

The Clermont Town Council met on July 7, 2015. The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Seth Weaver gave the invocation and Mayor Nix led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Mayor, James Nix, Council members, John Brady, Lynn Adams, Seth Weaver, Kristi Crumpton and Eric Thomas. Deputy Clerk, Amy Lomax and Town Clerk, Sandra Helton.

MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the June 2015 Minutes. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

JUNE 25TH SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the June 25th Special Called Meeting Minutes. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Seth Weaver made a motion to approve the May 2015 Financial Statement. John Brady seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

REPORT: ORDINANCE 97-01 PLANNING AND ZONING: The Council reviewed the report.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE: 82-2015-06: AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING PROPERTY BELONGING TO TIM AND SANDRA CANTRELL AT 6617 WINDVANE POINT. Mayor Nix said the Planning and Zoning Committee met and agreed to approve this request unanimously. Mayor Nix gave the first reading of Ordinance 82-2015-06.

Robin Brown approached the Mayor and Council and said she hoped everyone had a good 4th of July. She asked who was in charge of posting on the web page for the Historical Society and for Clermont Days and who gives the information to be published. Kristi Crumpton spoke up and said she was the one responsible for posting on all the websites as well as the Facebook Pages for the Town. She said the information that is posted is agreed upon by the Mayor and Council. Robin Brown asked if each Council member received a text she had sent to Kristi Crumpton regarding her opinions and thoughts about moving the "Pickin in the Park" to another location. She said the reason she was asking is because she never received a reply and thinks it's sad that she had to see the posted decision on the Facebook page. She said she felt her opinions and concerns are not important to the plans of the council and felt like each council member has their own projects. She said it seems as though the Council does not work together. She said she didn't want to make enemies or put anything between her and the Council. Kristi Crumpton said the decision had been made by the Mayor and Council to move "Pickin in the Park". Seth Weaver spoke up and said he was not in favor of "Pickin in the Park" being moved to the Gym Park and had expressed his reasons in a prior meeting. She said she thought it would have been nice if Kristi Crumpton would have responded to her about the decision and thought she deserved that kind of respect especially since she serves as a volunteer on a Committee in the Town. Kristi Crumpton agreed and apologized for not responding.

OPENING BIDS FOR PLAYGROUND RFP: Mayor Nix opened the bids received from the playground companies and passed them to the Council members to view. After some discussion

OPENING BIDS FOR PLAYGROUND RFP: Mayor Nix opened the bids received from the playground companies and passed them to the Council members to view. After some discussion and looking over the proposed bids, the Mayor and Council realized more time would be needed to review the specifics of each bid package and make their decision. Seth Weaver made a motion to table the decision on the playground bids and Lynn Adams seconded. All the council members voted to table the bids.

BRENT FUTO-DISCHARGE OF WEAPONS: Seth Weaver made a motion to take this item off the table. Kristi Crumpton seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor.

Seth Weaver said based on what he observed about the safety issues when he visited the property, as well as speaking with the neighbors about their concerns, he was going to make a motion to deny this request. Kristi Crumpton said when she and Council member Seth Weaver looked at the property and where it backs up to a neighboring horse barn, it was apparent this would not be a good idea due to the fact there are is a pond just pass the fence through a very short distance at woods. Kristi Crumpton seconded the motion, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

FIRST READING OF REVISIONS TO PARK ORDINANCE 99-03: The revisions to park ordinance 99-03 include changing the name from Clermont Gym Park to Chattahoochee Park. The ordinance also clarifies the hours all parks are to be open. The hours for the baseball field on Sundays only would change from being open from 1:00pm to 6:00pm to being open from 1:00pm to 10:00pm. The ordinance also includes rules for use of the playground.

COUNCIL MEMBER TIME:

ERIC THOMAS: Eric Thomas asked how long ago it had been since the Windmill Subdivision tried to annex into the Town limits. Mayor Nix said he wasn't exactly sure they actually had tried to annex into the Town. He said he thought there were a lot of people that did not want a subdivision in the area. John Brady said when the subdivision was built there was talk among the Council who was in office at the time about not wanting them in the City limits. Eric Thomas said he wondered if this was going to create issues by allowing the annexation of the Cantrell's who live in the Windmill Subdivision. A couple in the audience said they did not want city vehicles in the subdivision and concerns about how it being a single residence annexing. Eric Thomas said he could see how it would cause a conflict. John Brady said the best scenario would be for the entire subdivision annex into the City. It would benefit the homeowners and the City. Eric Thomas said they could talk to some of their neighbors and see what their thoughts were and come to the next meeting.

MAYOR NIX: Mayor Nix said the Town had received an email from the Department of Transportation called a Quick Response Project and was asking for a response from the Town of Clermont regarding the State Routes. Mayor Nix said he would like to request a traffic light at Clarks Bridge Road and also to address the problem with truck traffic. He said he would include these in the response unless the council objected.

Mayor Nix mentioned we had received an email from attorney David Syfan regarding implementing a credit card policy. Some of the points needing input in the policy are who is

administrator should be, and if the audit of the card statements be monthly or quarterly. The Mayor and Council agreed to move forward with allowing Attorney David Syfan to prepare a draft to be reviewed by Mayor and Council before adopting the policy.

Mayor Nix also mentioned we have been approached by Hall County asking if we would like to hold our November election in conjunction with the County. Hall County does not usually have their elections on the same year we do, but because they are holding a special election regarding E-SPLOST they have offered to put the items the municipalities on the ballot. Having our items on the ballot with the County, prevents voters from having to go to two places to vote. The Mayor and Council discussed what it actually cost for the Town to hold an election.. Town Clerk, Sandra Helton said they could think it over and we could make our decision in the next meeting. Council member Kristi Crumpton asked the clerk if she could get some additional information regarding this matter. The clerk agreed that she would provide more information to the Council.

JMA MEETING ANNOUCEMENTS: Mayor Nix announced the next JMA Meeting would be hosted by the City of Gillsville and hoped everyone could attend. The date for the meeting is August 27, 2015 at 6:15pm with refreshments being served at 5:30pm. The location is the Gillsville Community Building in Gillsville.

Eric Thomas asked if the decision to move "Pickin in the Park" was final. Kristi Crumpton said we had talked about it prior in the work session. Eric Thomas said he did not see anything in the minutes where it was discussed.

She said the musicians have asked us to purchase things for their performances like extra lighting, microphones, and they had requested more room. She said the stage at the Chattahoochee Park provides the lighting they need as well as more stage room. Also there is more parking as well as additional bathrooms with picnic tables. She said she loved the feel of having it in the Clay E. Gailey Park but thinks it would be better to utilize the stage the Town spent so much money on and have it held there instead.

ADJOURN: Seth Weaver made a motion to adjourn at 7:56pm. Eric Thomas seconded, and all Council members present voted in favor. Motion passed.

Sandra Helton
Sandra Helton, Town Clerk

Kristi Crumpton

Eric Thomas

John W. Brady

James E. Nix

ED Jones