



**CITY OF RINCON
OFFICIAL MINUTES
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
107 W. 17TH STREET
7:00 PM**

Councilmembers Present:

Paul Wendelken
Reese Browher
James Dasher
Ann Daniel

Councilmembers Absent:

Levi Scott, Jr.
Kevin Exley

Present:

Ken Lee, Mayor
John Klimm, City Manager
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney
Dulcia King, City Clerk
Mark Gerbino, Police Chief
Corey Rahn, Fire Chief
LaMeisha Hunter Kelly, City Planner
Mike Osborne, Recreation Director
Tim Bowles, Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. The Invocation was given by Mayor Lee and Pledge to the Flag was recited.

Approval of the agenda:

Motion to approve: Councilmember Dasher
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council:

Approval of the February 25, 2019 minutes:

Motion to approve: Councilmember Wendelken
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council: 3 yes votes, Councilmember Dasher abstained

Public Hearing

Turn meeting over to public hearing officer, Raymond Dickey:

Public Hearing on petition filed by Edward Riner for a 5 ft. variance to the rear yard setback on property located at 123 Sweetwater Circle. The property is .43 acres and zoned R-4 (Single-Family Residential); the property is owned by Jason Ryan Pickard. (Map# R2600037)

Open public hearing: 7:07 PM

Attorney Dickey announced that proponents and those opposing will have minimum of 15 minutes each as a group. Mr. Riner said he was going to apply for a 10 foot variance but after speaking with the Mayor and Mrs. Kelly they suggested he try to make the house smaller to fit on the lot. So he readjusted the house and made it a little smaller. Mr. Riner said he met with the HOA to get his plans approved and they wrote a letter. The HOA suggested he try and get a 15 foot setback. Mrs. Kelly said this is really a corner lot, you have two front setbacks, one side and a rear every lot has a rear setback. The proposed placement on the house would push it back into the rear setback, they suggested reducing and shifting the house over and only corners will go into the setbacks. Mr. Riner said there are several lots situated the same way and they have 15 foot setbacks on each side. Mrs. Kelly explained the setbacks for the corner lot. Instead of having a point you have a curve and stated he is looking at a rear setback, which would be 20 foot instead of 25, not a side or front. Attorney Dickey was the property marked, notification made and an ad placed in the paper. Mrs. Kelly said yes.

Jimmy Smith, 218 Sandy Springs, said he owns the neighboring property his lot is 15 feet on both sides and he has no problem with this.

Close public hearing: 7:19 PM

Turn the meeting back over to Mayor Lee.

Vote on a petition filed by Edward Riner for a 5 ft. variance to the rear yard setback on property located at 123 Sweetwater Circle. The property is .43 acres and zoned R-4 (Single-Family Residential); the property is owned by Jason Ryan Pickard. (Map# R2600037)

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Daniel

Councilmember Browher noted that we have set a precedent previously with two other lots and we try to be consistent. Councilmember Wendelken mentioned that we grant variance due to hardships and this is a hardship due to the configuration of the lot. Both motions were amended reflect the variance be granted based on a hardship due to the configuration of the lot.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

**Update from Effingham County Industrial Development Authority representative
Damon Rahn.**

Mr. Rahn said the McCall Road widening project started. Everything is going smooth and everybody seems to be happy. He would like to do an update quarterly or as projects come up. Mr. Rahn introduced Brandt Herndon with the IDA. Mr. Herndon talked about the McCall Road project, there will be no sidewalks, he thinks Omnitrax will donate more money to improve the park since they are not doing sidewalks, they had problems with culverts concrete will go in, he has seen more activity out of them in the last three months. Mr. Herndon said he hopes the truck restrictions will be lifted with the Effingham Parkway by the end of the year. He also mentioned the Freeport Exemption he said there are three classes of Freeport Exempt in Effingham County, but we need to talk about the fourth, e-commerce for Effingham to be eligible for good high paying jobs we need to have the fourth passed. In 2020 a referendum will need to be approved by City Council once it is voted on by the citizens. Mr. Herndon said other than that, things are going well he feels like we are struggling in helping local companies expand because we don't have enough small buildings. Mr. Herndon said he thinks there are possibilities at the Omni Trax property and maybe the Grandview property. He mentioned the Georgia National Trade Center grand opening will be March 26. They are building a 400,000sqft. spec building and a 150,000sqft. spec building, the first in Effingham in quite a while. Hopefully it will be a good 2019.

Councilmember Dasher asked will we see any local sales tax from e-commerce. Mr. Herndon said he thinks the local counties are now seeing those taxes.

New Business

1. Request to pay annual subscription fees for Tyler Incode Public Safety, Court Case and Content Management Suites in the amount of \$40,300.00. LI# 100.3200.523100

Mr. Klimm said this amount represents the annual contracted payment to Tyler Technologies. We did budget this amount.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Daniel

Second: Councilmember Wendelken

Vote by Council: Unanimous

2. Administrative Reports:

City Manager – Mr. Klimm said he wanted to notify Council that they did have meeting with Wesley Corbitt, he attended with our Fire Chief and City Attorney, they discussed that over the past year the revenue coming in was not covering the full cost of our service, they had a brief discussion about service delivery and will begin negotiation in April; there has been work in area of human resources we have completed rewriting the job descriptions and is also putting together a compensation plan into a table to see what we are paying our employees and how it matches up with like communities; there will be a pre bid meeting about golf course RFP; he will continue to work with department heads on the issue of budget controls; at the end of the month he will be traveling to Statesboro as city manager selection committee for the City of Statesboro; and there will be two ribbon cuttings Chic fil A and Planet Fitness.

Chief of Police – Chief Gerbino said he will continue the recruiting drive; renovations are still going on; three sworn officers have just come back from jipstick; next week they will take delivery of a prescription drug box for expired drugs, the box will mounted on the floor in front of the police department.

Mayor Lee asked about graduation rate of the police cadets at Savannah Technical College. The Chief said the rate is 90% to 95%. Mayor Lee what is the vacancies number for our area. Chief Gerbino said he is not sure, but all of the counties around us are hiring.

Building/Zoning Dept. – Mrs. Kelly said we have some ordinances that relate to storm water that needs to come before Council.

Recreation Dept. – Mr. Osborne said the 8U boys basketball team won district finished and finished 2nd in state; he put flyers about the upcoming Freedom Park events in everyone's mailbox; the pre-season tournaments will start next Monday; and the following weekend there will be baseball tournaments at the fields.

Councilmember Wendelken said we need to recognize the 8U basketball teams accomplishment.

Water/Sewer/Public Works – Mayor Lee asked for an update on a line break. Mr. Bowles said the break was in East Towne Park and it was a private line, he told the contractors not to dig until they had locates but they did anyway so they will get a hefty water bill; Councilmember Dasher asked about north water tower. Mr. Bowlers said it will not be online by March 18, they are having trouble getting the screen. The contractor said he wants to get started by the middle of March. Mayor Lee mentioned that there were five grinder pump replacements which is high, Mr. Bowles said it is the same people that keep putting things in the toilet and burning up the pumps.

Mayor and Council – Mr. Klimm said the financial report in packet gave an accounting of each fund and they are still refining the monthly report. Councilmember Wendelken said

there may be a bat problem at the library because they heard a high pitch chirping sound coming from that area. Mayor Lee asked about website, Mr. Klimm said next week Sophicity should have something for us to look at. Mayor Lee asked for an update on the Comp Plan, Mrs. Kelly said they had a meeting on Thursday to go over the future land use for the City. Councilmember Browher thanked Mr. Bowles for fixing the potholes on Plantation Drive and asked about also cutting the grass on the island on Plantation Drive. Mr. Klimm said he will get with Mr. Bowles about cutting the grass.

3. Executive session to discuss personnel, pending litigation, attorney client privilege, and real estate.

Motion: Councilmember Dasher
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Motion to return to meeting: Councilmember Daniel
Second: Councilmember Browher
Vote by Council: Unanimous

4. Follow the statutes of executive session, to put on file an executive session affidavit and resolution.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Dasher
Second: Councilmember Wendelken
Vote by Council: Unanimous

5. Take any action that is needed on the items from executive session.

No action taken.

Adjourn into workshop:

Motion to adjourn: Councilmember Dasher
Second: Councilmember Daniel
Vote by Council: Unanimous