

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

August 13, 2012

7:00 PM

Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Mayor

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Participants: Mayor Oswalt, Councilman Ginn, Councilman Sowell, Councilwoman Kelly, Councilman Williams, Tim Holye, Courtney Wynn, Simeon Payne, Jared Lombard and Andrew Smith of ARC. Faye Stovall, resident.

Approval of Minutes. Motion made by Councilman Sowell, seconded by Councilman Ginn and passed unanimously.

Agenda Items:

City Manager

I. Status of Web Site Development.

Tim Hoyle introduced team members Courtney Wynn and Simeon Payne who joined the project as interns from Clayton State University.

Courtney has been on the Dean's List from 2008 through 2012 maintaining a 3.3 GPA while majoring in Information Technology. She assists CSU students, faculty and staff at the university's help desk with their IT and computer related problems.

Simeon graduated from CSU this year in Business Management and has been a Technical Analyst at CSU since 2008 resolving IT, Networking problems for students, faculty and staff while working for Website Design in McDonough and AmeriCorps since 2008.

These two highly accomplished Interns are an excellent addition to the team that Tim has assembled in developing our website which will go live toward the end of September at a cost of no more than \$1,500. This is dramatically less than the quotes received from web site developers. It is anticipated that a live presentation will be made to the City Council at its Work Shop on August 23, 2012.

- II. Jared Lombard was introduced as the Chief Planner for ARC in its effort to assist the City in its development of a current Comprehensive Plan. As such, there is the need to conduct two public hearings as a means to elicit community participation. The dates planned for these public hearings are August 28 and September 18th, 2012 which will be conducted at the City Hall at 7:00 PM.

During these public hearings Jared and his team consisting of Dan Reuter, Land Use Division Chief and Andrew Smith, Planner will put on a power point presentation which describes the effort in developing the City's Comprehensive Plan for 2012. It should be mentioned that the City is not being charged by the ARC for undertaking this critically needed work product.

- III. The City Manager described the Status of Vacant Commercial Property by stating that after adopting the Vacant Property Registry Ordinance recently, there were 19 vacant commercial properties in the City. Today there are 21 vacancies, an increase of 2 properties. 13 properties have not as yet produced plans and or have not responded to requests. 6 properties are now occupied and there are 2 new vacant properties which have been added to the list.

The shopping center across from City Hall did not consummate in a sale which forced the owner into bankruptcy due to the bank not agreeing to a short sale.

The Administration is in contact with representatives of the FCC as it applies to the Royal Court trailer Park with a deadline to remove the trailers or face punitive actions. We are hopeful of a resolution within a couple of weeks.

The City is in need of significant measures to produce a turnaround in this economic stagnation of its empty commercial properties which the City Manager has dedicated high priorities toward achieving.

IV. Police Report

Chief Colwell

There were 16 CID investigations. In addition there were 5 thefts, 1 domestic Violence case, 1 Identity fraud case, 1 entering auto case, 1 Hit and run and 1 Criminal trespass case and 12 marijuana cases.

V. Public Works Report

Ed Robinson

Eddie reported the status of the Community Center was waiting on the Fire Marshal inspection for a Certificate of Occupancy. The Public Works Dept. is in the process of installing surveillance cameras in the Community Center. And the sidewalk project (2 left) is on hold till the weather has no rain forecasted.

Adjournment – There being no further business a motion was made by Councilman Sowell, seconded by Councilman Williams to adjourn the proceedings. The motion passed unanimously.

Work Session. Participants: Mayor and Council Members, City Manager, City Attorney, City Treasurer, City Clerk, Public Works Director, Chief of Police.

During the Work Session at 6:00 PM it was decided to leave the present Community Center Fees as written to ascertain the appropriateness of those charges after the Official Opening on October 6, 2012. It was decided to combine the Opening with the Annual Cook Out. The September Newsletter and other publications will carry the details. Administrative staff will prepare the VIP List for the mailing of the necessary invitations.

Slight modifications to the rental agreement will be made to illustrate procedures for the return of lessee deposits and the overhead charges to the rental fee.

Steve Fincher suggested the exploration of a Blighted Taxation alternative on vacate commercial properties to encourage redevelopment. This will be actively explored by the Administration with Steve in developing such a policy for City Council consideration.

A Towing Agreement will be developed and presented to the Council for further consideration

