

**City of New Ellenton**  
**Regular Meeting of City Council**  
**New Ellenton City Hall**  
**Monday, Aug. 19, 2019** **7:00 PM**

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**WELCOME:** Mayor Vernon Dunbar

**INVOCATION:** David Dunbar

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All Stood

**ROLL CALL FOR THE RECORD**

**Council present** – Vernon Dunbar, David Dunbar, Sr., Ron Reynolds, Eartha Rogers, Terence Williams(after roll call), Sammie McDuffie, III (after roll call)

**Others present** –Zorayda El, Roger Leduc, Maria Tamimi-Bush, Fire Chief Mike Kellems, Chief Alesia Parks, Sergeant James Mitchell, Autumn Jones, Elvira Holley, Geneva Jackson, Pastor Elijah McDaniel (after roll call)

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

\***Geneva Jackson**-August 8<sup>th</sup>-there was an Augusta Regional Transportation Community meeting where and there are currently four projects that are underway. Silver Bluff Rd. project is being renegotiating because of cable issues by Oct. 9, 2019. Belvedere/Clearwater Rd. project being reviewed through the Environmental Coordinating by Dec. 19, 2019. Hitchcock Pkwy. Project is set to begin resurfacing by April 2020. Eagle Rd./Highway 19 project had 60-100 people in attendance at last meeting. The committee is reviewing/evaluating comments concerning the right-of-way project. Construction should begin by 2021.

\***Elvira Holley**- The vision for New Ellenton should be to bring revenue to the city. Christopher Caldwell, works at SRS and would like to assist in the vision for the city, would like to meet with the Mayor to discuss possibility of partnership. Contact has been made with real estate company concerning KFC building that is vacant. Feels as though someone should be available at Commission of Public Works for emergency contact- Chief Kellems assured her there is someone available, but they may not have been available at that moment when she reached out.

\***Autumn Jones**-A resident of the city that had issues with water being rust and purple in color during three water main breaks and would like to be involved with the solution to have better water available for the citizens of the city. Mike Kellems, Fire Chief and Water Commissioner, asked that she attend the next public meeting for The Commission of Public Works.

\***Pastor Elijah McDaniel**- Director at Christ Central in New Ellenton- Happy to announce that over 200 children came and received back packs at the back to school event.

**APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

July 15, 2019- Regular Meeting

*Motion to approve:* Ron Reynolds

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Eartha Rogers

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Selection of Election Commission Members(2) and BZA (2)

\***Geneva Jackson & Elvira Holley-Johnson-joined Planning Commission**

*Motion to approve:* Sammie McDuffie, III

*2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion:* Terence Williams

*There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resolution to Authorize the Capital Project Sales Tax 4 Municipal Agreement Provided by Aiken County on Behalf of the City.

Motion to approve: Sammie McDuffie, III

2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion: Ron Reynolds

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

2. Discuss the Maintenance of Field behind NE Middle-**Tabled**

\*Councilman Sammie McDuffie to send Cold Creek email by Wednesday to City Clerk as base price for at least 2 more quotes. City Clerk will need to be advised to whom and where requests for quotes should be sent.

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL**

Ms. Susan Toole from NE Library is retiring on August 29<sup>th</sup> after 10 Years of Service

\***Mayor Vernon**-Crowning Lupus back to school event, co-sponsored by the City, Zion Fair and Four Mile Baptist Churches, was well attended. Attendance at the annual MASC meeting in Greenville was a reminder of how much pride everyone should have in their towns and how much everyone was looking to better their communities. Greenville was beautiful and there has been much revitalization and interest in art, galleries, restaurants, waterfall, and numerous attractions throughout city. Collectively, we can make as much of a difference in our city.

\$200,000 SCDOT grant for sidewalks was approved with \$25,000 being approved from transportation committee and the city will have to provide \$25,000. Bids should begin this Fall for project.

\* **Mike**-Banquet for Fire Department will be held on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and a head count will be taken for council/employees that would like to attend. Hopefully, site clearance will be started by the first part of September for the new station. Asked Roger if he could get the job description/handbook creators for the city; Roger may be able to assist at a fraction of the cost. Challenge coin given as a token of appreciation to council from Fire Dept.

\* **Sammie**- Feels there should be a change to Council Attendance Ordinance to include long term illness approval because a fellow council member, Crystal Bing-Smith, has been out due to illness. Felt that last meeting minutes that stated arrival after roll call was incorrect.

\***Eartha**-All costs have increased considerably and will there is a need for more money to support the Atomic City Festival. Thank you to the Fire Department! Last year was the first time the committee was able to give pens and the like to attendees of festival and it was a great success. Fire department has set aside donations to the festival for years and will do the same this year. \$800 was given by Aiken County to the festival this year.

\***Terence**- Council needs to have working numbers in which each member may be reached. Councilman Sammie gave his number 803-292-0554 as his best contact number. Equipment storage for sports is at the old civic center.

\***Roger**- Comprehensive plan should have a vision for where Council/Committee/Community sees the city going. It may be a fight to do it, but it can be done. Now is the time to have the vision. Everyone will need to participate in the vision in order to get it accomplished. What can we do to allow different units in the city? How do we make this town grow? Will we provide incentives for developers/new business owners? Council will need to work with planning commission to execute vision, especially, since they are in development of the plan now.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to approve: Ron Reynolds


2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion: Terence Williams

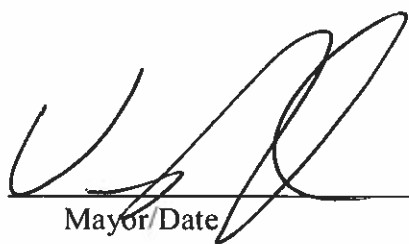
There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**INFORMATION:**

**Supporting materials attached:**

 09/16/19  
City Clerk Signature/Date

 9/16/19  
Mayor/Date