



City of Claremont Regular Meeting Minutes Monday, June 1, 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, June 1, 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, Public Works Director Tom Winkler, Police Captain Allen Long and Recreation Coordinator Michael Orders.

Others in attendance were: Robert Smith, Andrea Ramsey, Charles Helms, Rupert Little, Leon Mitchell, Stephanie Romero, Francisca Jaramillo, Robert Winrow, Luisa Agathon, David Morrow, Michael DeNise, Jason Lowrance, Dennis Phillips, Millie Moore, Meleah Miller, Patricia Miller, Mike Hathaway and Lou Vitullo.

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 Robert Smith from New Life Fellowship Baptist Church. Councilmember Dale Sherrill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. MAYOR'S REPORT & PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Brown allowed Michael DeNise, Executive Director, of the Shuford YMCA to speak about the programs and services offered by the YMCA.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. May 5, 2015, Regular Meeting Minutes – Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept May 5, 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented. Councilmember Dayne Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. May 5, 2015 Closed Session Minutes- Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept May 5, 2015 closed session minutes. Councilmember Dayne Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. May 6, 2015 Budget Retreat Minutes- Councilmember Timothy Lowrance made a motion to accept the minutes from the budget retreat on May 6, 2015. Councilmember Dayne Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. CITIZEN’S CONCERNS & COMMENTS

First to speak during the public comment period was Patricia Miller. Ms. Miller addressed Council about the smell from the lift station next to her home. After lengthy discussion, Council assured Ms. Miller that when the new pump station comes on line this problem should be completely eliminated.

Next to speak was Robert Smith. He spoke to Council about New Life Baptist Fellowship Church’s “Praise in the Park”. He thanked the City for providing a great facility for the event.

7. PUBLIC HEARING Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to go into a Public Hearing, at 7:17 p.m. to discuss the fiscal year 2016 proposed budget. Councilmember Dale Sherrill seconded the motion.

City Manager Renbarger gave a brief overview of the 2016 proposed budget. Budget highlights include a \$.49 tax rate per \$100 of assessed value and a 2.5% increase in water and sewer fees. Ms. Renbarger reported the City to be in strong financial shape and committed to long-term success. Several citizens spoke during the public hearing. Dennis Phillips read into record a letter from Jeff Swagger. Both individuals were against the property tax increase. Ms. Millie Moore also addressed Council, stating her concerns about the tax increase.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller to go back into regular session at 7:45 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance.

8. OLD BUSINESS none

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 25-14 Fiscal Year 2016 Budget – Budget Ordinance 25-14 was presented to Council. This budget ordinance adopts the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget, for all City funds with a general fund budget of \$2,676,019.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill to accept Ordinance 25-14 as presented. Second was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Ordinance 26-14 Amending the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget- Ordinance 26-14 will amend the fiscal year 2015 budget to move money proceeds from a cell tower permit to the appropriate line items. This will turn allow the City to pay the consulting firm that helped the City with the permit process.

Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to accept Ordinance 26-14. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Ordinance 27-14 Amending the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget- Budget Ordinance 27-14 will ensure appropriate funds are in each line item before year end.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller to accept Resolution 27-14. Second was made by Councilmember D.B. Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Fiscal Year 2016 WPCOG Planning Contract- WPCOG has presented a contract for Planning and Zoning services for the 2016 fiscal year. These services are not to exceed \$28,900. This contract represents a 4% increase from fiscal year 2015.

Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve Fiscal Year 2016 WPCOG Contract. Second was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Fiscal Year 2016 Fire Inspection Agreement- Council was presented with an annual contract for fire inspections. Catawba County will provide the building code inspections for the City for the sum of \$4,582. This is an increase from the fiscal year 2015 budget of \$9.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill to approve Fiscal Year 2016 Fire Inspection Agreement. Second was made by Councilmember D.B. Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Fiscal Year 2016 Animal Control Agreement- Catawba County also provides the City with animal control services. The annual contract will be \$1,200. This contract is the same as fiscal year 2015.

Motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to approve Fiscal Year 2016 Animal Control Agreement. Second was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller. Motion passed unanimously.

G. Fiscal Year 2016 Fire Department Officer Confirmation- Fire Chief, Bart Travis, spoke with Council about recent officer nominations. Presented are the following names for consideration: Jason Lowrance and Bruce Hartsoe for Assistant Chiefs, Kevin Little and Brian Helms for Captains and Eddie Chapman, Ray Ball along with Mike Hathaway for Lieutenants.

Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve Fiscal Year 2016 Officer Confirmations. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

H. 2015/2018 WAN Agreement- The WAN Agreement would provide the City with increased bandwidth, firewall and filter access to the internet. WPCOG and Catawba County have partnered for these services, providing parties with lower cost. The City will pay the WPCOG \$103.39 per month for these services.

Motion was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer to approve Fiscal Year 2015/2018 WAN Agreement. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

I. Fiscal Year 2016 Audit Contract- Melanie Starr, CPA has submitted a contract for fiscal year 2016 auditing services. Ms. Starr is confident the audit will be submitted by October 31, 2015.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dayne Miller to approve Fiscal Year 2016 Audit Contract from Melanie Starr, CPA. Second was made by Councilmember Dale Sherrill. Motion passed unanimously.

10. DEPARTMENT & COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

B. Recreation Committee- Recreation Coordinator Michael Orders spoke about upcoming events and the Memorial Day Service.

C. Youth Council- no report was given.

D. Appearance Committee- Councilmember Nicky Setzer reported that Jana Lemoine at 3177 Catawba St. was the winner of the May Yard of the Month. She will receive a \$25 gift certificate from Marely's Pizza.

11. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Catherine Renbarger introduced Luisa Agathon, who will be interning in the City offices this summer. She also informed Council about the changes in the Planning Department. Laurie LoCicero will be in Claremont for the month of June. After that time a new planner, yet to be determined, will take over the position.

12. CLOSED SESSION – closed session was not held.

13. ADJOURN

With no further action needed, motion was made by Councilmember Timothy Lowrance to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Second was made by Councilmember Nicky Setzer. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. Helms, City Clerk

Shawn R. Brown, Mayor

Attested:

Wendy L. Helms, City Clerk