



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD
MONDAY, JULY 25, 2022
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur L. Miner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Lovie Downey
Pat Shelbourne
Tom Snyder
Andrew Neal
Malissa Minucci
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 2 (Absent with notice)
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Randy Richards
Robert Parker

City Secretary
City Attorney
Building Official
Police Chief

INVOCATION

Rev. Dave Bower, First United Methodist Church of Watauga provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Miner led the pledge to the flags.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Neal announced Wake Up the Walls art contest at the library.

Mayor Miner announced that the splash pad is opened.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Parks and Recreation Month

Mayor Miner presented a proclamation to Timothy Hamilton and staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hillary Ward 12 Country Club Court Pantego TX, spoke against Stedfast Church and asked that the protestors have the right to use megaphones in their protests.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No Requests for public testimony were received.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of the minutes for the May 9, 2022, Regular City Council meeting, June 25, 2022 Special Meeting, and the April 11, May 9, and June 27, 2022 Workshops.**

2. **Consider approval of the reappointment to the Civil Service Commission.**

Councilmember Taylor asked that consent agenda item #1 be pulled and was moved to action item #1.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to accept the consent agenda as modified. Councilmember Hill seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Snyder

PUBLIC HEARINGS / ACTION

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Consider approval of the minutes for the May 9, 2022, Regular City Council meeting, June 25, 2022, Special Meeting, and the April 11, May 9, and June 27, 2022, Workshops (was consent item #1).**

Councilmember Taylor wants the minutes to reflect whether an absence is excused or unexcused according to the Charter and not absent with notice.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Hill made a motion to accept the item as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Downey seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 5-1-0-1.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Hill
Nays: Taylor
Abstain: None
Absent: Snyder

2. Consider action to approve a resolution accepting the American Rescue Act Funding and establishing the ARPA Project Spending Plan Framework (was action item 1).

Joshua Jones, City Manager, presented the updated framework for the ARPA funds, per the Council's direction on the infrastructure projects, funding under personnel, and equipment. Regarding the infrastructure, after reevaluation, it was decided to remove the Hickory Hill sanitary sewage project. In addition, the Council had asked for a more aggressive reduction of the Leave Bank, which has been almost doubled. Also, the retention pay and comp and class were removed as they could be taken out of the current budget due to our savings. Also, the electronic vehicle charging stations were removed, and this money was put towards recruitment and incentives for hiring police officers.

Councilmember Hill is concerned about using temporary funds for permanent positions.

Joshua Jones, City Manager, addressed her concerns and stated that this is to bring the parks and recreation department back to where it was pre-Covid. The fund is for three years of funding, and then would be added to the general fund after that.

Councilmember Taylor commented that the funds must be used to bring the city back to pre-Covid and using it to fund the positions accomplished that. Therefore, he supports the use of the funds for this.

Councilmember Neal feels that the plan is a good use of the funds.

Councilmember Downey agrees with Councilmember Hill but feels that in the situation we have the recreation center, we need to do this. She supports the plan.

Councilmember Hill supports the positions being added but does not like using temporary funds, afraid that jobs will be in jeopardy in 3 years if we do not have sufficient funding.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to accept the item as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Downey seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Hill, Taylor
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Snyder

3. Consider action to approve an ordinance to amend the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget to appropriate revenues and expenditures relating to the American Rescue Act Plan funding (was action item 2)

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance presented the item is ordinance allows for the current budget to be amended include the ARPA funds.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Shelbourne made a motion to accept the item as presented. Councilmember Neal seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Hill, Taylor

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Snyder

4. Discuss, and consider creating and appointing members to a sub-committee to review the Council Rules of Procedures (was action item 3).

Mayor Miner is recommending Council members Taylor, Hill, and Shelbourne to the Committee. The Council members agreed to the placement.

5. Consider action to adopt a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas approving the advanced funding agreement between the City of Watauga, Texas and the Texas Department of Transportation for the Green Ribbon Program Phase 3; providing for Severability, providing an effective date (for right-of-way landscaping improvements from North Tarrant Parkway to Watauga Road along Highway US377) (was action item 4).

Paul Hackleman presented the item. The 400 thousand can only be used for landscaping and includes some drainage improvements. The project goes from North Park to Starnes.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to accept the item as presented. Councilmember Shelbourne seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes, Shelbourne, Downey, Neal, Minucci, Hill, Taylor

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Snyder

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm

Approved: this September day of 26th, 2022

Signed: this September day of 26th, 2022

APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Proskey /s/

Linda Proskey, City Secretary



NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office