



City of Claremont Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, August 5, 2013

The regular City Council meeting of the City of Claremont was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 5, 2013.

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

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 Wendy Helms, Lieutenant Allen Long, Public Works Director Tom Winkler, City Planner Laurie LoCicero, Sergeant Duane Cozzens, Officer Alan Russell, Officer Cody Jarvis and Rick Damron.

Others in attendance were: Henry Helton, Robert Winrow, Robert Smith, Heather Blanton, Eric Jones, Jason Lowrance, Andrea Ramsey, Rupert Little, Jeff Barkley, Brian Helms, Paul Christ, Sam Erwin and Gene Monday.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Morrow called the Claremont City Council meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was led by Paul Christ from St. Mark's Lutheran. Councilmember Nicky Setzer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor David Morrow read two thank you letters from the family of Bob Brinkley. He also read a thank you note from the family of Jim Campbell; each thanking the city for their actions during their recent deaths. Mayor Morrow read a thank you note from Kay Matthews, thanking the city for the Tailgate Market. Mayor Morrow and Councilmember Shawn Brown represented the city at a meeting held on July 17th at the EDC. There will be a Town Hall Meeting held in Conover on August 13th, everyone is welcomed to attend. He also reported that the Maiden Town Hall will have open house on August 25, 2013. Mayor Morrow thanked all departments for their hard work during the recent storms and flooding. He also stated that the selection committee will soon announce the candidate for the new Fire

Chief position.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. July 1, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes – Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept July 1, 2013 regular meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Shawn Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. July 1, 2013 Closed Session Meeting Minutes- Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept July 1, 2013 closed session meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Shawn Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CITIZEN'S CONCERN'S & COMMENTS

None

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Francis Sigmon Park- The Francis Sigmon Park is comprised by 27.10 acres of land. The City has recently taken the park back over after the Claremont Optimist has ceased to exist. City Maintenance has been doing the general maintenance to the property. The land was donated by Francis Sigmon to provide an area where recreation programs could be provided. Bunker Hill Optimist and the YMCA have approached the City about using the property for their programs. City Manager, Doug Barrick discussed options for this property. Investigate the legalities of a sell; sell half of the property keep the other half, use profit to invest in upgrades; or hold the park and decide if the city would like to get into the recreation programs. Council elected to table the subject and discuss it at the next meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS-

A. WPCOG Comprehensive Recreation Plan- Sam Erwin spoke with council about the WPCOG comprehensive recreation plan for the City of Claremont. The plan would include citizen input, evaluating existing facilities, improvements and renovation needs. This plan would serve as a roadmap to allow the city to renovate and construct new facilities that the citizens prefer. The Parks and Recreation Committee would be involved in the process, along with focus group meetings. The cost of the contract is \$7250, with seven months to complete. Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve the contract with WPCOG. Second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

B. NCDENR Community Waste Reduction Grant Contract- This grant would provide new recycling containers for the city park, Main Street and local gas stations. The grant would allocate \$7,479 in state funds with the city match of \$ 5,396. Motion was made by Councilmember Shawn Brown to approve the contract with NCDENR. Second was made by Councilmember D.B. Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Ordinance # 02-13 Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Amendment- This budget amendment would appropriate Carpenter Foundation Grant Funds for the Rescue Squad and allocates additional fund

balance funds to cover the purchase of a used grapple truck for Public Works. Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Second was made by Councilmember Shawn Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolution # 02-13 Surplus Property- This resolution would be to surplus a 2006 Toro zero turn lawnmower. This would be sold via Govdeals.com. Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Second was made by Councilmember Shawn Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Fire Department – Assistant Chief, Brian Helms reported 21 calls ran in July. Training hours for the month totaled 352. Claremont Fire Department held a joint training session with Catawba Fire Department, using the Ladder truck. All engines and the ladder truck have had yearly maintenance performed and all vehicle inspections are complete. Fire Prevention installed 2 car seats, checked installation on 1 seat, provided 3 programs and installed 22 detectors.

B. Police Department – Lieutenant Allen Long reported for the Police Department. The Police Department has been busy during the month with cases of Identity Theft. Numerous Officers have been involved in training during the month. He also introduced Allen Russell and Cody Jarvis as new Police Officers.

D. Public Works – Tom Winkler acknowledged the fine work of all departments of the city during the recent flooding. Public Works was very busy with tree removal, cleaning of the creek crossings and replacing a pump at the Smyre Lift Station.

E. Rescue Squad – Chief Eric Jones reported that the Rescue Squad responded to 72 calls for the month of June. Their Swift Water Team performed 7 swift water rescues during the flooding. The 20 guns in 20 days is still being sold, tickets can be purchased from any member or at City Hall.

F. Utilities Department – City Manager, Doug Barrick presented a slide show of pictures from the recent flooding. Damage was contained to the sewer outfall line. Murray Grading has come in to remove debris from the creek.

G. Planning & Zoning – Laurie LoCicero reported that the region has started a Hazardous Mitigation Plan Process. A FEMA grant was acquired to fund this plan. Laurie will be talking with the other departments to get their input on this.

H. Parks & Recreation Committee – The Park and Recreation Committee will host a concert in the park on August 17th. September 21st will be the next movies in the park. Back to school party for Bunker Hill, September 7th. Claremont Daze is coming together, more information to follow next month.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager, Doug Barrick introduced two new faces at City Hall, Wendy Helms and Melinda Bumgarner. Doug spoke about the Code Red. Registration is free, it will notify you by telephone, text or email in case of emergency. It was used during the flooding to give information.

11. ADJOURN

At 8:45 p.m. Councilmember Shawn Brown made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting. Councilmember Dale Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. Helms, Administrative Support Clerk

David B. Morrow, Mayor

Attested:

Douglas L. Barrick, City Clerk

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