



City of Claremont Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, December 2, 2013

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, December 2, 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, 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 Wendy Helms, Public Works Director Tom Winkler, Rick Damron and Police Chief Gary Bost.

Others in attendance were: Brian Helms, Melinda Bumgarner, Annette Richards, Scott Richards, Jack Brown, Pearl Brown, Dayne Miller, Jill Brown, Doug Brown, Scott Millar, Terry Miller, Sandra Miller, Jack Whitener, Margie Whitener, Elsa Swenson, Angela Brown, Robert Winrow, Norman Morrow, Kevin Isenhour, Robert Smith, Henry Helton, Rupert Little, Jan Morrow, Cheyanne DeMauro, Katana DeMauro, Mandy Buff, William Buff, David Call, Cody Call, Kevin Little, Terri Miller, Patrick Brown, Bill Hollar, Jennifer Pruitt, Jennifer Lowrance, Roger Ham, Tyler Terry, Cristal Rager, Peggy Travis, Harvey Travis, Gene Monday, Martin Pannell, Kathy Lowrance, Zoie Henry, Julie Lowrance, Haley Kadish, Andrea Ramsey, Carl Greene, Wesley Harrington, Jennifer Travis, Emma Coffey, Katie Coffey, Tanya Watson, Bonnie Parton, Mitchell Setzer, Brian Bixby, Mike Hathaway, Eddie Chapman, Jason Lowrance, Greg Ramsey and Charles Connor III.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Morrow 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 Bill Hollar. Councilmember Shawn Brown led the pledge of allegiance.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor David Morrow gave highlights of his last four years as Mayor.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. November 4, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes – Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion

to accept November 4, 2013 regular meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Nicky Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. November 4, 2013 Closed Session Meeting Minutes- Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept November 4, 2013 closed session meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Nicky Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Consideration to Accept Abstract of Votes Received During the November 5, 2013 Election- Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept November 5, 2013 Election results. Councilmember Nicky Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Resolution 10-13 Designation of FEMA Applicants Agent- Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept Resolution 10-13 to appoint City Manager Doug Barrick to be the agent for the City of Claremont. Councilmember Nicky Setzer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CITIZEN'S CONCERN'S & COMMENTS

Martin Pannell addressed council. Mr. Pannell was very proud that the City of Claremont was presented as a Community of Distinction. However he questioned the integrity of the council. Mr. Pannell was upset about the money the city had to pay for the Poppelmann Project. Council thanked Mr. Pannell for his comments.

Charles Connor III also addressed council. He stated although questions had been raised about Poppelmann, current council and staff could not be held accountable for those decisions. He stated he does not question council's integrity.

7. OLD BUSINESS-

A. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2013 Audit- Elsa Swenson, from Martin Starnes Accounting Firm, presented council with highlights of the 2013 audit. Claremont received an unmodified opinion, which is a clean opinion. After her presentation council had no questions for Ms. Swenson.

B. BGA Shell Building Agreement- Scott Millar with the Catawba County EDC gave a brief presentation on an agreement to encourage the private development of a shell manufacturing building to facilitate the creation of new jobs and future tax base with the existing Claremont International Business Park. City Manager, Dou Barrick interjected that money Claremont would have to invest would be coming from Golden Leaf monies left after a project with Advance Pierre Foods. No other city money would be needed. Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve the agreement for the BGA Shell Building. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

8. RECESS MEETING OF PRESENT CITY COUNCIL-

Motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to recess the present council at 7:55 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Shawn Brown. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time David Morrow was presented a "key to the City" for his leadership. Representative Mitchell Setzer also presented David with a North Carolina Flag flew at the Capitol in his honor.

Councilmember Timothy Lowrance declared the meeting back into session at 8:10 p.m.

9. OATH OF OFFICE AND SEATING OF CITY COUNCIL-

Representative Mitchell Setzer was on hand to swear in recently elected Mayor Shawn Brown, Councilmember's Timothy Lowrance and Dayne Miller. Representative Setzer also swore in a new Fire Chief, Bart Travis.

Representative Mitchell Setzer presented Mayor; Shawn Brown with a North Carolina Flag flew at the Capitol in his honor.

Representative Mitchell Setzer also presented Glenn Morrison; former Mayor with a North Carolina Flag flew at the Capitol in his honor.

10. ORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL-

A. Recess- The meeting was placed into recess at 8:20 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 8:35 p.m.

B. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore & committee Appointments- Motion was made by Councilmember D.B. Setzer to appoint Timothy Lowrance as Mayor Pro Tem. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

11. NEW BUSINESS

B. Resolution 08-13 Western Piedmont Council of Government Delegate- The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) has asked the City of Claremont to appoint a Policy Board Member and Alternate for the calendar year 2014 to represent the City. The Policy Board meets once a month at various host cities or sites throughout the region to guide the WPCOG. Motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to appoint Councilmember Nicky Setzer as the delegate. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill to appoint Councilmember Timothy Lowrance as the alternate. Second was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Resolution 09-13 Travel Policy Updates- The policy reflects current legal and governmental regulations as well as other updates that have not been addressed since new auditing standards have been adopted. The New policy limits food expenses, sets the mileage rate, and increases safeguards for the City. Intern Haley Kadish presented council with these updates. Motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to approve the policy as presented. Second was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

D. 2014 City Council Meeting Calendar- City Manager Doug Barrick asked council to officially, set the 12 meeting dates for the Claremont City Council for calendar year 2014. This calendar adjusts the September meeting one week, to September 8, 2014 for Labor Day. Motion was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill to accept the calendar as presented. Second was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

12. DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Youth Council – Cheyanne DeMauro reported for the Youth Council.

B. Police Department – Chief Gary Bost gave the Police Department report.

C. Fire Department – Assistant Chief, Brian Helms gave the Fire Department report.

D. Public Works – Public Works Director, Tom Winkler gave the Public Works report.

E. Rescue Squad – Carl Greene spoke on behalf of the Rescue Squad.

F. Utilities Department – City Manager, Doug Barrick reported on the Utilities Department. Doug informed council that FEMA had made three site visits to look at damage from the July storms.

G. Planning and Zoning – City Manager, Doug Barrick gave the planning report.

H. Parks and Recreation Committee- City Councilmember Timothy Lowrance spoke about the Park Survey.

I. Appearance Committee- no report.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT- City Manager Barrick advised everyone in attendance that the city now has a Twitter account. Please follow the city for updates. New garbage and recycle containers have been placed throughout the city. Hopefully this will increase recycling practices. December 10, 2013 there will be a Hazardous Mitigation Plan meeting at the WPCOG. This is a public meeting, which begins at 4 p.m.

14. ADJOURN- Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. Helms, Administrative Support Clerk

Shawn R. Brown, Mayor

Attested:

Douglas L. Barrick, City Clerk