



COUNCIL MEETING
117 E. BROADWAY STREET, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY JULY 5, 2022 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hanna

The invocation was given by Mayor Hanna

The Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag

Council present: Mayor Hanna, Gary Arthurs, Doolittle Stone, Dipen Khambhaita and Jamie Altman, and April Collins

City personnel present: Marlene Rollins, Jim Smith, Ron Douglas

Guest Present: Tamala Owens

Motion was made by Council Member Stone and received a second by Council Member Arthurs to approve the agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion was made by Council Member Altman received a second by Council Member Khambhaita to approve the minutes from the June 7, Regular Council Meeting, June 13 Budget Workshop, and June 30 Public Hearing and Called meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The Johnsonville Event Committee appeared before council to request use of the park on Hampton Street for a Movie Night planned for a night in August. This event will be free the kids, food will be served, and a movie will be shown on a big screen outdoors. Council gave their permission for the use of the park and thought this was a good idea.

Mr. Jim Smith asked council where they stood on the property for the transfer station and if he needed to proceed, we paid \$7000.00 down and still owe \$21,000.00. There was \$1,000,000.00 from County Penny Sales Tax to use on the transfer station and we needed to use the money before time was up. Mr. Smith stated Nick looked at other sites and how do council want him to proceed. Council member Altman stated the county was the hold up, according to them they didn't have the money or they didn't want to put it on the McCall property. Mayor Hanna I was told that the McCall property no longer qualifies, that a well was too close to the property. Council member Stone, Arthurs and Altman stated they hadn't heard that. Mayor Hanna responded that a new mobile home was put near there and a well was too close to property, Councilmember Stone when was this and Mayor Hanna responded 3-4 months ago. Council Member Stone asked where did this come from, Mayor Hanna responded Nick. Council Member Stone stated the last time he talked with Rusty Smith and Roger Poston their focus was on property owned by Don Baxley across from Egg Hill Rd. Mr. Smith stated he needs direction on which way to go, do you want me to get the money back form the initial deal, Council member Arthurs stated we have looked at several properties and no one will sell, we are not offering them enough money.

them enough money. Mayor Hanna , we need to find out if the land qualifies, we may not be able to get the money back, we have talked about this, voted on this and thought it was a done deal,, Council member Altman stated that was what he thought and is this a city or county thing, Mayor Hanna responded County, Council member Altman asked then why is the city having to buy it, Council member Arthurs stated that when we started this project we were told that we had to purchase the property and the county would take care of everything else, then we found out we were the only city that had to do that. Council member Altman stated we needed to get the county down here, find out what is going on and tell us why this is not happening. We did what they asked us to do. Mr. Smith state he would get the county down here at next meeting to figure out what we can do.

Mr. Smith stated that he had been here since the beginning of the golf course project, we are 80% complete-95% complete on the renovation of the Periwinkle building, we have a maintenance building going up, still some site work, we had 3.9 million from the county penny sales tax funds, \$750,000.00 on refinancing of this building, I will talk with the subcommittee tomorrow recapping the finances. The course should be ready by Sept-Oct. I will keep council updated on project.

Mr. Smith stated as you are a where Monica Richardson, with Richardson and Company has submitted their letter of terminating their relationship with the city, I talked with Marc Wood today with Sheheen, Hancock & Godwin, out of Camden, we set up an appointment this week. They have experience with municipalities and school districts, they know what we need to help closeout the year and what the auditors will need, I recommend that you hire this firm as the new accountants with a 2-year contract. I will bring him to council next month, let you talk with him to see what you think.

With code enforcement when I came back, I got a few opportunities with people not complying with the code enforcement, nuisance. the code enforcement code I had in place here got abandoned, I think that was a mistake, I am guessing it was due to cost. The chief and I have been chasing down a few people with nuisances, the chief has done a god job following up and we have both put a process together that revolves around the nuisance ordinance and the nuisance is the key to the whole thing, I will send you all a copy of the ordinance, it's a process where you go through a 20-day period, I will high lite what we are going to do going forward given the fact we don't have code enforcement here like we did before. After giving the 20-day period they don't comply they will appear before council.

Council member Stone asked if this is involved the same people who suppose go around and put notices on the buildings or something different. Mr. Smith responded yes, I can't get Florence County to do anything and that is why I started that program of code enforcement because I was tired of chasing down Florence County to bring down the inspector down here. Mayor Hanna asked the only alternative is for violators is to come before council at a regular meeting? Mr. Smith responded that is the first process once you go through the 20 day process then there are other steps you take. Council member Arthurs asked the city clerk why did Nick stop the program, the city clerk responded she wasn't a where that the program was stopped, CCI just stopped coming around, Mayor Hanna stated they wanted to handle the big things and not the little things and that is what hurt us. Council member Altman said he told me that was a waste of money the county would do it for free. Mr. Smith stated that is why we have to go through the nuisance ordinance if we aren't going to use the code enforcement program, otherwise everything you see going on will go on, no one is being held responsible for cleaning up their properties. I will send out a copy of the nuisance ordinance.

Council Member Khambhaita presented to council three options of disposing of the property from selling the Artisan Outpost, the three options are through a realtor at a cost of 9% with remaining balance paid to the city, lease the property and the city will incur maintenance cost, or sale by owner


with owner financing with monthly payment and interest. Council member Arthurs asked if the price given was from the appraisal, the amount was from the insurance, Council member Collins asked how much property was with the building, cause property value around here is not that high, it .34 acres We need to get someone to appraise the building, and go from there. Mr. Smith will have the property appraised and we go from there.

Council member Arthurs gave a report we have eleven resumes to date for the administration position, some are repeats, we are going to leave the dates open to receive resumes through July, hopefully we will get a few more in, the committee will try to meet next week to go over the resumes we have received so far.

Motion was made by Council Member Arthurs and received a second by Council Member Collins to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously**

Adjourned: 7:19pm

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved by City Council on this 2 day of August, 2022.



Johnny Hanna, Mayor

Attest: 
Marlene Rollins, City Clerk

