

**Regular Council Meeting
October 21st, 2024
Council Chamber – Clemson City Hall**

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

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Watt

Members present: Mayor Halfacre presiding, Council Members Brookover, Fulmer, Smith and Watt.

Absent: Council Members Boatwright and Ducworth

Notification emailed: October 17th, 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.

Oath of Office Parking Enforcement Officer Michael “Drew” Ziemba.

Public Session: Mayor Pro Tem Alesia Smith presiding – Laurie Sherrod, 311 Westminster Drive, spoke in appreciation for the new pickleball courts coming to Nettles Park. She also requested possibly honoring Bob Barrett in some way. He was recently killed in a car accident and was active in the pickleball community. Tal Slann, 100 Devonshire Court, spoke about the proposed TIF and placing a cap of 3% on appreciation of the housing. He also spoke about student housing and not deciding what business will succeed in Clemson.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from October 7th, 2024 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Receive a report from the Accommodations Tax Committee on funding recommendations – Finance Director Leslie Wilder introduced the Chairman of the Accommodations Tax Committee Bill Harley. Chairman Harley went over the state requirements that must be followed. There were 5 total applications, and \$288,820 in total funding available. Application requests totaled \$268,800, with \$256,800 in recommendations to approve. The 5 applicants were: the Clemson Area Chamber of Commerce, the T Ed Garrison Arena, the City of Clemson Tourism Department, the City of Clemson Parks and Recreation Department, and the Brooks Center for Performing Arts. Mayor Halfacre thanked Chairman Harley and Finance Director Leslie Wilder for their hard work.

Staff Reports:

City Administrator Andy Blondeau: A TIF community information meeting will be held at 6pm Thursday at Littlejohn Community Center. The PCMA meeting will be held in Six Mile at 7:15pm next Tuesday.

City Engineer Nathan Hinkle: Discussed the new dog park and pickleball courts at Nettles Park. He presented a map showing the layout of the area. The current project amount is \$932,228. The project is currently on budget and on schedule. The project was originally budgeted at \$1.5 million so there is potential for adding shade structures. Clemson University is also giving \$250,000 towards the construction of the pickleball courts. The project is adding 55 parking spots as well. Nanda Edgerton, 213 C Charleston Avenue, asked about when pickleball courts were added and some clarification was given about the process.

Policy Action

Ordinances:

Consider 1st reading of a text amendment to address front setbacks and parking in CP-2 (2024-R-03).

Planning and Development Director Nathan Woods deferred to Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody to present. Council Member Brookover made a motion, seconded by Council Member Watt, to approve 1st reading of a text amendment to address front setbacks and parking in CP-2 (2024-R-03). Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Other Policy Action:

Consider an amendment to the fire contract to include enhanced paramedic services – City Administrator Andy Blondeau presented this item. This was funded by 3 mills of the increased of property tax passed by the budget. The vehicle is available pending City Council approval. The plan would be to go live in January pending staffing. Council Member Fulmer made a motion, seconded by Council Member Watt, to approve an amendment to the fire contract to include enhanced paramedic services. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Council Member Fulmer: Asked Planning and Development Director Nathan Woods to give a development update. Director Woods mentioned the Moda project with 262 beds, and the Hub project with 1325 beds. Council Member Brookover: Discussed several issues that have been circulating in the media including the secret meeting issue and stated there have not been any in his time on City Council. He also discussed an email search he requested to see if any emails from the various people involved the Keowee Trail project that were sent to the men on City Council and not the women on City Council; the results were 0 emails. However, there were also emails discussing the formation of the Save Clemson PAC, emails showing collusion between the *Journal* and a member of City Council, and emails showing the sharing of information protected by attorney client privilege to people related to the plaintiffs in an active lawsuit against the city. He noted that he paid the city attorney's fees out of his own pocket to review and redact the material for public release.

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

Approved

By: _____
G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor