

**Regular Council Meeting
September 8, 2015
Council Chamber – Clemson City Hall**

Call to Order: Mayor J.C. Cook, III at 6:30 p.m.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Cox

Members present: Mayor J.C. Cook, III presiding, Council Members Chapman, Cox, Ducworth, Fowler, Hay and Oswald

Media present: Greg Oliver, the *Journal* and Vince Jackson, the *Independent Mail*

Notification emailed: September 2, 2015 to the *Greenville News*, the *Journal*, the *Independent Mail*, the *Pickens Sentinel*, the *Easley Progress*; WSNW Radio, WYFF Channel 4, WSPA Channel 7 and Fox 21 TV News.

Public Session: Mayor Pro Tem Tim Fowler presiding – Dr. Jeff Martin, Clemson Sertoma President presented an overview of the Sertoma Atlantic Coast Conference with 95 attendees for the 3 day event in the City of Clemson. The Conference hosted a “Celebration of Service” at Catherine Smith Plaza that was open to the public and 250-300 people attended. Chick Fil-A sponsored a coin toss into the fountain and raised \$700.00 that will send a child to Camp Sertoma that costs \$500.00 per child. There were other events throughout the Conference that raised over \$1500.00 total that allow 3 scholarships for underprivileged children to attend Camp Sertoma. The group visited Pickens County on Saturday and there was some discussion about hosting the International Conference in the City of Clemson with approximately 800 attendees in the future. Dr. Martin then presented a Resolution of Gratitude from Sertoma to Mayor, Council, Clemson University and the City.

Mr. Tal Slann, Rental Housing Property Manager, 408 College Avenue spoke in reference to the Rental Housing Ordinance disclaimer that is required for non-compliant windows. He requested clarification on the date this disclosure statement was implemented and said he understood it be as of August 2016 -a year out, not the current 2015 year leases. He stated that his Rental Permits have been held for failure to comply. Council discussed the intent of the current year or the year beginning 2016 and that all others had complied with the requirement this fiscal year – July 1, 2015. Council noted that this item would have to be discussed at a different time to clarify the dates.

Mr. Margaret Thompson, 117 Argon Street spoke in favor of the bees and chickens Ordinance.

Ms. Renee Gahan, 300 Edgewood Avenue spoke in favor of the bees and chickens Ordinance.

Mr. William Cheek, 309 Wescott Drive spoke of concerns for CAT bus service late nights on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays between 11:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. The passengers waiting on the bus at his property are urinating on his lawn, shouting -disturbing the neighborhood and have thrown glass bottles in his yard. He requested consideration to relocate the route from that area. He also spoke in favor of the bees and chickens Ordinance.

Approval of Minutes: August 17, 2015 were approved as presented.

Reports/Discussion Agenda:

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Mr. Bo Crader, Chairman of the Clemson Community Foundation Board of Directors, to provide a Report to City Council regarding this recently created foundation and to invite City Council to the kick-off event September 10th – Mr. Crader gave an overview of the progress of the foundation that began in 2013 as a Leadership Clemson class project to offer financial support to nonprofit charitable organizations serving the Clemson community. He said the organization has acquired a 501.c.3 status and after acquiring volunteers, establishing leadership, conducting many meetings with lots of discussions along the way, now have a 3 year plan. The organization has raised \$150,000.00 in pledges / gifts and will host an inaugural celebration on Thursday, September 10th at Occasions at Wedgefield where they will present \$7000.00, - \$1000 each to local non-profit organizations. They will also recognize the founding 3 donors who contributed \$25,000.00 each. They will have future opportunities for grant funding to the local non-profits and they will offer opportunities to the community for multi-year donations. Council was invited to attend the event and to consider a \$25,000.00 donation.

Receive Information regarding new State Law that requires municipalities to pay a fee to the Office of Public Defense for representation in the Municipal Court – Mayor J.C. Cook, III presented this item and stated this was a proviso so there was no discussion at the State level before enactment. The Circuit Court Defender has requested Pickens County municipalities pay a total of \$40,000.00 annually to cover costs of a public defender in municipal courts. Mr. Rick Cotton, City Administrator stated that cities will have to figure out how to pay this cost and that it would be fair to establish a fee based on the number of cases. Pickens County municipalities are meeting tomorrow to discuss it.

Receive a report on the renewal of Utility Easements that cross U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land around Lake Hartwell – Mr. Benjie McGill, Director of Utilities provided the lease information that was initiated in 1965 at no cost to the City for 14 parcels included in 1 easement. The Corps of Engineers had an appraisal done of the property and proposed a cost of \$226,000 for a 25 year lease. The City has maintained the property for 50 years and provided public access so the City will obtain a second appraisal and prove the sewer system enhances the property because the property is not usable for anything else.

Staff and Council Reports – Mr. Rick Cotton, City Administrator reported that he, Mayor Cook, and Council Member Chapman are meeting again with Collegiate Partners on the recent Infrastructure Reimbursement Agreement to negotiate the parking space lease; the MASC Regional Advocacy Meeting is Thursday, September 24th at 11:00 a.m. in Mauldin. Mr. Cotton also reported that Mr. Joe Crosby, Indoor Recreation Director has requested a Joint Work Session with the City of Clemson and the Town of Central on Monday, September 14th at 5:30 p.m. at the Center to discuss child care services for the Indoor Recreation Members. The Town of Central has offered a lease at the old Senior Center building and Mr. Crosby is proposing a plan to pilot the services for 6 months. The City has received notification from the ISO assessment and has been designated a class 2 rating which will also reduce home owners insurance.

Council Member Cox, provided a report on the JCUAB meeting and said the treasurer report was very good; the Regatta is October 24th; Family Beach Day is September 20th at University Beach; and the City is partnering with Clemson University to clean up Hwy 76 and 93.

Council Member Chapman reported that Clemson University recognizes October as Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Month to highlight and celebrate the diverse cultures and people represented within the Clemson campus community. The month will include educational activities, programs and events for faculty, staff and students. The group has requested that the City fund the live streaming of the keynote address at a cost of \$3000.00. Mayor Cook stated that he attended the keynote address last year and it was a full house. Council will consider this item at the next meeting.

Mayor Cook reported that he plans to attend the Advanced Municipal Elected Officials Institute October 28th in Columbia and encouraged others to attend. He also presented samples of the City Flag in color for Council's suggestion to replace the one at the Flag Plaza on Hwy 123.

Mayor Cook then presented a Proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month September 15th to October 15th.

Policy/Action Agenda:

Consider 1st Reading of a Proposed Text Amendment to the City Zoning Ordinance, Section 19-107 Definitions And Section 19-303 Table 19-303 Table Of Accessory Uses For Residential Districts And Article III Division 2 Table 19-305 Conditional Uses And Special Exception Standards 19-303.C. to Add Conditional Uses For Hobby Beekeeping And Backyard Chickens. And To Amend 19-303.C.14 Keeping of Livestock – Ms. Sharon Richardson, Planning & Codes Administrator presented this item as an accessory use which means the keepers have to occupy the residence and specific conditions have to be met. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this Amendment. Council Member Oswald made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ducworth to approve 1st Reading of a Proposed Text Amendment to the City Zoning Ordinance, Section 19-107 Definitions and Section 19-303 Table 19-303 Table Of Accessory Uses For Residential Districts And Article III Division 2 Table 19-305 Conditional Uses And Special Exception Standards 19-303.C. to Add Conditional Uses For Hobby Beekeeping And Backyard Chickens. And to Amend 19-303.C.14 Keeping of Livestock. Council Member Chapman commended the community members for their efforts and support of the Ordinance. He then asked what could be done to if there were problems and the use needed to be reversed. Mr. Rick Cotton, City Administrator responded that the Ordinance could be repealed if necessary. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider final approval for installation of the New Park Signs to be placed in the right of ways – Ms. Jamie Cathey, Parks & Recreation Program Director presented the park locations and the sign rendering for the City's 9 parks. Council discussed the color selection and the details of the signs. Mayor Cook noted that the tiger paw had to be in the correct position on the front and back of the two way signs. Council Member

Ducworth made a motion, seconded by Council member Fowler to approve installation of the new park signs to be placed in the right of ways. Vote on this motion was unanimous. *(See attached.)*

Consider a request from the Art’s Center to display a banner in the flag plaza promoting the 20 x 20 Invitational Clay Exhibit – Mr. Andy Blondeau, Assistant City Administrator presented this request for the banner display on September 14th to 28th. Council Member Ducworth made a motion, seconded by Council Member Oswald to approve a request from the Art’s Center to display a banner in the flag plaza promoting the 20 x 20 Invitational Clay Exhibit on September 14th to 28th. Vote on this motion was unanimous.

Consider a Bid from New Media Communications for an electronic message board sign to be placed at intersection of Tiger Blvd and Anderson Hwy – Mr. Andy Blondeau, Assistant City Administrator presented this item with a sample of the message board. He stated that the budget was for \$50,000.00 and this bid is a turn-key product at \$52,354.48. He requested Council allocate an additional \$5000.00 from hospitality tax to cover the difference in the bid and install electricity. Council Member Fowler made a motion, seconded by Council Member Ducworth to approve bid award to New Media Communications for an electronic message board sign to be placed at intersection of Tiger Blvd/Anderson Hwy and an additional \$5,000.00 above the budgeted amount to cover the cost difference in sign and install electricity. Vote on this motion was unanimous. *(See attached.)*

Consider formal acceptance of Tiliwa Court as a public dedicated street of the City of Clemson, South Carolina – Mr. Rick Cotton, City Administrator presented this item for the side street that is on the North side of Lowes that was an oversight at the time of the Lowes construction. Council Member Fowler made a motion, seconded by Council member Ducworth to approve formal acceptance of Tiliwa Court as a public dedicated street of the City of Clemson, South Carolina. Vote on this motion was unanimous. *(See attached.)*

There being no further business, a motion was made, duly seconded, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved

By: _____

Beverly A. Coleman, CMC

J.C. Cook III, Mayor