

Date: March 8, 2018
Meeting of: Locust City Council
Time: 7:00 pm
Members Present: Harry Fletcher, Mandy Watson, Michael Haigler, Larry Baucom, JC Burris, and Rusty Efird
Members Absent: Roger Hypes
Order: Mayor Huber
Pledge: Mayor Huber
Prayer: Council Member Harry Fletcher

Call to order at 7:00 pm

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird **(6-0)**
Motion to excuse Council Member Roger Hypes

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird **(6-0)**
Motion to adopt agenda

M/S/A Council Members Larry Baucom and Harry Fletcher **(6-0)**
Motion to adopt February 2018 minutes

Financials - Accepted. LGC approved audit and has positive comments. City in good fiscal standing

Mayor's Report – Mayor Huber and Police Chief Frank Hartsell awarded Officer Hannah Claiborne with the Meritorious Achievement pin for her assistance in solving a serial robbery case that spanned multiple counties.

Administrator's Report – Purchase orders and budget amendments were reviewed. 2018-2019 budget retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 17th beginning at 8:00am. Elaine Conti with Raftelis gave a presentation on the system development fee study and explained the process on how the new proposed fee came about. City Administrator Cesar Correa asked the Council to approve and extension for urban archery. He also asked the Council to approve some new fees. A Lien fee of \$10 to offset cost of placed lien on property for unpaid sewer bills. He also requested approval for new special event fees but Council decided to table the discussion until a later date.

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

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

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Michael Haigler (6-0)
Motion to approve urban archery extension

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and JC Burris (6-0)
Motion to approve lien fee at \$10

Admin/HR – N/A

Parks – Basketball is complete. Registration for baseball and softball going on and practices are underway. We have hired a part time Program Coordinator, Peyton Creswell.

Facilities – N/A

PW – Thank you to Elaine Conti with Raftelis

ABC – N/A

Economic Dev. – Looking to set up a summit in May and wants to utilize vacant office in City Hall for meetings for the Locust EDC.

PD/Zoning – Thanks to the department and officers.

Public Comment – Judy Lynch, Bill Smith and Gail Barbee all representing the Senior Center spoke asking for the City to please consider supporting them again this year. They are in need of some financial support in order to keep offering services to the Seniors. The Center stays booked with programs and activities. Michael Greene introduced himself and is running for Stanly County Clerk of Court.

Board Closing Comments – Thanks to staff for all they do. Thank you to Seniors and Mr. Greene for coming out and speaking. Thank you to all citizens who come out every week.

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird (6-0)
Motion to enter into executive session at 8:17pm

Out of executive session at 9:01pm

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Michael Haigler **(6-0)**
Motion to approve City Administrator Cesar Correa and Police Chief Frank Hartsell to proceed with SRO program

M/S/A Council Members Michael Haigler and Mandy Watson **(6-0)**
Motion to authorize negotiations regarding property adjacent to park

Recess at 9:02pm

Reconvene at 8:00am Saturday, March 17, 2018 Budget Retreat

Council Member Roger Hypes was present

City Administrator Cesar Correa gave opening remarks and overview of budget proposal. He played the new Locust video that Emily Jones has been working on.

Department Heads Presentations:

PD – Police Chief Frank Hartsell and Captain Steven Smith

- Gave 2017-2018 activity summary (calls and crime down)
- Had two Officer become certified instructors

2018-2019 Goals - Wants to hire (2) full time Officers (1 patrol, 1 SRO), have (2) reserve positions filled. Promote 1 patrol to Sargeant, move Captain Smith to more administrative duties, continue with rolling stock replacement program, implement SRO program (looking for grants), increase minimum training standards, wants new radios for additional officers and finish replacing aging laptops with Surface Pro's.

Planning – 2017-2018 year in review. Reviewed current projects and completed projects.

Finance – 2017-2018 review of financials

Public Works/WW – Overview of department staff and tasks. Wants to replace hydro jetter, PW002 vehicle, Parks utility vehicle and begin replacing City street signs with new ones. Discussed plans for roundabout in front of City Hall. Showed rendering of what it would look like and its functionality.

Parks – 2017-2018 Review.

2018-2019 Goals – Park facilities, pitching mounds, community building chairs, park message boards, trash cans, bike racks, benches, pet waste.

Future needs – retaining wall, roof on community building, repair bridges into park and museum deck.

Programs/athletics – youth programs and camps, adding classes. Expanding athletics to include adults and seniors.

10:30 – Tour of City Projects

11:45 – Working lunch

Mayor Huber left 2:15pm

2018-2019 Budget –

GF – revenue and expenditure projections. Adding a new line item for LEO Separation Allowance. Also looking into paying insurance for retiring employees who have worked 20+ years. Seeing what other municipalities do. Reviewed proposed budget line by line.

- Recommending to see what County does in regards to funding for Senior Center, then make determination on financial assistance.
- Consider funding support for YMCA to help cover start-up advertising.

WW – revenue and expenditure projections. Reviewed proposed budget line by line. Reviewed Proposed debt including Redah Station improvements and North Basin improvements. Discussed several options for financing of projects. Recommended option id to pay-off DENR#1 loan and wheels loan and do both Redah improvements and North Basin. Proposed a 3% decrease in sewer rates.

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Rusty Efird **(7-0)**
Motion to enter into executive session at 2:45pm Administrators Review

Out of executive session at 4:00pm

M/S/A Council Members Harry Fletcher and Larry Baucom **(7-0)**
Motion to adjourn at 4:00pm

Stephen Huber, Mayor

Amy Meachum, City Clerk