

Regular Council Meeting
September 3rd, 2024
Council Chamber – Clemson City Hall

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

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Ducworth

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

Absent: Council Member Smith

Notification emailed: August 30th 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 – Edyta Kuzian, 105 Blue Ridge Drive, spoke about an upcoming conference focusing on nurturing democratic responsibility in the age of AI at the Madren Center. Robert Lee, 113 Pressley Drive, spoke about the City's guidelines for participation brochure.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from August 26th, 2024 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion

Discuss a policy to establish criteria for special events and programs to meet in order to be eligible for sponsorship. – Council Member Brookover proposed formalizing the criteria for sponsorship and encouraged early requests so they can be accounted for in the annual budget. Also the request would go to staff first for review before going to City Council. Council Member Ducworth suggested having quarterly application reviews. City Administrator Andy Blondeau brought up in-kind services as another way of sponsorship.

Discuss a request from the Police Advisory Board to have City Council consider a resolution to support SC House Bill 4609 regarding golf carts. – Police Chief Jorge Campos presented that at two recent public meetings residents expressed the desire to drive golf carts at night. This is currently allowed for barrier islands in South Carolina but not in our area. Council Member Boatwright asked for Chief Campos's opinion on the issue. Chief Campos has mixed feelings and deferred to City Council. If passed, he recommended adding headlights, tail lights, and turn signals as requirements. Clemson University is also going to change their golf cart policy in the near future. Council Member Ducworth confirmed that even if a resolution of support of House Bill 4609 was done, there would still have to be an ordinance passed on the city level to allow it.

Request a Public Hearing date for October 7th for an ordinance change to allow for parking in the rear in AR District 3. – Zoning and Codes Administrator Jacob Peabody presented this item and suggested making the changes to allow flexibility with site plans. A public hearing date was set for 5:30pm on October 7th.

Staff Reports: Conversations with Council will be held September 19th at Littlejohn Community Center at 6:30 pm. An entrepreneurship workshop will be held September 4th at the Brook T. Smith Launchpad in downtown Clemson at noon. City staff will attend to help recruit minority owned businesses.

Policy Action

Ordinances:

Consider 1st reading of a text amendment to Chapter 7, Sec 7-11, Subsection p, Purchasing and Receiving. – Procurement Coordinator Brandon Burton presented this item with no changes since the last meeting. Council Member Boatwright made a motion, seconded by Council Member Watt, to approve 1st reading of a text amendment to Chapter 7, Sec 7-11, Subsection p, Purchasing and Receiving. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Other Policy Action:

Consider a sponsorship request from SMOOOTH Inc. – City Administrator Andy Blondeau presented the request. Robert Lee, 113 Pressley Drive, spoke in favor of the sponsorship. Council Member Brookover made a motion, seconded by Council Member Fulmer, to approve a sponsorship request in the amount of \$1,500 dollars. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Mayor-Council reports/comments/new business

Mayor Halfacre: Thanked Sarah for her great job on the Community Connection. Thanked Herb Tyler and Greg Rice for their hard work with the recent planning meetings held around the city. The First Friday Parade will be held this Friday at 6:00 pm.

Council Member Watt: Discussed the comprehensive plan next steps. There will be additional opportunities in the near future for public input on this topic.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremiah Jackson, MBL

Approved

By: _____
G. Robert Halfacre, Mayor