



**OFFICIAL MINUTES
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
107 W. 17TH STREET
7:00 PM**

Councilmember Present:

Reese Browher
Patrick Kirkland
W. Frederick Long
Levi Scott, Jr.
Michelle Taylor

Present:

Ken Lee, Mayor
John Klimm, City Manager
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney
Dulcia King, City Clerk
Jonathon Murrell, Police Chief
Pete Smith, Assistant Fire Chief
Jason Stewart, City Planner
Tim Bowles, Public Works Director

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. The Invocation was given by Mayor Lee and Pledge to the Flag was recited.

Approval of the agenda with the following:

Old business item one, request approval to stripe St. Andrews Road, is not what was tabled at the previous meeting, but what was discussed. Request approval to stripe St. Andrews Road will become new business 4A.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Kirkland
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Approval of the June 14, 2021 minutes with following:

One grammatical error, higher up not hire up.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Kirkland

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

Public Hearing

Turn meeting over to public hearing officer, Raymond Dickey:

Open public hearing: 7:07PM

Public hearing to consider establishing a Storm Water Utility Ordinance and to establish the fee to be charged for maintenance and management of the storm water utilities.

Mr. Klimm said we are here to formally ask for approval for adoption of a Stormwater Utility Ordinance and also to ask Council to formalize a base fee of \$2.00. We will have to take on the responsibility of maintaining our stormwater. There are changes in our land use and there will continue to be changes. The problems associated with increase stormwater runoff require a proper stormwater management program to balance economic growth. Stormwater management will cost the City even if we do nothing. Failures will occur which will require the City's action to repair, we could get fined and there could be consent orders. Several years ago we received a two year the Coastal incentive utilities grant to help us consider adoption of a stormwater utility program. 179 jurisdictions in the Southeast have stormwater management. 62 in the state of Georgia already have adopted a similar program.

Wade Burcham with Geosyntec was present. Mr. Burcham said the City helped do this, we turned a two year grant into three years because of COVID. \$2.00 is about the average in the State. Councilmember Taylor asked was \$2 enough, Mr. Burcham \$2 is good to get started, it will work really well. Mr. Klimm asked Council to consider this on annual bases during the budgetary process.

Close public hearing: 7:15 PM

Turn the meeting back over to Mayor Lee.

Vote on a first reading to establish a Storm Water Utility Ordinance and to establish the fee to be charged for maintenance and management of the storm water utilities.

Councilmember Browner asked do we have a plan in place to educate the residents. Mr. Klimm said we plan to collaborate with Mr. Burcham and before we implement we will educate people. Mr. Burcham said we will also educate staff, and a customer service manual that was already given to the ladies up front. Mr. Burcham said he has reached out

to the big box stores already and they understand, they don't want flooding in their parking lots. A motion was made to adopt the ordinance and establish a \$2.00 stormwater fee.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Kirkland

Councilmember Long said he hopes we can work on ordinance to help with abuse of our stormwater system, Mr. Bowles said we do have an ordinance for that it is a matter of catching people.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

Old Business:

1. Request approval to pay Savannah River Utilities \$5,970.00 to stripe Willowpeg Way. LI #320-4100-541225 (Tabled at the 6/14/2021 meeting)

Remove from table: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

No action taken.

New Business:

1. A request has been filed by K7 Properties, LLC for approval of a Minor Subdivision and Recombination of a 10.47 acre tract; property is located at Lexington Ave. Parcel 1C is being combined with lot number 4 adding 0.329 acres to the lot; lot 4 is located at 307 Plantation Drive and is owned by Patricia and Gary West. The remaining tract will be subdivided into parcel 1A with 6.166 acres and parcel 1B with 3.575 acres. The property is zoned R-5 (Residential-One unit detached conventional house); the property is owned by K7 Properties LLC. (Map and Parcel # R2290004 & R2630002A00)

Mr. Stewart said Mr. Kersey is wishing to adjust the boundary line of one property and split the remaining lot. The Planning and Zoning Board has recommended approval. Mr. Kersey was present. Councilmember Scott asked how long this has been R5, Mr. Kersey said he is not sure probably since he brought the property.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Browher
Vote by Council: Unanimous

2. Request approval to accept a waterline easement for property located at 313 S. Columbia Avenue, property is owned by Whaler Holdings.

Mr. Bowles said this is a water main easement that comes from behind Continental Storage and the property owners would like to deed it over to the City so we would have access to the water meter. The only other option they had to get water was to do a jack and bore across Highway 21. Councilmember Scott asked about a warranty period, Mr. Bowles said it is a short run and will go through the inspection process but we can ask them for a warranty period. Councilmember Scott said this approval will start the warranty period. Councilmember Kirkland asked are we accepting someone else's line, Mr. Bowles said yes. A motion was made to approve with a one year warranty period.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott

Second: Councilmember Kirkland

Vote by Council: Unanimous

3. Request approval to pay EMC Engineering Services, Inc \$30,700.00 for engineering services associated with the Rincon Football Field Project located at Giles Park.

Doug Morgan with EMC Engineering was present. Mr. Morgan said a month ago Mike Osborne called him telling him they needed a football field at Giles Park. At this time he only wanted a field with under drain, storm drainage, fencing and sidewalks. There is no drainage so he gave him a dollar amount until they go out there and survey. If there is no extensive drainage they only bill for what they do. Mayor Lee said he assumes this is budgeted. Mr. Klimm said yes there is 300,000 to 400,000 of SPLOST money. Mayor Lee said we move forward with the engineering, Councilmember Scott said he has concerns about water drainage; Councilmember Long said he thinks we need to do surveying and boring to get the process going. A motion was made to approve the surveying for \$2,200 and boring for \$1,500.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Long

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

4. Consideration to appoint a Councilmember to serve out the term, ending in December 31, 2021, of seat vacated by Ann Daniel.

Mayor Lee said because of Ann Daniel being away for an extended period of time she resigned. Council is in the position to be able to appoint if they so choose. He would like to make a recommendation for consideration, Ben Blackwell who serves on the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Blackwell has served on the board for about 5 years and his wife serves on the Library Board, they are active in the community. Councilmember Browher said he has looked at where we are at right now and what we have on our plate coming up on the budget, in a month or two we are going to have a midyear review, and we have the monumental task of revising growth management code, he is proposing Paul Wendelken. He looks at what he can bring for the next six months with no learning curve. Councilmember Browher said he looks at what is best for the City. Councilmember Taylor recommended Peggy Cowan who is also on the Planning and Zoning Board and she has no

affiliation with any land. Councilmember Kirkland said he knows two of the three and would like staff to get numbers so he could speak to Peggy Cowan. Mayor Lee said if we need more time to consider we can do that.

Motion to table: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

4A. Request approval to pay Savannah River Utilities \$7,125.00 to stripe St. Andrews Road. LI #320-4100-541225

Mr. Bowles said at the last meeting Council wanted to forgo Willowpeg Way and do St. Andrews Road since it is a main road. It is longer than Willowpeg Way; it will be \$3.75 per foot. He has asked for quotes and only one company has responded. Councilmember Kirkland asked about budget, Mr. Bowles said it is within the budget amount.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Kirkland
Second: Councilmember Taylor

Councilmember Scott asked how long the road is, the quote says 1,900 feet.

Vote by Council: Unanimous

5. Administrative Reports:

City Manager – Mr. Klimm recognized Mr. Bowles and Public Works department for their work, Mr. Bowles is very responsive. Councilmember Scott said on weekends he is always pleasant when he calls him and the response is quick. Councilmember Kirkland said Mr. Bowles and his team do a really good job. Mr. Klimm discussed Freedom Rings, he recognized Mike Osborne, Effingham Heroes and staff, the event was terrific; with TSPLOST we communicate often with EMC and the contracts have been delivered to Sikes Brothers, so far so good.

Mr. Morgan said as soon as he gets the contracts back they will need to be signed by the Mayor. He will have a preconstruction meeting this week for Lockner Drive, 4th Street and Weisenbaker Road; Middleground Road will be in the paper this week and next week. We will have a pre bid meeting on July 13 and bid it on July 20. That will be all six roads.

Chief of Police – Chief Murrell said the event was great on Saturday; his guys were out there 14 hours.

Water/Sewer/Public Works – Mr. Bowles said he would like to echo what the chief said, everything went off without a hitch. They handled the major route and his team handled the subdivision and traffic was open within 30 minutes.

Mayor and Council – Mayor Lee asked has one thing that he wants to keep out front so we don't drop the ball, the temporary emergency exit out of Picket Fences. He wanted to know where we are on it; Mr. Klimm said there is no update. We have had conversation. Mr. Bowles said CSX will not let you put in another crossing unless you close a crossing. Mr. Bowles said the only other option is if we get some kind of right away that goes out of the back to McCall Road. Mayor Lee said we are asking for a temporary during the time that they close the crossing. Mr. Klimm said we may need our legislative delegation. Mayor Lee said we need to send a formal letter of request from the City to CSX first, we need to find a solution for this. Councilmember Kirkland said we need an answer in writing. Councilmember Browher said in the letter we can delineate the need and the fact that they are the ones closing down and we are trying to find a solution.

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

Motion: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Kirkland
Vote by Council: Unanimous

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

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

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Long
Vote by Council: Unanimous

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

No action taken.

Adjourn in a workshop:

Motion: Councilmember Taylor
Second: Councilmember Browher
Vote by Council: Unanimous