



Locust City Council

Meeting Minutes

Joel Huneycutt Community Room

7:00 PM

January 9, 2025

Mayor
Council Members

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

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm

2. Presentation of Colors, Prayer

Mayor Huber led in the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the invocation.

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to excuse Council Member Barry Sims

3. Adopt Agenda

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

4. Minutes - adopt December 12, 2024

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to approve the December 12, 2024 minutes

December 12, 2024

5. Financial Reports

City Manager Cesar Correa gave an overview of the financials to date. Notating that the General Fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,244,781.98. The Wastewater Fund revenues exceed expenditures by \$1,403,500.12. The City is still waiting to receive additional funds from NCDEQ for various wastewater improvement payments.

And that also In December the City received our second Powell Bill distribution in the amount of \$96,431.40. The total allocation for current fiscal year is \$192,862.82. The Public Works department will be gearing up for road improvements later this spring.

Financial Summary - December 2024

6. Mayor's Report

Nothing to report at this time

7. Manager's Report

Purchase orders were reviewed. City Manager Cesar Correa asked Council to schedule our annual budget retreat workshop. We usually hold this workshop during a Saturday in March. Look at your calendars and let me know if there are any conflicts for either March 8th or 22nd. March 15th is the Saturday following Council meeting. While it is not yet known how heavy that agenda will be as of today, we can also schedule the workshop on March 15th if schedule works best for Council. He also asked Council if they wish to have a full-day budget workshop, or prefer for department heads to make presentations during the February and March Council meetings. Council decided on an all day budget workshop on March 15th. He also reminded Council to mark their calendars for Thursday, January 23rd from 6-8:30pm for the joint meeting with the P&Z Board for the Land Use Plan update. We will have consultants there to facilitate discussion regarding updates to the 2014 Land Use Plan. He also asked them to please review the 2014 Land Use Plan in preparation of the meeting. the City Council needs to appoint a representative from Locust City Council as a delegate to the Centralina Council of Government. Council Member Rusty Efird has served this position for the last 2 terms. Additionally Council also needs to appoint a representative from Locust City Council to the Rocky River RPO's TCC. This committee is comprised of elected officials, and they present final recommendations to NCDOT for projects for consideration. The City has not had representation here in prior years, and as our traffic/community grows it's in our best interest to appoint someone. Please know that there is a staff equivalent committee, where P&Z Director Scott Efird has made a lot of progress over the last 10 years resulting in funding for sidewalks and other traffic improvements.

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to approve purchase orders

M/S/A Council Members Roger Hypes and Larry Baucom (6-0)
Motion to approve March 15, 2025 as the 2025-2026 budget workshop

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)
Motion to appoint Rusty Efird as a delegate to the Centralina COG

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Roger Hypes (6-0)
Motion to appoint Michael Haigler as a representative to the Rocky River RPO's TCC committee

FY 25-26 Budget Retreat

Land Use Plan Update - Joint Meeting Reminder

Centralina COG Appointment

Rocky River RPO Appointment

Purchase Orders

8. Administration/HR

Nothing to report at this time

9. Parks

Springs sports registration is open. 2025 event calendar is posted so please take a look and make plans to attend.

10. Facilities

Architects received an updated cost estimate following the meetings with seniors/stakeholders for finishes for the new senior center. The team is working on construction documents, and we anticipate going out to bid in the late February/early March window. Construction could begin early 2nd quarter of 2025.

11. Public Works

The Public Works department is ready for the impending weather. There was no flow report to review.

Wastewater Flow - December 2024

12. ABC, Economic Development & Small Business Support

HWY 55 filed for bankruptcy and the building is closed to the public. ABC store is doing well and finished 2024 strong.

13. Public Safety

Council Member Roger Hypes reviewed the Police department monthly statistics and the office of the month for December has not been determined as of yet. Thank you to the department and take the time to thank them on this National Law Enforcement Day.

Monthly Report - December 2024

14. Planning & Zoning

Council Member Michael Haigler reviewed the monthly report. The City received an application from Amanda Pasquarello, for the Locust P&Z Board vacancies that was advertised. P&Z Director Scott and City Manager Cesar Correa have briefly worked with her in the past, and met with her earlier this week. A recommendation for Council to appoint Amanda Pasquarello was presented to finish out the term of former board member Janice Hils ending in December 2025.

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)
Motion to appoint Amanda Pasquarello to the P&Z Board

Monthly Report - December 2024

P&Z Board Appointment

15. Public Comment Period:

Mario Miller, 228 Whispering Hills asked if Council would consider changing the order of the agenda to put the prayer before the Pledge of Allegiance

16. Board Closing Comments

Thank you to all who came out to the meeting in this cold weather. Be safe. Thank you to Mr. Miller for his recommendation. Thank you to the Police Department and the Public Works Department for their dedication especially during the weather. Remember the shut-ins and the elderly during this cold season. Chief Shew gave a warning about some supplies at construction sites being stolen and to be on the lookout and call if you see anything. Glad to have Council member De-Dee Nathan on the board.

17. Adjourn

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and De-Dee Nathan (6-0)
Motion to adjourn at 7:41pm

Amy Furr, City Clerk

Stephen Huber, Mayor