

MINUTES
YORK CITY COUNCIL
January 5, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Eddie Lee
Mayor Pro Tem Charles Johnson
Councilmember John Shiflet
Councilmember Ed Brown

Councilmember Bill Miller
Councilmember Mike Fuesser
Councilmember Denise Lowry

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Attorney Brice
Police Chief Robinson
Public Works Director Montgomery
Fire Chief Manera
ED Director Jones
Jane Gilfillan
Jan Ramsey

Interim Manager Helms
Police Captain Trail
Planning Director Breakfield
Finance Director Mosely
Senator Creighton Coleman
Debbie Burton
Munir Abdulmumin

1. Welcome and Call to Order: Mayor Lee
2. Prayer: Mayor Pro Tem Johnson
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Pro Tem Johnson
4. Oath of Office. State Senator Creighton Coleman administered the Oath of Office to re-elected members Lee, Brown, Fuesser, and Miller.

In response to Mayor Lee's request for an update on legislative activities, Senator Coleman said that when the legislature reconvenes on January 12, roads will be the primary concern. It is estimated that \$70⁺ billion will be required through 2040 to fix the roads. Funding is expected to come through an increase in the gas tax and automobile tax. The C-fund money for York County is doubled, but no increase is anticipated in Local Government Fund allocation to municipalities. Farmers have lost \$375 million, and this will have to be paid for by the state, as Governor Haley will not draw down federal funds.
5. Mayor Pro Tem Selection. By secret ballot, Mayor Pro Tem Johnson was re-elected.
6. Minutes: Regular Meeting, December 1, 2015. Councilmember Miller's **MOTION** to adopt the Minutes as submitted carried.
7. Comments and Requests from the Public
 - ◆ Jane Gilfillan was present to urge council to take steps to make downtown more attractive, including lighting the trees year-round. She said councilmembers

should visit Belmont, Rock Hill, and other municipalities that have spruced up their downtowns with lighting, bristos [sic], etc. The matter was referred to the Planning/Economic Development Committee.

- ◆ Jan Ramsey echoed Mrs. Gilfillan's request, adding that playing music should be reactivated. The request was referred to the Planning/Economic Development Committee. Mrs. Ramsey asked for an update on derelict structures, specifically the property at 213 East Madison. Interim Manager Helms said that he personally took the papers to include the property in the Neighborhood Initiative Program to owner Ned Polk, and the signed paperwork is now at Catawba. There are currently five houses out for asbestos abatement.

- ◆ Debbie Burton was present again to revisit issues at the Rose Apartments, specifically mold. Planning Director Breakfield said that two issues were addressed in the recent inspection: mold and the roof. The inspector found no mold-causing element, but the roof needs drastic attention. He has received no report to date and is waiting for something in writing.

8. City Manager's Report

- ◆ Finance. Council received copies of the financial, capacity fee, and hospitality tax reports. Interim Manager Helms reported receipt of one capacity fee in December and hospitality tax revenue \$1000⁺ over projection. Austen Lakes has pulled permits.

- ◆ Utility/Road Projects

- ◆ C-fund resurfacing project. Council received updates on C-fund projects, including the 2014-2015 list, which will be addressed in 2016. Spruce Street has been paved, and Blackburn is in process.

- ◆ Neighborhood Initiative Program. Report given earlier in the meeting.

- ◆ Additional Items - Upcoming Events

- ◆ Thursday, January 7 Regional Elected Officials Forum
 - ◆ Friday, January 15 MLK Celebration Breakfast
 - ◆ Saturday, January 16 MLK Parade
 - ◆ Wednesday, February 3 Hometown Legislative Action Day

9. Department Reports. Monthly Reports provided

- ◆ Fire. Chief Manera reported that the county training center will open soon.

- ◆ Recreation. Mayor Lee stated that the City needs to prepare for county funding to be cut.

- ◆ Police. Chief Robinson reported that his department partnered with TenderHearts to provide Christmas dinners for 402 families. Through private donations, the department provided food and toys for an additional 19 families (40 children). Mayor Lee commented that the work the department is doing denotes community policing in its finest sense.

- ◆ Economic Development. Mayor Lee stated that the City needs to know the plans for the York Electric Cooperative property.

10. Council Committee Reports

- ◆ Government Relations. Chairman Johnson reported attendance at Business After Hours at the Chamber office and reminded councilmembers to let Interim Manager Helms know if they plan to attend Legislative Action Day.

- ◆ Public Works. No meeting in December

- ◆ Neighborhood Relations

- ◆ Chairman Brown's **MOTION** to reappoint Steve Kelly to the Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals carried. His **MOTION** to appoint James Caldwell to replace Johnny Doan also carried.

- ◆ Chairman Brown's **MOTION** to reappoint Wendy Duda and Arthur Lowry to the Planning Commission carried.

- ◆ Finance. No meeting in December

- ◆ Public Safety. No meeting in December. Chairman Miller requested a list of police and fire personnel. He noted that by the time the Christmas Parade ends, it is dark, and parents have expressed concerns about their children. A request will be made of Chamber Executive Director Paul Boger to explore solutions.

- ◆ Events. No meeting in December

- ◆ Recreation. No meeting in December

- ◆ Planning & Economic Development. Council received Minutes from the December 15 meeting. A request was received to rezone property on Highway 49 and will be addressed by ordinance later in the meeting.

11. Mayor's Report. Mayor Lee reported that he has been notified that the sign is up for the Imaging Center, and it will open soon.

12. Old Business. None

13. New Business: First Reading, Ordinance 16-567, *Rezoning Property from R-15 to MU*. Planning Director Breakfield explained that the Church of God has requested that a 5.22± tract located at 1210 North Congress Street be rezoned. Recommendation of the Planning Commission is to rezone the property from R-15 Restricted Residential to MU-Mixed Use. Councilmember Shiflet's **MOTION** to give first reading to the ordinance carried.

14. Any Item Any Member of Council Wishes to Present

- ◆ Councilmember Brown called attention to potholes.

◆ Councilmember Miller noted that the NO THRU TRUCKS sign needs to be put back up on Bratton Avenue. He thanked the police department for its community Christmas project.

◆ Councilmember Fuesser expressed appreciation for City employees' work.

Interim Manager Helms informed council about damage to the Lake Caldwell spillway, resulting from the recent heavy rains. Engineers are coming to assess the situation, and grant funding for repair is being sought.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nelle J. Pittman".

Nelle J. Pittman
Municipal Clerk