

**Regular Council Meeting
December 10th, 2024
Council Chamber – Clemson City Hall**

6:30 PM Call to Order: Mayor Robert Halfacre at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Halfacre

Members present: Mayor Halfacre presiding, Council Members Boatwright, Brookover, Ducworth, and Fulmer.

Absent: Council Members Smith and Watt

Notification emailed: December 6th, 2024 to the *Greenville News*, the *Journal*, the *Independent Mail*, the *Post and Courier*, the *Pickens Sentinel*, the *Easley Progress*; WSNW Radio, WYFF, WSPA, and Fox Carolina.

Public Session: Mayor Halfacre presiding – Robert Lee, 113 Pressley Drive, discussed the censure and how he thought it was difficult, but necessary. Jupiter Chastain, 116 E Freedom Wood Drive (Liberty), spoke about homelessness. Rupert McGinty, 206 North Clemson Avenue, spoke about stormwater runoff in reference to the Hub Project and the TIF Vote. Mayor Halfacre clarified that since the County has opted out the TIF will not move forward. The city is looking at other options. MyCivic comment from Joshua Catalano, 100 Lewis Road, discussing the lack of internet options on Lewis Road. MyCivic comment from Shelly Geer, 204 Willow Street, concerning storm debris on the sidewalks along Pendleton Road.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from December 2nd, 2024 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Receive a report on the ACATS sub allocation funding formula for Clemson Area Transit – Deputy City Administrator Allison Gantte stated last year we moved from GPATS to ACATS and had to negotiate a formula with the City of Anderson. Overall funding will be \$650,000 and will increase roughly \$50,000 per year. This funding formula has been reviewed by FTA and SCDOT.

Discuss a text amendment to Chapter 7, Sec 7-8, Fixed Assets. – Procurement Coordinator Brandon Burton Finance Director Leslie Wilder presented for Mr. Burton. The GASB rule has changed for 2025 regarding bulk purchases, unless the City has a threshold policy in place. She used the example of buying 500 water meters and having to capitalize the assets unless the policy was changed. The auditor also recommended looking at changing the asset thresholds to reflect the increase in costs of items.

Schedule a Public Hearing date for an Ordinance change to allow non-conforming properties to have vested rights if they were destroyed by other than voluntary actions. – Planning and Development Director Nathan Woods discussed doing this as soon as possible as residents rebuild due to storm damage. The public hearing was scheduled for 5:30 pm on January 13th.

Staff Reports:

City Clerk Jeremiah Jackson: The ITGA conference is June 4-6 in Kent, Ohio.

City Administrator Andy Blondeau: The City has an agreement with SCDOT to remove trees along state roads. The trees were larger than our equipment can handle.

Policy Action

Consider Second Reading of an infrastructure reimbursement agreement between the City of Clemson and One Clemson Development, LLC. - Deputy City Administrator Allison Gantte stated there are no changes in the plan since the first reading. Council Member Brookover made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fulmer, to approve second reading of an infrastructure reimbursement agreement between the City of Clemson and One Clemson Development, LLC. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Other Policy Action:

Consider approving the funding plan for the Arts Center Facility. - Parks and Recreation Director Jay Bennett thanked outgoing Council Members Brookover and Ducworth for their support. There are no changes since the last meeting. City Administrator Andy Blondeau said more updated numbers would be available during the budget process to make changes. Council Member Fulmer asked about doing both phases at the same time due to get ahead of future costs increases. Council Member Ducworth made a motion, seconded by Council Member Boatwright to approve the funding plan for the Arts Center Facility. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider adopting an Ethics and Code of Conduct Statement for elected and appointed officials. - Council Members Boatwright and Ducworth. Council Member Boatwright noted that points 7 and 9 have had adjustments. Council Member Fulmer clarified potentially changing public comment rules is not going to be part of this document. Council Member Ducworth suggested going through all the Administration Code of Ordinances for a refresh. Council Member Brookover had an issue with point number 7 and suggested removing everything on that item except the last sentence. Jupiter Chastain, 116 E Freedom Wood Drive (Liberty), spoke about evidentiary standards. Herb Tyler, 143 Folger Street, suggested removing publicly from it. Robert Lee, 113 Pressley Drive, asked about legal implications. Council Member Boatwright made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ducworth to approve adopting an Ethics and Code of Conduct Statement for elected and appointed officials with a change to point 7 to read Members shall publicly disclose substantive information that is relevant to a matter under consideration by the body which they may have received from sources outside of the public decision-making process. Council Member Boatwright withdrew her motion. Council Member Boatwright made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ducworth to approve adopting an Ethics and Code of Conduct Statement for elected and appointed officials with a change to point 7 to read Members shall disclose substantive information that is relevant to a matter under consideration by the body which they may have received from sources outside of the public decision-making process. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Mayor Halfacre: Thanked the departing Council Members for their service and support.

Council Member Ducworth: Thanked staff for the support.

Council Member Brookover: Thanked staff for all of their hard work, and fellow Council Members to their guidance.

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:23p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

Approved

By: _____

G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor