

SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

The regular Council meeting was held at the M.S. Bailey Center at 6:00 PM with Mayor Bob McLean presiding with Councilmembers Cook, Jenkins, Kuykendall, Neal, Roth, and Young. The City Manager and the City Attorney were present. Local news media present were Larry Franklin from the Clinton Chronicle, Judith Brown from the Laurens Advertiser, and Randy Stevens from WLBG. Notice was emailed to all local news media on September 4, 2018.

- INVOCATION** The invocation was given by Reverend Jeri Perkins from the First Presbyterian Church.
- PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE** Mayor McLean asked Council and the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- MINUTES** Mayor McLean asked Council to approve the minutes from August 6, 9, and 22. Councilmember Roth stated that the agenda has the wrong date for the regular Council meeting in August. Councilmember Roth stated that the date should be the 6th and not the 4th. Motion was made by Councilmember Young to approve the August 6, 2018 Council minutes, August 9, 2018 Special Called Council minutes, and August 22, 2018 Special Called Council minutes and seconded by Councilmember Roth. The vote was unanimous.
- CITIZENS ADDRESS
COUNCIL
JESSICA MITCHEM
LITTLE RED DEVILS** Mayor McLean recognized Ms. Jessica Mitchem. Ms. Mitchem stated that she was before Council regarding the Little Clinton Red Devil cheerleaders and football players. Ms. Mitchem stated that her daughter was a cheerleader. Ms. Mitchem stated that this league gives the children an outlet to participate in an outside activity. Ms. Mitchem asked Council to support the players and the cheerleaders.
- ERICA WATTS
PUBLIC SAFETY** Mayor McLean recognized Ms. Erica Watts. Ms. Watts stated that she is before Council concerning the fire on Apple Orchard Road. Ms. Watts stated that it was her family's home that burned because of the poor response time from the Clinton Fire Department. Ms. Watts thanked Council for dividing up Public Safety into a Police Department and a Fire Department. Ms. Watts stated that her family has experience a great loss and it is hard to put their lives back together. Ms. Watts stated that safety should be the number one priority of the City.
- RICKY JOHNSON
LETTER** Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Ricky Johnson. Mr. Johnson stated that he lives at 408 Frances Street and he is before Council concerning a letter he was asked to sign.

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Mr. Johnson stated that his brother in law asked him to sign a letter stating that the area Ricky lives in is a high crime area and the Police would not answer calls in his area. Mr. Johnson stated that this is not true. Mr. Johnson stated that the letter is not true and he does not appreciate the letter coming to his house. Mr. Johnson stated that his brother in law called him and stated that the Mayor wanted Mr. Johnson's telephone number so he could thank Mr. Johnson for putting the letter in the paper. Mr. Johnson stated that he did not sign the letter or put the letter in the paper. Mr. Johnson stated that he is available to any Councilmember that wished to talk with him. Mayor McLean asked Mr. Johnson if he knew who wanted him to sign the letter. Mr. Johnson stated that the letter came from Mr. Harry Agnew. Mayor Mclean stated that he has not seen the letter and Council did not have anything to do with the letter.

**RICKY MARTIN
PUBLIC SAFETY**

Mayor Mclean recognized Mr. Ricky Martin. Mr. Martin stated that he is before Council concerning transparency with the Public Safety Department. Mr. Martin stated that he did not know until tonight that the City had split the Public Safety Department. Mr. Martin stated that it may have been the right decision to split the department but Council was not transparent to citizens about their plans. Mr. Martin stated that Council should have informed citizens about the plan to split the Public Safety Department. Mr. Martin stated that Council and citizens should work together.

**PROCLAMATIONS
BICYCLING AWARENESS
CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY
NATIONAL PREPARED
PROSTATE CANCER
ADDICTION RECOVERY
P.O.W./M.I.A.
HISPANIC HERITAGE**

Mayor Mclean stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of Proclamations for September. Mayor McLean stated that the Proclamations are September as Bicycling and Pedestrian Awareness Month, September as Campus Fire Safety Month, September as National Preparedness Month, September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, September as Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, September 15, 2018 as P.O.W./M.I.A Recognition Day, and September 15, 2018 to October 15, 2018 as Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month. Motion was made by Councilmember Kuykendall to approve the Proclamations and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**CITY MANAGER'S
REPORT
RESOLUTION
TAX-EXEMPT
OBLIGATIONS**

Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Cannon, City Manager. Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is for Council to consider a Resolution to express the intentions of the City Council of the City of Clinton to cause the City of Clinton to be reimbursed with the proceeds of tax exempted obligations.

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Motion was made by Councilmember Kuykendall to approve the Resolution to express the intentions of the City Council of the City of Clinton to cause the City of Clinton to be reimbursed with the proceeds of tax-exempt obligations for the designing, constructing, equipping or installing various improvements to the Public Safety Complex and to include roofing, HVAC and other capital facility improvements and upgrades to such facility and the designing, constructing, equipping or installing various improvements to the City's Municipal Complex and to include HVAC and safety security improvements and other capital facility improvements and upgrades to such facility, the purchase of a utility vehicle for the collection of refuse, debris, or other waste and the projects would be financed with the proceeds from bonds or capital lease of the City with the maximum amount of \$800,000 and seconded by Councilmember Young. The vote was unanimous. Councilmember Roth stated that the City wanted to issue an \$800,000 bond for capital improvements and upgrades and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Councilmember Roth stated that through the City's bond structure the City could issue the \$800,000 bond and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Mr. Cannon stated that if the City decides to issue the bond the Resolution must be in place in order for the City to be reimbursed for these improvements. Councilmember Roth asked when the City starts the improvement projects would these items come before Council and Mr. Cannon stated yes.

FOIA POLICY

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Policy. Mr. Cannon stated that currently anyone could request information just by an email. Mr. Cannon stated that the City Clerk should be responsible for all of the FOIA requests. Mr. Cannon stated that Council has the Policy and the application form the City would use moving forward. Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to approve the FOIA Policy and seconded by Councilmember Roth. The vote was unanimous. Councilmember Jenkins stated that the MASC hosts a class for elected officials concerning FOIA. Councilmember Jenkins urged Council to participate in this class. Mayor McLean asked if the City's FOIA Policy is modeled from the School Districts and Laurens County and Mr. Cannon stated yes.

**RESOLUTION
FOIA**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Resolution establishing a Policy of the City of Clinton regarding the handling of requests for public records under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. Motion was made by Councilmember Young to approve the Resolution and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION
MASC
DEBT COLLECTION**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Municipal Association for the collection of debt owed the City of Clinton. Mr. Cannon stated that the SetOff Debt Collection Act requires the City to approve a Resolution allowing the Municipal Association to collect debt owed to the City. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the Resolution and seconded by Councilmember Young.

**FIRST READING
ORDINANCE
DEBT SET OFF
PROGRAM**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a first reading of an Ordinance relating to the recovery of collection costs as a part of delinquent debts collected pursuant to the SetOff Debt Collection Act. Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to approve the first reading of an Ordinance relating to the recovery of collection costs to the SetOff Debt Collection Act and seconded by Councilmember Young. The vote was unanimous.

**PURCHASE
BUCKET TRUCK**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the purchase of a Bucket Truck to replace a 10 year old truck from Altec Industries for \$212,683. Mr. Cannon stated that he recommends the City does not purchase the Bucket Truck at this time. Mr. Cannon stated that the salaries of the City's Electric Division are not up to the standard and the City needs to address this issue before purchasing a Bucket Truck. Mr. Cannon stated that the City could repair the existing vehicle to extend the life of the truck. Councilmember Jenkins asked for more information concerning the Bucket Truck and the salaries. Mr. Cannon stated that the Electric Department personnel are making \$6.00 to \$7.00 less than their counterparts at other agencies. Mayor Mclean stated that the only Class A Lineman the City employs are supervisors. Mayor Mclean stated that it takes five years for personnel to achieve the Class A Lineman rank. Councilmember Neal stated that the money saved from this purchase would go toward increasing the Electric Department's salaries and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Mayor Mclean asked how many linemen does the City employ and Mr. Cannon stated eight. Mayor Mclean stated that for lack of a motion to purchase the Bucket Truck the request has died.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that she would like to receive information before the Council meeting in order to look it over.

**DEMOLITION
PROJECTS**

Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is a presentation regarding the demolition projects in Clinton. Mayor Mclean recognized Mr. Barnes, Building Official. Mr. Barnes presented Council with slides showing the various demolitions in Clinton. Mr. Barnes thanked Council for budgeting funds to demolish these homes. Mr. Barnes stated that nine new homes are being constructed in Clinton and the Inspection Department has demolished 18 houses. Councilmember Jenkins thanked the Inspection Department because several of the houses torn down have been on the demolition list for several years. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the City had a demolition list for the next fiscal year and Mr. Barnes stated yes. Councilmember Jenkins stated that there are two apartments on South Bell Street that need consideration. Councilmember Neal thanked the Inspection Department for the demolition in her area. Councilmember Kuykendall asked what the City has in place to prevent overgrowth once the houses are demolished and Mr. Barnes stated the City did not have anything. Mr. Barnes stated that overgrowth on these properties is an ongoing issue. Mr. Barnes stated that the City places a lien on the property and if it is ever sold then the City would recoup their money. Councilmember Neal asked if the City could sell the property. Mr. Barnes stated that South Carolina law prevents the City from selling the property but the City could place a lien against the property.

**CEDC
TIMBER**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is a request from the Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) to thin or cut timber on Clinton Park Corporate III. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC would like to clear cut several areas in Clinton Park Corporate Center III to give better visibility to the Park from US 76. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC would like to thin two areas across the Ring Road from the main park area. Mr. Cannon stated that the City purchased this property several years ago and deeded it the CEDC. Mr. Cannon stated that as the property sells the CEDC would repay the City the original cost of the land. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC would use the sale of the timber for its operating budget. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC would like to begin this project in October 2018. Motion was made by Councilmember Young to approve the CEDC request and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

- EXECUTIVE SESSION** Mayor McLean stated that the executive session has personnel matters listed but since this does not qualify for executive session because it does not specify a department then Council would not discuss personnel matters. Motion was made by Councilmember Neal to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters relating to the sale or purchase of real property and return to open session on the call of the chair and seconded by Councilmember Young. The vote was unanimous.
- OPEN SESSION** Mayor McLean declared Council back in open session. Mayor McLean stated that contractual matters were discussed and no action was taken.
- MAYOR'S REPORT** Mayor Mclean stated that on August 31, 2018 the Mayor, Councilmember Jenkins, and Adele Alducin, Main Street Director went to the State House to receive the Historic Preservation Award for 101 E Main Street. Mayor Mclean stated that Friday, September 21, 2018 the City would host a Health Fair from 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM. Mayor McLean stated that Music on Main would be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018 featuring the Silver Nickel Bank and also on Thursday, September 27, 2018 featuring Flashback. Mayor Mclean stated that the next Council meeting would be Monday, October 1, 2018 at 6:00 PM.
- ADJOURN** With there being no further business before Council Mayor Mclean adjourned the meeting.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR