



Locust City Council Meeting

Minutes

Joel Huneycutt Community Room

7:00 PM

August 10, 2023

Mayor
Council Members

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

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

2. Presentation of Colors, Prayer

6 year old Locust citizen, Levi led the Mayor, Council and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and Mayor Huber gave the invocation.

3. Adopt Agenda

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

4. Minutes - adopt (July 13, 2023)

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Larry Baucom (7-0)
Motion to adopt the July 2023 minutes

July 13, 2023

5. Financial Reports

After the first month of the fiscal year the expenditures exceed revenues in the general fund by \$281,695.28. That is to be expected as revenues will not start coming in until around September. Revenues exceed expenditures by 116,122.93 in the wastewater fund as we are continuing to use the ARPA funds to cover wastewater treatment costs. That is expected to finish by December. Sales tax distribution was \$125,721.20 for

the month of June and that will be the last for last fiscal year. ABC distribution revenue for July was \$20,340.17 and interest proceeds off of our investments totaled about \$44,080.86. Auditors will be out in 2 weeks and hope to have them out later in the year to go over the audit and the City's financial position.

Financial Summary - July 31, 2023

6. Mayor's Report

Police Chief Jeff Shew introduced the two newest sworn police officers. Eric Fore and Tim Flieger, Jr. Chief Shew gave a brief introduction on each officer. Mayor Huber also spoke to the newly sworn officers and welcomed them.

Introduction of new LPD Officers

7. Manager's Report

Purchase orders were reviewed. City Manager Cesar Correa presented to the Mayor and Council the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting that was awarded to the City for year ending June 30, 2023. Stanly County is once again offering up to \$10,000 in matching grants to each municipality in Stanly County. We submitted an application prepared with a new project that meets the grant's requirements. This is not a project we discussed during budget retreat, but our current audio equipment and movie screen need upgrades. We will request Council's permission to purchase a new Drive-In entertainment center for our movie nights. The total investment is \$24,235.34 of which \$10,000 would be covered under the grant. This purchase includes a new, all-in-one, high definition movie screen projector, projector screen, sound system, microphone, audio/visual controls, and storage equipment.

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Larry Baucom (7-0)

Motion to approve and proceed with Parks & Rec matching grant application and purchase of movie equipment

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Larry Baucom (7-0)

Motion to purchase orders

GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Stanly County Grant for Parks & Recreation

Purchase Orders

8. Administration/HR

Thank you to City Manager Cesar Correa and Finance Director Stephania Morton for the transparency and information regarding financials.

9. Parks

Volleyball registration is open through Labor Day. Aug 25, Kids Night Out. Aug 26, Family Movie Night Turning Red. Sept 9, Cinema Party featuring E.T.. Sept 16 End of Summer Celebration. Earlier this week City Manager,

Cesar Correa spoke to our Master Plan consultant. He and his team had back-to-back vacations in July and have finished up the report. They will be present for the September meeting to present their report and findings.

10. Facilities

The City received responses to an RFQ for Senior Center architectural services. Following a review of the qualifications, the selection committee determined that CPL was the most qualified consultant for the project. A recommendation was presented to partner with CPL, and to authorize City Manager Cesar Correa to enter a contract for their services. CPL representative was present and gave a brief introduction.

M/S/A Council Members Barry Sims and Harry Fletcher (7-0)

Motion to award bid to CPL and authorize Cesar Correa, City Manager to execute the contract

RFQ Recommendation for Senior Center

11. Public Works

Flow report was presented. The North Basin Sewer Improvements went out to bid. We will open bids on Thursday 8/17. The project was broken up in 5 (five) different contracts to attract competition and pricing. Chambers Engineering will compile results, and I anticipate presenting a recommendation to Council during the September 14th meeting to award the contracts. Thank you to the entire department for all they do.

Wastewater Flow Report

12. ABC, Economic Development & Small Business Support

Very appreciative of the ABC store and the employees. They are so helpful and friendly. Consignment shop opening up in old PVG building.

13. Public Safety

Council Member Roger Hypes gave an overview of the monthly statistics. SRO Longtin completed 80 hours in D.A.R.E instructor training. Officer of the month for July was Officer Timmy Hartsell. Welcome to the 2 new officers.

Public Safety Report - July 2023

14. Planning & Zoning

Report was reviewed. Council was asked to schedule 2 public hearings for the September meeting. One for PVG to remove them from conditional zoning and the other is for a conditional rezoning request submitted by M/I Homes.

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Harry Fletcher (7-0)

Motion to set a public hearing for the September 14th meeting to remove them from the conditional zoning.

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Harry Fletcher (7-0)

Motion to set a public hearing for the September 14th meeting to hear a conditional rezoning request that was submitted by M/I Homes.

Monthly Report - July 2023

Schedule Public Hearing: Conditional Rezoning for M/I Homes

Schedule Public Hearing: Zoning Amendment for PVG

15. Public Comment Period:

Mr. John Nettleton spoke to Council regarding his home and issues that have arisen and the fact that he cannot get any help with getting those addressed by Smith Douglas and Mr. Whitley. He also spoke about grinder pumps that his neighbors have that they were unaware of when they purchased their homes.

16. Board Closing Comments

Thank you to all who came out this evening. Thank you to Levi for his willingness to lead us in the beginning of the meeting. Thank you to the police department and the new officers. Thank you to Mr. Nettleton for coming out to speak. Congrats on receiving the GFOA award. Thank you to the entire staff for all they do. Please make sure you lock your vehicles overnight. Mayor Huber encouraged our citizens to be involved and engaged. Looking forward to the partnership with CPL on the Senior Center.

17. Executive Session

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird (7-0)
Motion to enter into executive session GS143-318.11 (5) at 8:15pm

Out of executive session at 8:34pm

18. Adjourn

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird (7-0)
Motion to adjourn at 8:35pm

Amy Furr, City Clerk

Stephen Huber, Mayor