

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

January 13, 2020

The work session and regular meeting of the Grovetown City Council were held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Mayor Gary E. Jones, Mayor Pro-tem Eric Blair, Councilmember Sylvia Martin, Councilmember Deborah Fisher, and Councilmember Allen Transou.

Also present were Human Resources Director Elaine Matthews, Public Safety Director Scott Wheatley, Assistant Police Chief Robert Eastman, Finance Director Bradley Smith, City Planner Jonathan Bush, IT Manager David Nile, Public Works Director Michael Woods, Leisure and Recreation Services Director Janet Wheatley, Planning and Community Development Director Harmit Bedi, City Attorney Chris Dube, and City Administrator John Waller.

Council conducted a work session to review agenda items at 6:00 p.m.

1.

Call Meeting to Order/Announcement of Quorum

Mayor Jones called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and acknowledged a quorum.

2.

Invocation

The invocation was given by Mayor Jones.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Transou made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Martin seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

5.

Approval of December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Fisher made a motion to approve the December 9, 2019 regular meeting minutes. Councilmember Blair seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

6.

Committee Chair Reports

Public Safety

Councilmember Blair reported the call volumes for the Police Department and Fire Department and deferred the remainder of the report to be given by Chief Wheatley during Director's Reports.

Utility Billing and Public Works

Councilmember Fisher stated that there seems to be continued confusion concerning the bulk waste and yard waste pick-up schedule. She recommended that if residents have not received the new schedule for your area, please call the Utility Billing Department or visit the City's website to download the schedule. The remainder of the report was deferred to Director Woods to be given during Director's Reports.

Planning and Development

Councilmember Transou stated that Form Based Code Committee is preparing a consolidated list of amendments to submit to Council for review.

Leisure and Recreation Services

Councilmember Martin reported the activities of the department for the past month including the number of hours the facilities were rented and the number of current contracts. The remainder of the report was deferred to Director Wheatley to be given during Director's Reports.

Administration

Mayor Jones deferred his report to City Administrator John Waller.

7.

Financial Statement

Councilmember Blair made a motion to approve the financial statement. Councilmember Martin seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

8.

Public Announcements

There were none.

9.

Citizens Comments

9A.

Patty Boose, 316 Taylor Circle; Topic: RV Parking in Neighborhoods/Residential Areas

Patty Boose stated her concerns over the written warning she received from the Code Enforcement Officer concerning her RV that is parked in her driveway. She asked that the RV be grandfathered or in the alternative that the current ordinance be revisited to allow the RV.

Following a lengthy discussion with the Council and City Attorney, Council agreed for Mr. Waller to contact the Code Enforcement Officer to delay any further action on the issued warnings until such time Council can review this matter further.

9B.

Other Citizen Comments

Wayne Haynes appeared before Council expressing his concerns regarding the RV parking restrictions.

Alex Cochran also appeared before Council to express his concerns regarding the dangers of people turning left from Hardy Drive onto Old Wrightsboro Road.

Mayor Jones suggested installing larger and more visible signage and to also place more concentrated patrol in that area.

10.

General Business: Old- None

11.

General Business: New

11A.

Appointment of Mayor Pro Tem

Councilmember Transou made a motion to appoint Councilmember Eric Blair as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Martin seconded the motion. Councilmember Transou, Councilmember Martin, and Councilmember Blair voted in favor of the motion. Councilmember Fisher voting against the motion. The motion carried with majority vote (3-1).

11B.

Recommend Approval of Reappointment of Turnipseed Engineers as the City's Engineering Firm

Councilmember Blair made a motion to approve the reappointment of Turnipseed Engineers as the City's Engineering Firm. Councilmember Transou seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

11C.

Recommend Approval of Reappointment of Mary Anne Navarro to the Planning Commission

Councilmember Martin made a motion to reappoint Mary Anne Navarro to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Blair seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

11D.

Recommend Approval of Duty Description for the Newly Created Position of City 311/Help Desk Operator and Public Information Officer

Councilmember Transou made a motion to approve the duty description for the newly created position of City 311/Help Desk Operator and Public Information Officer. Councilmember Blair seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

12.

Director's Reports

Directors briefed Council on recent activities of their respective departments.

13.

Adjourn

Councilmember Transou made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Councilmember Blair seconded the motion, all in favor and the motion carried.

Gary E. Jones, Mayor

Eric Blair, Mayor Pro-tem

Sylvia Martin, Councilmember

Deborah Fisher, Councilmember

Allen Transou, Councilmember

Attest:

Roxanne Brown, City Clerk