pierre Foods has started a new project and they have been using the entrance as a parking lot. She stated she no longer has any privacy at her house. She stated people are standing close to her property smoking and at the welcome to Claremont sign.

Mayor Morrow stated that the City Council and City Manager Barrick will meet to discuss the issue and City Manager Barrick will meet with Advance Pierre Foods' managers to discuss the issue as well.

7. PRESENTATION

A. City of Claremont Fiscal Year 2013 Manager's Recommended Budget – City Manager Barrick reported the tax rate is \$0.46 per \$100 of valuation for the seventh year in a row, overall decrease in spending by 6.2%, cost of operations is on the rise, increased focus on local business support and EDC efforts, expanded programs and services, continued partnerships with the county and local governments to save money and ensured proper allocation of City resources. He also stated the Manager's recommended budget is available on the City's website and at City Hall.

B. Scout Projects in the City Park – Henry Helton presented two Girl Scout Gold awards, one Eagle Scout award and four Boy Scout awards. All the Scouts completed a project in the Claremont City Park.

8. OLD BUSINESS

There wasn't any old business to discuss.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 16-11 Claremont Daze – A motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve Resolution 16-11 which will change Claremont Day to Claremont Daze. Councilmember Dale Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Ordinance 14-11 Budget Amendment – A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance to approve Ordinance 14-11 as presented. Councilmember Shawn Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Ordinance 15-11 Budget Amendment – A motion was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill to approve Ordinance 15-11 as presented. Councilmember Dale Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Budget Transfer – Monies have been moved in the FY 2012 budget to cover expenses related to a roof leak and HVAC issues at City Hall, additional Tailgate Market Advertising and deposits for Claremont Daze 2012.

10. DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Youth Council – Ashley Wike reported they are looking for new members for the upcoming new school year. Applications are at Bandys High School, Bunker Hill School and Claremont City Hall. The Relay for Life is still ongoing and the Relay for Life walk will be June 1st at South Side Park at 7 p.m.

B. Fire Department – Chief Gary Sigmon thanked Council for helping out at the Pancake Breakfast. Fire hydrant maintenance has been completed and they will be compiling a list of repairs and painting. Also the annual POSI checks have been performed on all SCBA.

C. Police Department – Chief Gerald Tolbert reported that Lt. Stamey, Cpl. Self, Ofc. Pruitt and his self attended the NCLEOA training conference at Atlantic Beach this month. He also reported Thursday, May 10th at Catawba Memorial Park at 1:00 p.m. there will be a memorial ceremony in honor of the Police Officers that were killed in the line of duty. The ceremony is open to the public.

D. Public Works – Public Works Director Tom Winkler reported his crew has removed some of the street signs and replaced them with the new high intensity with City logo. They have also been working at the City Park clearing and chipping trees at the new camping sites they have put some mulch at Francis Sigman Park.

E. Rescue Squad – City Manager Barrick reported the rescue squad had their 12th annual pig picking and poker run on April 21st and they had a good turnout despite the weather conditions. The Rescue Squad was thankful to the Mayor and Councilmember's for helping out at the Pig Picking. They took donations at the Pig Picking for the P.J. Stanley Scholarship Fund and they raised approximately \$425.00. They will also donate a portion of their proceeds to the Scholarship Fund. They also are thankful for Councilmember Shawn Brown finishing out James Stanley's term as a Board of Director for the Rescue Squad.

F. Utilities Department – City Manager Barrick reported he is continuing to evaluate regional options for wastewater treatment. The 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report has been completed and will be sent out in May to all customers. No letters to date for the month; however the McLin plant will be out of compliance for BOD levels for the month of March due to a surge flow of sludge. The City of Hickory and Claremont staffs are attempting to locate the source of the flow to address future flows.

G. Planning and Zoning – City Planner Laurie LoCicero reported the planning board met to consider draft language regarding Internet Sweepstakes which has been submitted to the City Attorney.

H. Parks & Recreation Committee – Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance stated there is an overnight camping area in the Claremont City Park and the committee is working on an application for the use of the area. Claremont Daze is in the works and it has been extended from Friday evening until Saturday afternoon. There will be a beer garden, sponsored by the JC's, beside of O' Cup Bean & Bakery and the City of Claremont has nothing to do with it.

Mayor Morrow stated the City will be having a Memorial Day Ceremony in the Claremont City Park on Monday, May 28th at the Veterans Memorial at 11 a.m.

I. Appearance Committee – Councilmember Nicky Setzer reported Glenn Morrison spoke with City Manager Barrick to see if the three benches have been ordered. The benches have been ordered and will arrive shortly. One bench will be placed in the City park in memory of James "P.J." Stanley, the second will be placed at the entrance of Rachel's Vineyard in memory of Russell Boggs and the third bench will be placed near Duane Cozzen's home.

12. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT – City Manager Doug Barrick thanked Public Works for helping out with the City Wide Yard Sale event and the City Council meeting. D.O.T. will be closing the Claremont I-40 ramps for repaving. The Facebook page is reaching over 380 people and events will be posted on the City's Facebook page for Police week and Public Works week. The marks on the sidewalks are for repairs.

14. ADJOURN - At 8:01 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance moved to adjourn the City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectively submitted,
Mandy D. Buff,
Administrative Support Clerk

APPROVED JUNE 4, 2012