

MINUTES

Town Council Work Session Wednesday, January 20th, 2021at 6:00 pm VIRTUAL MEETING

WORK SESSION

The media and public were duly notified of the date, time, and place of this meeting. A quorum was present.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Michael Bishop, Mayor Pro Tem Juston Ricard, Councilmembers Fecas, Hallman, Reeley, Hook and Wilkerson.

COUNCIL ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Ashley Watkins, Municipal Clerk Leeann Eden, Chief of Police Andrew Richbourg, Police Captain Chris Manuel, Attorney Ward Bradley, Attorney Sierra Carini.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present. Councilmember Hallman provided the invocation. Mayor Bishop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Consent Agenda

Council unanimously approved the January 20th, 2021 Work Session Agenda.

III. Items for Discussion

- A. Huffstetler Pond (Parrish). Councilmember Fecas discussed issues with Huffstetler Pond, stating it has been two years since DHEC issued the emergency declaration and the repairs have not been completed. She stated that repairs were to be completed by the end of the first quarter in 2021. Mayor Bishop and Councilmember Fecas discussed looking at the timeline and reaching out to Elected State Officials for assistance if the promises for repairs to the dam are not met. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard expressed his concerns about residents living downstream from the pond.
- B. Potential Property Review Committee. Councilmember Fecas suggested forming a Property Review Committee to address properties that do not fall under Code Enforcement but are eye sores, need attention or have issues that negatively affect the neighboring properties and community. There was a brief discussion of the property maintenance codes. Administrator Watkins stated that she reached out to MASC Field Services Manager Jeff Shacker and his opinion is that if the property maintenance codes are enforced, it should be enforced uniformly throughout Town. Council agreed to have Administrator Watkins look into enforcing the property maintenance codes. Councilmembers Wilkerson and Hallman suggested enforcement on a case by case basis.
- C. Residential Rental Property Ordinance. Administrator Watkins stated that the database for the Residential Rental Property Registration is in place and registration forms are being created. She stated notice will be mailed out to property owners soon.

- D. New Home Development on Wattling/Ermine. Administrator Watkins stated that plans for the development have been submitted to Lexington County Stormwater, City of Cayce, City of West Columbia, and DOT. She stated the development will be named the Cottages at Roof's Pond. She stated Stanley Martin recently bought out Essex and is the builder of the development. She stated the engineering group and developer have not changed.
- E. Jewelry Warehouse Property. Administrator Watkins stated that she finally received a phone call from Architect Gary Shaw. She stated electrical engineering drawings were due back today and once those are submitted the project can go back out for bid.
- F. Lexington 2 Property (Platt Springs Road). Administrator Watkins stated she emailed Don Icenhower, Chief Operations Officer of School District Two requesting information on plans for the property. Mr. Icenhower requested a meeting with Council about future plans; she told him she would speak with Council to schedule a meeting.
- G. Stormwater Issues. Councilmember Fecas requested an update on the three repair requests that were submitted to Lexington County. Administrator Watkins stated she talked with Sheri Armstrong and she expressed she does not see any repairs in the near future. Sheri Armstrong further stated that if Springdale chooses to support the proposed stormwater utility fee if it is approved, the three repair requests would be made a priority.

IV. Town Council Reports

- A. Parrish Plantation. Council briefly discussed residents moving due to issues with the pond.
- B. DOT. Mayor Bishop reported that DOT no longer intends to construct a cloverleaf style intersection at the I-26/Airport Boulevard exits. There was a brief discussion of the Knights Inn on Airport Boulevard being sold. Councilmember Fecas asked Mayor Bishop to inquire with DOT regarding a red cone in a pothole at the intersection of Empress Road and Wattling Road.
- C. Elected Officials. Mayor Bishop stated the Lexington County Municipal Association will be holding a ZOOM meeting on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 6:00 pm. Councilmember Fecas asked how individuals violating the commercial parking ordinance were notified and how long they have to remove the vehicles. Administrator Watkins stated that she hasn't talked to anyone but would check into it. Councilmember Fecas reported a dead tree being on the ground at the Edge Church property at Empress Road and Lonsdale Drive. Administrator Watkins stated she would look into it. Attorney Bradley discussed a request from Council to draft a letter to a resident with unsightly property based on complaints of neighbors and ongoing issues.

Council, on motion of Councilmember Reeley, seconded by Councilmember Fecas, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Michael Bishop, Mayor Attest:

Adjourn

Leeann Eden, Municipal Clerk

V.