**Minutes**

**Forsyth City Council Meeting**

**July 5, 2023**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Noah Harbuck, and Roll Call**

Mayor Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Noah Harbuck gave the invocation. In attendance for the meeting was Mayor Eric Wilson, Councilmembers John Howard, Chris Hewett, Greg Goolsby, and Mike Dodd. Also in attendance at the meeting was the City Manager, Janice Storey, and Interim City Attorney Ashley Brodie. Assistant City Manager, Regina Ivie and Mr. Lawrence were not in attendance. Four members of council were in attendance for the meeting, all unanimous votes will be four votes (Howard, Hewett, Goolsby, and Dodd).

**Approval of the agenda.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the minutes from the work session on June 5, 2023, and minutes from the two called meetings on**

**June 15, 2023.**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve minutes from the work session on June 5, 2023, and minutes from the two called meetings on June 15, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Introduction of Police Officer Marcus Walker.**

Mayor Wilson and Chief Blue presented Officer Marcus Walker with a certificate for rendering aid to a gunshot victim on June 4, 2023, and commended him for his actions.

**Ceremonial swearing in of Officer William Rodrigues by Mayor Wilson.**

Mayor Wilson administered the Oath to Officer William Rodrigues.

**Approval of a proposed new security light fee table.**

Mr. Mike Batchelor, the Utilities Director, presented information for LED fixtures that were added to the light fee table.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to approve a new proposed security light fee table. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Boone Trucking, Inc invoice for $8,500.**

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to approve the invoice for Boone Trucking, Inc in the amount of $8,500. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of backhoe purchase for public works.**

Mr. Batchelor presented information for a used like new, New Holland B95C backhoe.

Mr. Howard offered a motion to approve purchase of backhoe for public works. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Appointment of an alternate voting delegate for the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia’s Election Committee.**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to appoint Mr. Goolsby as alternate voting delegate for the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia’s Election Committee. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; Mr. Goolsby abstained his vote, motion carried with four votes (Dodd, Hewett, Howard, and Mayor Wilson).

**Approval of third amendment to the power purchase contract with Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia.**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion to approve the third amendment to the power purchase contract with Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Approval for Mayor Wilson to provide a letter of support for a proposed GDOT roundabout project.**

Mrs. Storey presented information from Georgia Department of Transportation justifying the roundabout project.

Several citizens and councilmembers voiced concerns about the GDOT roundabout project.

**Approval of Requisitions Greater than $6,000**

* + - **Axon Enterprise, Inc $8,188.56**
    - **Bennett Fire Products Co, Inc $ 9,243.00**
    - **Interceptor Public Safety $7,168.50**
    - **Gordon State College $6,454.80**
    - **Core & Main, LP $37,573.40**
    - **BBP Sales, LLC $14,496.00**

Mr. Howard offered a motion to approve requisitions as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**City Manager’s Report**

Mrs. Storey reported that:

* 2022 Audit work with Mauldin & Jenkins continues. Regina is currently working on stat tables that are needed for the annual comprehensive financial report. An extension was requested as they were unable to submit by June 30th deadline.
* I am meeting with each department head to review their current budget and to begin the creation of the 2024 budget. By Charter, the budget must be presented 90 days before it is adopted, which is the first meeting in October. Hopefully this will be helpful to the next City Manager coming in that they are not starting from scratch on the upcoming budget.
* Kemie Childs, Main Street Coordinator, to provide update next council meeting. Concert and fireworks this past Saturday were a great success in spite of the storm that came through. Huge thank you to Kemie and her volunteers for this and all other events held each month. We have created a policy for events due to weather which provides for the Fire Chief to make the call as whether to postpone or cancel an event due to weather events.
* Board vacancies still exist for P&Z, DDA, and Housing Board.
* 2023 Annual MEAG meeting begins Sunday, July 9th – Wednesday, July 12th.
* Cody Ellis and Chad Hofstadter will attend the next council meeting to review proposal to replace water lines in the Indian Springs, N Lee, N Jackson, Adams Street quadrant.
* Surveys of properties at RWTP and unmaintained off Hunter Street to have been completed and property lines are marked.
* Chief Blue has the PowerDMS software in place and will have several policy changes to present to council as those are created.
* Ongoing issues at the Jail Lift Station. Davis Plumbing is keeping it pumped down so that we do not have an event and the prison is diverting their flow to GPSTC. The issue appears to be in the electrical system. Craig has several companies working to get work completed as quickly as possible. Working this as an emergency and will include the addition of a bypass pump.
* Water main break overnight Thursday night which drained 1 ½ of our 4 tanks; 2 long power outages at intake over last week or so but H2O was able to maintain water levels; tank maintenance is scheduled for July 11th on Industrial Park Tank, which will require draining the tank.
* Pipe insertion by gas company has been completed and they are currently working to repair all the road and sidewalk cuts.
* Otis Ingram is working today to have the roof trusses removed from the Senior Center site in Case you see the excavator and roll-off bins there.

**City Attorney Report**

City Attorney Ashley Brodie had no further business to report.

Mr. Goolsby requested an update on Otis Ingram.

Mrs. Brodie advised she spoke with Mr. Ingram’s attorney, and they sent engineers report advising Senior Center was structurally safe, trusses would be removed. The attorney is stepping in to assist Mr. Ingram with communication with the bank to try to push forward the financing needed. Mrs. Brodie also advised if progress does not move quickly, the city should look to make changes to ordinances.

**Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Wilson had no further business to report.

**Additional Business**

Mr. Hewett requested that the council meeting scheduled for July 17, 2023, be rescheduled to July 24, 2023.

Mr. Goolsby offered a motion to reschedule the council meeting from July 17, 2023, to July 24, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comments**

No public comments.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Dodd offered a motion for executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Mr. Hewett; the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session began at 7:07 p.m.

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to end the executive session. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

ended at 7:50p.m.

**Appointment of City Manager**

Mr. Hewett offered a motion to appoint Craig Mims as City Manager. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Hewett motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Dodd; the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m**.**

Minutes submitted by:

Shayla Furlow, Admin. Exec. Assistant