



City Council Meeting Agenda

LAURENS CITY HALL
126 EAST PUBLIC SQUARE, LAURENS SC 29360
Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

I. Ordering the Business of Council

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation*
3. Pledge of Allegiance*

Mayor Nathan Senn
Councilor Johnnie Bolt

II. Public Participation & Hearing

1. Laurens County Sheriff Department Hype Team
Promoting Mayor Senn's Keep Laurens Clean Campaign

Calvin Whitmire

2. Public Comment.

Those requesting to address City Council during the public comment period must sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order, and all are requested to limit their remarks to no more than three (3) minutes, subject to the discretion of the Chair.

III. Proclamations & Commendations

Patrol Sergeant Casey Jones recognition as SC Law
Enforcement Officer of the Year

Chief Chrissie Latimore

IV. Reports & Communications

1. Streets & Sanitation
2. Building & Zoning
3. City Councilor Reports
4. Mayor's Report

Kerwin Tribble
Jeremy Hudson

Mayor Nathan Senn

COUNCIL BUSINESS

V. Consent Agenda

All items under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by a single motion and subsequent omnibus vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a City Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as the first item after approval of the Consent Agenda.

1. Approval of the Council Agenda for May 18, 2021
2. Approval of Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of April 20, 2021

VI. Old Business

None

*Please stand if you are able.

VII. New Business

1. City Administrator Gary Coleman presenting first reading Ordinance 5-21-01 Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022.
2. City Attorney Tom Thompson presenting first reading Ordinance 5-21-02 To Establish Regulations of the Control of Litter Within the City of Laurens, South Carolina; and all Other Matters Pertaining Thereto.

VIII. Public Announcements

IX. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

Mayor *Pro Tempore*

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Viewing of City Council Meetings: All meetings of the Laurens City Council are available to be viewed by the public and are streamed live on the City's YouTube channel, which may be accessed at the following address: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8KxQTFrEnXmGpLTvvaorpQ>

A link to this channel will be posted on the City of Laurens' web site and Facebook page prior to each meeting.

Addressing City Council: Those wishing to be included on the Council's Agenda during the Public Participation & Hearing portion of regular city council meetings must submit a written request to the City Administrator no less than one (1) week prior to each meeting, which are usually held on the third Tuesday of each month. Forms for requesting to address City Council are available at City Hall and will gladly be provided upon request. Those who are included on the Council's agenda are requested to limit their remarks/presentation to no more than five (5) minutes, subject to the discretion of the Chair.

Statement Regarding Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): The City of Laurens wishes to ensure that its programs, services, and activities are accessible to individuals with disabilities. All City Council meetings are wheelchair accessible. Persons who require an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the City of Laurens should contact the City Administrator at (864) 984-3933.

We would appreciate advance notice of at least 48 hours for any requests to receive an agenda in an alternate format or other types of auxiliary aids and services.

Note: All minutes are drafts until approved at the subsequent meeting of City Council. The City of Laurens will post the approved minutes on their web site within 30 days of approval.

Recommendation from Planning Commission
Laurens Station - Subdivision

On Tuesday, May 11, 2021 the Planning Commission of the City of Laurens voted unanimously to approve the proposed plan of Laurens Station, a new home subdivision located in the vicinity of East Main Street and East Farley avenue within the City of Laurens.

East Main Street Investments LLC has partnered with Ryan Homes to build 153 new single family homes by completion. The property area is currently zoned R3. The City of Laurens Code of Ordinances for Zoning states: "The purpose of the R3 district is to accommodate higher density residential development and a variety of housing types on small lots or in project settings." This proposed development meets all specifications as required.

As a Planning Commission, we recommend to Council to approve the proposed plan for Laurens Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Lowry
Planning Commission Chair

ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATE - EXPENDITURE
Original - 2021-2022

Account	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	6/30/2021	2020 - 2021		2021 - 2022		
	Actual (\$)	Budget (\$)	Actual (\$)	Estimate	%Remaining	Requested	Recommended	Approved
Department: 0142								
10-05-0142-5609 Bridging The Gap	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00			1,000.00		
10-05-0142-5612 Airmed Care	4,455.00	4,600.00	5,460.00		-19	5,500.00		
10-05-0142-5620 Ten At The Top						1,000.00		
10-05-0142-5621 Upstate Alliance						2,500.00		
10-05-0142-5701 Bell Center For Blind		1,500.00	1,500.00			1,500.00		
10-05-0142-5702 City Development/New Property	47,825.00	60,000.00	10,845.00		82	50,000.00		
10-05-0142-5703 Laurens Chamber Of Commerce	11,699.00	10,000.00	1,667.00		83	15,000.00		
10-05-0142-5704 Laurens County Development Corp	10,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00		-20	10,000.00		
10-05-0142-5705 Straight Street	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00			3,000.00		
10-05-0142-5706 Ymca Contract	20,000.00	20,000.00	15,000.00		25	5,000.00		
10-05-0142-5708 Miscellaneous Donations	3,100.00	3,000.00	4,885.00		-63	3,500.00		

ANNUAL BUDGET ESTIMATE - EXPENDITURE
Original - 2021-2022

Account	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	6/30/2021	2020 - 2021		2021 - 2022		
	Actual (\$)	Budget (\$)	Actual (\$)	Estimate	%Remaining	Requested	Recommended	Approved
10-05-0142-5710 Laurens Literacy Council	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00			1,000.00		
10-05-0142-5713 Ptc - Future Ldrs Scholarships	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00			15,000.00		
10-05-0142-5715 Disburse Main Street	68,160.00	65,000.00			100	68,000.00		
10-05-0142-5717 Palmetto Pride						10,000.00		
Total	\$185,239.00	\$194,100.00	\$71,357.00			\$192,000.00		
Report Total Expenditure	\$6,484,744.00	\$7,463,100.00	\$6,084,041.00			\$7,002,100.00		

Raises for Police Department

\$2.00 for Patrolmen

Master Patrol

SRO

\$1.00 for Sergeants

Lieutenants

Detectives

\$0.50 for Chief

Captains

Training Officer

Administration Staff

\$1.00 Raise for Fire Department and Streets & Sanitation

~~\$.050~~ Raise for everyone else

\$0.50

**CITY OF LAURENS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
126 EAST PUBLIC SQUARE
MAY 18, 2021
5:30PM**

PRESENT

Mayor Nathan Senn, Councilor Johnnie Bolt, Councilor Cassandra Campbell, Councilor Sara Latimore, Councilor Martin Lowry, Councilor Marian Miller, Councilor Alicia Sullivan, City Attorney Tom Thompson, IT Director Colby Rice, City Administrator Gary Coleman, and City Clerk Leslie Mattison

PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

Judith Brown – The Advertiser, Iva Cadmus – WLBG, and Kelsey Woods - GoLaurens

THE MEDIA WAS NOTIFIED BY AN EMAILED AGENDA.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Mayor Senn called the meeting to order with Councilor Bolt giving the invocation and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & HEARING

1. **Calvin Whitmire Promoting the Laurens District 55 and 56 Hype Team and Supporting Mayor Senn’s Keep Laurens Clean Campaign** – Mr. Whitmire stated that he wants to recognize young people ages 11-17 as part of the hype team for both school districts. These young people are working to keep Laurens clean by adopting four major roads inside the city limits of Laurens. They have planted a garden and the vegetables will go to the senior citizens in the community. He called the young people “Champions for Change.”

2. **Public Comment – None**

PROCLAMATIONS & COMMENDATIONS

1. **Police Chief Chrissie Latimore Recognizing Patrol Sergeant Casey Jones as SC Law Enforcement Officer of the Year** – Chief Latimore stated that every year the State Department of Public Safety hosts a DUI Enforcement Recognition Ceremony to honor officers who excel in the areas of DUI arrests, victim services, and those who work in discouraging underage drinking. She nominated Sgt. Casey Jones for this award because he has gone above and beyond to keep our roads safe. He has helped save lives by getting impaired drivers off of the roads.

REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

1. Kerwin Tribble, Director of the Streets & Sanitation Department, was present to update council on his department. He began by asking council if they have any questions for him. Director Tribble received appreciation for the good job his department does and several questions about personal properties in the city.

2. Jeremy Hudson, Director of Building & Zoning, was present to update council on his department. He informed council that the Planning Commission is short one member and recommended Barrett Holmes for this position. Council took the recommendation as information and voting will take place at June's council meeting.
Building and Zoning Director Hudson passed out a map of a proposed subdivision and a letter of approval from the Planning Commission. If approved, the subdivision will be located near the corner of East Farley Avenue and East Main Street. He then introduced Chris Seevy, an engineer for East Main Street Investments, LLC to speak about the subdivision. Mr. Seevy began by telling council that his company has worked hard to put together a development that will be complimentary to what's happening in Laurens. They want to accentuate the natural beauty of Laurens with preserving wetlands and leaving a great river view in place. There are plans to connect the development to the Little River Park pending council's approval. East Main Street Investments has partnered with Ryan Homes and there are plans for 153 houses. They estimate selling 50 homes per year, so the project should take around three years. The price of the homes will range from \$170,000 to \$220,000. The economic value of this property will be between \$20 million to \$30 million. The people that occupy these well-built homes will love them. There will be a "tot lot" that will be a place for small children to play together so they can actually form a community within a community. Mr. Seevy also stated that the rising costs of building supplies will not affect this project. Ryan Homes owns the plant that produces all of the materials needed. These materials were bought months ago, so it was before the recent increase in the price of building supplies. They will assign an HOA to be responsible for the property because there are codes and standards that these homes have to be kept to. Council took this as information and will vote on this in June's council meeting.

3. City Councilor Reports - None

4. Mayor's Report – Mayor Senn began by welcoming the Hickory Tavern School Council. He had the opportunity to meet with them recently and is glad to have them and their sponsor, Robin Patterson, at the meeting.

The Friday Night Live program is a success. He announced at last council meeting that we would be encouraging our businesses and restaurants to stay open later on Friday nights. He stated that it is tough to find a parking spot downtown now on Friday nights. The newly opened Palmetto Brothers Dispensary, Main Street Laurens, and the City of Laurens have partnered to provide live music every Friday night during the summer, not just on Finally Fridays. Part of the reason for the Friday Night Live program is so people will build a habit of staying in town.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the May 18, 2021 Council Agenda

A motion was made by Councilor Lowry and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve this agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Approval of the April 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Councilor Lowry and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve these meeting minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. City Administrator Gary Coleman Presenting First Reading Ordinance 5-21-01 Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022** – City Administrator Coleman stated that the total operating budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2022 is \$7,652,100. The budget ordinance calls for a general fund budget of \$7,002,100 and a hospitality budget of \$650,000. This is an increase over last year's budget of \$178,800. The FY 2021-2022 budget includes a pay raise for city employees.

A motion was made by Councilor Miller and seconded by Councilor Latimore to approve Ordinance 5-20-01. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 2. City Attorney Tom Thompson Presenting First Reading Ordinance 5-21-02 To Establish Regulations of the Control of Litter within the City of Laurens, South Carolina; and all Other Matters Pertaining Thereto** – City Attorney Thompson began by explaining that this is the first time for any anti-littering ordinance to be presented to Laurens City councilors. This ordinance requires those who litter to be fined or sentenced to public service. He stated that this is a step in the right direction because a community is judged by how clean it is. Mayor Senn noted that County Council has just enacted a similar ordinance. He stated that this will show that we have a unified approach to keep our city a place we can be proud of.

A motion was made by Councilor Bolt and seconded by Councilor Miller to approve Ordinance 5-20-02. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Lowry and seconded by Councilor Sullivan to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVED:



NATHAN SENN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



LESLIE MATTISON, CITY CLERK AND TREASURER