

REGULAR MEETING

July 11th, 2016

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 11th, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

Members Present

Mayor Becky Smith, Council Members: Dan Boling, Kay McCathen, Joe Will, Howard Jones, Alfred Carpenter, and Donnie Griffin. Attorney, David Smith and Police Chief, Tom Ellis, were also present.

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Grace Lutheran Pastor Libby Toler led in prayer. Mayor Smith followed by leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the July Agenda

By motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the July Agenda was approved.

Special Presentations

Bessemer City High School Track Team- Mayor Becky S. Smith recognized the Bessemer City High School Girls Track team for their State Championship win. The recipients were Diamond Williams, Shamila Roberts, Brianne Davis, Summer Meeks, and Coach Bryan Nichols.

Best of Gaston Winners- Mayor Smith recognized businesses from Bessemer City that won categories in the Gaston Gazette's Best of Gaston Competition. Mayor Smith presented Certificates of Recognition to 1) Lovelace Plumbing for best plumbing. Other Best of Gaston Winners will be invited to the August 2016 Regular City Council Meeting for recognition.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment.

Reverend Wes Brown offered assistance in providing prayer, meetings, and general assistance to the Bessemer City citizenry to stand in solidarity. Reverend Wes Brown requested that City Council and the Bessemer City Ministerial Alliance meet sometime soon to discuss world affairs, and determine how Bessemer City can help those in need.

Reverend Thurman Clark agreed with Reverend Wes Brown that a meeting with the Ministerial Alliance is needed. He stated that although many world events have not impacted Bessemer City directly there needs to be something done to handle all citizens realize that the City with a heart can be the solution.

Consent Agenda

The following items for the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by motion of Dan Boiling:

- a. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes of May 9th, 2016 Work Session Meeting Minutes of May 31st, 2016.
- b. Ratify Proclamation-Telephone Poll: To ratify the naming of the community center-voting in favor including Joe Will, Kay McCathen, Donnie Griffin, and Alfred Carpenter. Mr. Boiling and Mr. Jones could not be reached during the time of the polling.
- c. Request for Overnight Travel- Economic Development Officer, Joshua Ross, is requesting overnight travel to Sylva, NC to attend the Annual NC Main Street Managers Conference (August 10-12, 2016).

Bessemer City Downtown Development Organization:

The Bessemer City Downtown Development Board Chair, Pamela Gladney, presented the mission and purpose of the board to City Council. Chairperson, Pamela Gladney further expressed a concern that more involvement from the citizenry is needed. Gladney invited all City Council members and the audience to join the Monday monthly morning meetings at 9:30 AM. The Chairperson also reported that there are some up and coming opportunities for the board to experience some professional development.

Demolition Ordinance: 207 W. Lee Avenue

Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor, presented information to Mayor Smith and City Council about the condition of the property located at 207 W. Lee Avenue. Discussion was held amongst Council and staff.

Joe Will made a motion to adopt the demolition ordinance. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the demolition ordinance is available at City Hall.

Demolition Ordinance: 604 S. 12th Street

Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor, presented information to Mayor Smith and City Council about the condition of the property located at 604 S. 12th Street. Discussion was held amongst Council and staff.

Howard Jones made a motion to adopt the demolition ordinance. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the demolition ordinance is available at City Hall.

City Manager's Report

Chief Tom Ellis was present and presented the City Manager, James Inman's, report. Chief Ellis requested that City Council create a public hearing for the Tobacco Free, Smoke Free Ordinance. By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote the public hearing was set for Monday, August 8th, 2016 at 7:00pm. This notice will be advertised.

City Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. The Mayor led the conversation with thanking the Police Department and Fire Department for a great job in handling the outages due to the storm. City Councilwoman Kay McCathen had a concern that WastePro's trash service had missed some residents by Highway 161. City Councilman Joe Will commended the

City on a job well done for the Allan Farris Community Center ribbon cutting and the community building's renovation. City Councilman Howard Jones commended the City Manager for a job well done, and stated that other community members had recognized a job well done as well. City Councilman Donnie Griffin asked when the new company Tosaf would be up and operating. City Councilman Dan Boiling reminded Council and the audience about the Bessemer City Shriners raffle for the benefit of Bessemer City.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.

Hydeia Hayes, Deputy Clerk

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

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