



Locust City Council Meeting

Minutes

Joel Huneycutt Community Room

7:00 PM

November 10, 2022

Mayor
Council Members

Mayor Steve Huber
Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Baucom, Mandy
Watson, Roger Hypes, Harry Fletcher,
Mike Haigler, JC Burris and Rusty Efird

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Baucom at 7:00pm

2. Presentation of Colors, Prayer

Council Member Roger Hypes gave the invocation.

M/S/A Council Members and Harry Fletcher and Roger Hypes (7-0)
Motion to excuse Mayor Huber

3. Adopt Agenda

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and JC Burris (7-0)
Motion to adopt the agenda as presented

4. Minutes - adopt October 13, 2022

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Roger Hypes (7-0)
Motion to adopt the October 13, 2022 minutes

October 13, 2022

5. Financial Reports

Financial reports accepted. Revenues continue to exceed expenditures in both the General Fund and the Wastewater Fund. Sales tax revenue continues to be strong and steady each month. The ABC distribution will be reduced due to an additional expense incurred by the ABC Board. However, November's distribution will include an additional \$2,259,92 that was left out of the current distribution by mistake. Huge thank you to Mr. Baucom. The City was able to take 2 retiring patrol vehicles to the auction and, in total, the City received \$13,130 for both vehicles. The City's investments yielded a return of 3.03% for the month of October. This continues to be a great choice for the City. Rates were increased earlier this week and November's return should be greater. There is expected to be another increase in rates in December. Still working with the auditors to put the final touches on the audit. CPA, Will Huneycutt, will be at the next meeting to answer questions you may have.

Financial Summary

6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Huber is not here. Congrats to Council Members Roger Hypes and Mandy Watson on their re-election and the election of Mr. Barry Sims. Thank you to Council Member JC Burris for his service. Ms. Jennifer Flowe and Superintendent Dr. Jarrod Dennis with Stanly County Schools is here to thank the City and Police Department for their continued support and we received the SRO grant for Officer Longtin for 2 years at a little over \$36,000/year. Thank you for the purchase of the metal detector for Locust Elementary.

SRO Grant Update from Ms. Jennifer Flowe

7. Administrator's Report

Purchase orders and budget amendments were reviewed. Update on the ability to contract for fire services with the West Stanly Fire Department. We have authority to enter into fire protection agreements with nonprofit volunteer or community fire departments or rescue squads. The Town of Midland recently entered into a similar contract with Midland Fire and Rescue following annexations serviced by another department. Mike Downs, Cabarrus County Manager, contacted me to discuss this matter and determine the impact on the Cabarrus County budget. City Administrator Cesar Correa had originally discussed this 2 years ago with Jonathan Marshal, (retired) Deputy County Manager and the now retired Fire Marshal. Mr. Downs is going to provide me with the financial impact to both Midland FD and Georgeville FD. Additionally, he spoke to Georgeville FD Chief Jamie Blackwelder, who expressed concerns about his department and loss of funding. He also met with Chief Larry Coley of the Midland Fire Department and had a good conversation. Residents of Meadowcreek Village should be able to reduce their ISO rating from a 9 to a 3, which would result in a savings of hundreds of dollars in their homeowners insurance per year. Would like to continue conversations. The City was able to identify a number of providers who provide leaf pick-up. However, their services are only available on a residential scale. Our demand is a commercial service, and they cannot meet our needs. In an effort to determine how many residents are impacted by the change in service, we've kept track of how many households collect bags from City Hall. So far, we have provided bags to about 85-90 homes. City Administrator Cesar Correa thanked the staff for all they do. He also took a moment to thank the veterans.

M/S/A Council Members Roger Hypes and Harry Fletcher (7-0)
Motion to approve purchase orders

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Roger Hypes (7-0)
Motion to approve budget amendments

Update - Contract for Fire Services with West Stanly FD

Update - Leaf Collection Services

Purchase Orders

Budget Amendments

8. Administration/HR

N/A

9. Parks

The City received three (3) responses to our Request for Qualifications for a Master Plan. Several Department Heads, Council Member Mandy Watson and I will meet next week to review all of the information submitted. Our goal is to present a recommendation to the Council during the December 8th meeting. Basketball registration is over and there were 109 participants. Continuing to look for a tennis coach. The month of November the City is participating in gratitude graffiti in town center and there are chalk markers at businesses and please take time to write what you are thankful for. Christmas parade is 12/3 at 1:00pm. Register online.

Update - RFQ for Master Plan Received

10. Facilities

N/A

11. Public Works

Good flow report this month.

Monthly Report

12. ABC, Economic Development & Small Business Support

ABC store is doing well. Jeremiah's Italian Ice will open next week.

13. Public Safety

September officers of the month were Officer Josh Gardner and Officer Adam Hartsell. Department has been active checking businesses and homes in the City. SRO Officer Daniel Longtin has a great rapport with the students, teachers and parents. Thank you to Chief Shew and the entire department for all their hard work and dedication to the citizens of Locust and protecting them. Congrats to Officer Timmy Hartsell III for being the officer of the month for October.

LPD Statistics for October 2022

LPD October Clearance Stats

LPD Officer of the Month - October 2022

14. Planning & Zoning

135 new housing permits as of the end of October.

Monthly Report

15. Public Comment Period:

Barry Sims spoke and thanked JC Burris for his service over the years and support. Congrats to Council Members elect Mandy Watson and Roger Hypes. Thank you to Jeff Shew, Cesar Correa, and Amy Furr for their actions during an event that happened with an elderly woman who fell during early voting. Want citizens to come out to the meetings and find out what is going on in Locust.

16. Board Closing Comments

Proud of the City of Locust for having the foresight to implement an SRO into the elementary school even before knowing if there would be any assistance from the school system. Thank you to all the veterans who have served. Count your blessings this Thanksgiving season. Thank you to all who came out tonight. Congrats to Council Member Mandy Watson and Council Member Roger Hypes, who were re-elected and the new oncoming member, Barry Sims, looking forward to working with you. Going to miss Council Member JC Burris, you have always been an asset to the City. Look into changing the meeting time to 6:00pm. Very thankful for SRO Daniel Longtin. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone. Council Member JC Burris expressed his gratitude for serving with everyone.

17. Adjourn

M/S/A Council Members JC Burris and Harry Fletcher (7-0)
Motion to adjourn at 8:07 pm