

CITY OF CLEVELAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 6, 2020
MINUTES

Prior to the start of the City Council Meeting, Judge Garrison Baker issued the Oath of Office and Loyalty Oath to newly elected Mayor Josh Turner and Council Member Ward 2 Rebecca Yardley.

Judge Baker expressed it is always a distinct privilege and honor to participate in welcoming those that are willing to serve the community. There is no greater calling or service than to serve the people of your community. Judge Baker stated he is looking forward to the end of his career and has always appreciated having the opportunity to serve the people.

Judge Baker conveyed an antidote of his first swearing in ceremony. Judge Baker sat down with his predecessor, Judge Satterfield, and asked what it takes to be a good public servant. Judge Satterfield answered by advising Judge Baker to read Galatians 5:22 (*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness*) and apply it to life. Judge Satterfield advised to be good, kind, patient, and humble and above all else, try to do what is right.

Judge Baker passed this same advice to Josh Turner and Rebecca Yardley as newly elected officials.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Cleveland was called to order by Mayor Josh Turner at 6:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Nan Bowen, Rebecca Yardley, and Bradley Greene. Council member Kevin Stanley was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council approved the agenda for the July 6, 2020 City Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2020-17 – RESOLUTION TO MODIFY TRUELOVE GEFA LOAN FOR THE DEFERRAL OF INTEREST FOR 6-MONTHS – GOVERNOR’S INITIATIVE

Tom O’Bryant, City Administrator, explained Governor Kemp has issued several executive orders to assist governments during the Covid-19 and uncertainty of the economy. One initiative is to relieve governments with infrastructure loans the opportunity to have the payments deferred for six-months.

The City is currently paying on two separate loans, but the loan deferral request is for the Truelove sewer project.

The City Council will need to adopt the resolution to participate in the loan deferral program.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and City Council voted to approve Resolution 2020-17 to modify the Truelove GEFA loan for the deferral of payments, per Governor Kemp’s initiative, and submit all the required documents.

ORDINANCE 2020-18 ANNEXATION AND ZONING 1.08 ACRES, 1706 HIGHWAY 129 SOUTH, TAX MAP AND PARCEL 048C-182

Nadine Wardenga, Planning and Zoning Board Chair, presented the annexation and zoning application of Jeff Nix for approximately 1.08 acres, 1706 Highway 129 South, Tax Map and Parcel 048C-182.

Ms. Wardenga read the minutes of May 28, 2020 (minutes prepared by Tonya Abernathy, permitting clerk): Meeting was called to order by chairman, Nadine Wardenga at 6:45 p.m.

Nadine opened the meeting. The planning and zoning board met to hear the application submitted by, Jeff Nix whom was present, and requesting annexation and zoning for approximately 1.06 Acres' located at 1706 Highway 129 South, tax Map and Parcel 048C-182. The proposed request of this is location as BII Highway Commercial Business.

Jeff Nix, stated that he owned Hearth and Home beside Captain D's. He has remodeled the building. The reason he applied for annexation and rezoning is because he needed to be on city sewer. He plans on opening the week of June 1, 2020. He thanked the committee, for the City Council for allowing him to go ahead and tap on to the sewer.

Linda Hobbs, ask what was going on the other side. Jeff Nix, stated that he spoke to Kendra Brook with Bench Mark, that they have 11 to 14 branches. He has a letter of intent. Bench Mark has not committed at the moment due to the pandemic.

Annie Sutton, ask Jeff Nix How much sewer he planned on using? Jeff Nix, stated very little, there would only be one to two people in the office. Jeff Nix stated that he hoped to have a breakroom, with microwave, and a sink for the Bench Mark area. Nadine Wardenga, stated like a kitchenette.

Henrietta Sutton, ask Jeff Nix, What if Bench Mark did not move? Jeff Nix, stated it would be something retail. It will not be a restaurant.

Henrietta Sutton, ask Jeff Nix will parking be on the front? Jeff Nix replied the parking will be on the right side as on the site plan.

Nadine Wardenga, ask if anyone had any more questions?

Sam Pelletier made a motion to accept Annexation and Linda Hobbs seconded the motion.

Nadine Wardenga, informed Jeff Nix, that he would need to attend the next meeting on Monday, June 1st, at 6:30 at 342 Campbell Street, to answer any questions from the Council.

Nadine Wardenga, stated to move onto Zoning to BII Highway.

Henrietta Sutton, made a motion to accept Zoning and Linda Hobbs second.

Annie Sutton, stated the building looks great.

ORDINANCE 2020-18 ANNEXATION AND ZONING 1.08 ACRES, 1706 HIGHWAY 129 SOUTH, TAX MAP AND PARCEL 048C-182 - continued

Tonya Abernathy, informed Jeff Nix, that he needed to apply for a business license and sign permit and his sign would need to be approved, before it was installed.

Tom O'Bryant, informed Jeff Nix, that the county would review, and when they have approved. He would need to come before the City Council. Tom O'Bryant stated that he would mail the information. Tom O'Bryant informed Jeff Nix, that he would not need to attend the City Council meeting on June 1, 2020.

Henrietta Sutton motioned to adjourn and Sam Pelletier seconded. Adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Turner asked Mr. Nix if he had any comments to make concerning his application for annexation and zoning into the city.

Mr. Jeff Nix expressed his appreciation of the opportunity to come into the city and feels like he did a great job on the building renovation. Mr. Nix stated the renovated building improves the look on Highway 129 South. Mr. Nix business was formally located on Highway 115 East and he feels the Highway 129 South location is better for exposure and his business.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Rebecca Yardley, in favor – Nan Bowen, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and City Council voted to adopt Ordinance 2020-18 the annexation and zoning of approximately 1.08 acres, 1706 Highway 129 South, Tax Map and Parcel 048C-182. The zoning class is B-II Highway Commercial Business.

CHIEF RICKY PRUITT – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Ricky Pruitt, Fire Department, submitted the department statistics for June 2020. The department responded to 72 calls with 40 inside the city limits, 32 outside the city limits – 8 of those calls being outside the automatic aid area. Chief Pruitt stated calls are starting to pick back up now that more people are getting out.

Chief Pruitt informed all the hydrant testing is completed for this year.

Chief Pruitt requested the Council approve the purchase of street signs for Parkway Plaza, Jessie Mae Thurmond Connector, and Hope Drive. Chief Pruitt expressed the importance of street signs when responding to emergency calls. Chief Pruitt was informed the City does not own the streets but blue signs, rather than green signs, can be ordered for emergency personnel to identify streets.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and City Council approved the purchase of blue street signs for Parkway Plaza, Jessie Mae Thurmond Connector, and Hope Drive.

CHIEF JOHN FOSTER – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief John Foster, Police Department, submitted two class requests for approval.

Officer Raymond Rutledge to attend Drug Interdiction Techniques – there is no fee for this class.

Major Aaron Weiland to attend Chief Executive Training – a nine-day class to address management, media relations, communications, problem solving, decision making, budgeting, and human resource management. The cost is \$595.00 and is held in Duluth.

Mayor Turner asked if the chief executive training class was meant for ranks other than chief. Chief Foster stated the class can be taken by officers of various ranks.

Council Member Bradley Greene suggested the class requests are tabled until Council Member Kevin Stanley is able to attend.

On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to table the class requests of Officer Raymond Rutledge and Major Aaron Weiland until all the council is present.

Chief Foster informed he will have an item for executive session at the next city council meeting.

GRANT KEENE – CITY ATTORNEY

Grant Keene, City Attorney, did not have new business to report.

TOM O'BRYANT – CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Tom O'Bryant, City Administrator, did not have new business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. On motion by Bradley Greene, seconded by Nan Bowen, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council voted to add Josh Turner and Rebecca Yardley to the City's banking accounts.
2. The Mayor and City Council reviewed the minutes of June 2020. Council Member Rebecca Yardley informed June 1, 2020, regular council meeting, page 2, #2 has a scribbler's error. Ms. Yardley also informed the acreage and parcel needs to be corrected on the June 8, 2020 City Council meeting minutes.

On motion by Nan Bowen, seconded by Bradley Greene, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and Council approved the minutes of June 1 (2), June 8 (2), June 23, and June 25, 2020 with corrections.

3. Public comments – Terry Goodger, White County Commissioner, congratulated and welcomed the new mayor and council member. Mr. Goodger represents the city as a commissioner for White County and offered his assistance if needed.

Chief Foster addressed a call received at city hall concerning fireworks during the holiday. The police department and city are limited in how they can respond to fireworks. The state has specific laws allowing fireworks and the city cannot enact anything more stringent. The only call dispatch received was at 5:30 p.m. the day of the 4th.

NEW BUSINESS - continued

Public comments – continued

Mayor Turner asked if Chief Foster received a dispatched call on July 5 at 12:45 a.m. Chief Foster stated no, the city does not have its own dispatch department. All calls are dispatched through White County 911 Emergency Management. Chief Foster stated the community needs to be educated on the laws and safety of the use of fireworks.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Nan Bowen, seconded by Bradley Greene, in favor – Rebecca Yardley, and carried unanimously, the Mayor and City Council adjourned the City Council Meeting of July 6, 2020 at 6:48 p.m.

Josh Turner
Josh Turner, Mayor

ABSENT
Kevin Stanley, Council Member
Ward 3
Mayor Pro Tem

Nan Bowen
Nan Bowen, Council Member
Ward 1

Bradley Greene
Bradley Greene, Council Member
Ward 4

Rebecca Yardley
Rebecca Yardley, Council Member
Ward 2

Attest: Connie Tracas
Connie Tracas, City Clerk

