

**MINUTES
BREVARD CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
March 21, 2022 – 5:30 PM**

The Brevard City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Copelof presiding.

Present – Mayor Maureen Copelof, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Daniel and Council Members Mac Morrow, Aaron Baker and Geraldine Dinkins.

Absent – Council Member Maurice Jones

Staff Present – City Attorney Mack McKeller, Interim City Manager Steve Harrell, City Clerk Jill Murray, Finance Director Dean Luebbe, Planning Director Paul Ray, Assistant Planning Director Aaron Bland, Police Chief Tom Jordan, Public Works Director David Lutz, Planner/Assistant Zoning Administrator Emily Brewer, Planner/Assistant Zoning Administrator Katherine Buzby, Human Resources Director Kelley Craig, ORC Water Plant Dennis Richardson, ORC Wastewater Treatment Plant Emory Owen.

Press – Jon Rich, Transylvania Times

A. Welcome and Call to Order – Mayor Copelof called the meeting to order and welcomed those present.

B. Invocation – Pastor Keith Thompson of Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church offered an invocation.

C. Pledge of Allegiance - Mayor Copelof led the pledge of allegiance.

D. Certification of Quorum - The City Clerk certified a quorum present.

E. Approval of Agenda – Mr. Daniel moved, seconded by Ms. Dinkins to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Minutes – Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel to accept the minutes from the March 7, 2022 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Public Participation – None

H. Certificates/Awards/Recognition - None

I. Special Presentation(s)

I-1. Community Relations Board Update. Chuck Owenby gave a brief update on what the Community Relations Board does and who serves on it. The Board consists of 11 people including himself who serves on behalf of the Sheriff's Department. The other members are from the Brevard Police Department, NAACP Transylvania Chapter, Transylvania County, City of Brevard, El Centro, Brevard/Transylvania Chamber, Transylvania County School Board, Transylvania County Schools (2 students) and the Town of Rosman. They serve as a liaison in the community and meet with all groups to get a sense of what we can help with and what information we can gain from them. We also focus on the mental health of our youth. If we don't keep the youth involved in sports and after school activities, they have idle hands. We try to make everyone feel safe and welcome in Brevard.

I-2. Birdbath Approval at Train Depot Garden-Transylvania Garden Club. Joan Koperski briefly spoke about the Garden Club and how it started in 1957 and has played an active role in Brevard public gardens. They would like to place a memorial stone birdbath in honor of Peggy Boggs in the garden at the Depot. She showed a hand

drawn rendition of the birdbath as it was presented to the Parks, Trails & Recreation Committee, and unanimously approved, at its meeting on March 16, 2022. Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Ms. Dinkins to move this item to consent.

I-3. 2022 AARP Community Challenge Grant. Mark Burrows explained that this is a \$12,000 no match grant from AARP for intergenerational work. Sarah Knapp is our AARP volunteer and she found this grant. We thought this would be great for the garden and multi-use trail next to it. The award would be made in June and we have to complete the work by November. The majority of items that we've identified could be part of the the multi-use trail, like the benches. Mr. Daniel asked if staff cost could make it cost more and Mr. Burrows said no and he thought it appropriate for the City to be reimbursed for that. Mr. Baker asked if the concrete pad is a requirement and Mr. Harrell said yes. Mr. Baker also asked if there is anything required if it doesn't go through and Mr. Burrows said no.

J. Public Hearing(s)

J-1. Proposed Amendments to City of Brevard Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Chapter 12-Sign Ordinance.

Mr. Bland explained that after extensive discussions in 2019 and 2020 by both the Planning Board and City Council, the City of Brevard adopted a new sign ordinance in December 2020 to comply with the Supreme Court Case Reed et al. v. Town of Gilbert. In September, 2021, staff brought the Planning Board some minor text amendments to the new sign ordinance. After that meeting, staff discovered the need for some additional changes while administering the new ordinance for the first time during an election and brought the revised amendments to the Board in January, 2022. The Planning Board unanimously recommended approval of these changes. The Planning Board also submitted a recommendation that it be City policy for City-erected signs to abide by the sign ordinance to the greatest extent possible.

Public Hearing Public Participation – None

Public Hearing Closed – There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Copelof closed the hearing at 6:09 p.m.

Council Vote – Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel to approve the Ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

J-2. Proposed Amendments to City of Brevard Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Chapter 4, Section 4.4 Subdivision off of Private Streets.

Mr. Bland explained that text amendment TXT-20-014 was adopted by City Council on January 25, 2021. The amendment allowed for private roads to satisfy the road frontage requirement, which had previously been required to be a public street in all instances, in two different situations with the General Residential – 4 (GR) zoning district. Since adoption, there have been a small number of subdivisions approved that made use of this new provision. In discussions trying to interpret and administer these inconsistencies, staff has relaxed the real possibility that these private street subdivisions could be used to circumvent the development patterns intended by the UDO and the City. This revision amendment is intended to curb this possibility and prevent entire, possibly substandard, neighborhoods from being developed as an unintended consequence of the TXT-20-014 amendments. The Planning Board discussed and unanimously approved this matter at their January meeting and staff recommends approval of the revised amendment as presented.

Public Hearing Public Participation – None

Public Hearing Closed – There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Copelof closed the hearing at 6:23 p.m.

Council Vote – Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel to approve the Ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

J-3. Proposed Amendment to the Official Zoning Map of the City of Brevard-Rosman Highway & Nicholson Creek Road-Revert to NMX.

Katherine Buzby explained that this is a staff initiated text amendment for a parcel of land that is currently vacant. The parcel is located along Rosman Highway, just south of its intersection with Nicholson Creek Road. This rezoning would remove the parcel from the PDD district approved on April 19, 2019 for Jim Yamin of Workforce Homestead Inc., that was granted for an affordable housing development and rezone it to Neighborhood Mixed Use (NMX). The Planning Board discussed this and unanimously recommended approval of this request at their February meeting and staff also recommends approval of the rezoning as requested.

Public Hearing Public Participation – None

Public Hearing Closed – There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Copelof closed the hearing at 6:27 p.m.

Council Vote – Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the Ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Consent and Information - Consent Agenda items are considered routine and are enacted by one motion. Mayor Copelof read aloud the items listed and asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K-1. Council Downtown Master Plan Committee Minutes-February 9, 2022.

K-2. Correspondence (No Action. Offered as information only.)

a. Transylvania County Building Permit Activity Report, February, 2022.

K-3. (I-1) Birdbath Approval at Train Depot Garden-Transylvania Garden Club.

L. Unfinished Business – None

M. New Business

M-1. Traffic Schedule Amendment-3 Way Stop Silversteen and McMinn.

Paul Ray explained that staff is proposing an amendment to the City's Traffic Schedule for the purpose of adding two stop signs on Silversteen Drive intersecting McMinn Avenue. There is currently a stop sign on McMinn, so this amendment would transition this intersection into a three-way stop. Staff's recommendation is to approve the Traffic Schedule update as presented.

Ms. Dinkins said that she would love to see a sign that says "Children at Play" or "Recreation Ahead", something like that.

Mr. Daniel moved, seconded by Ms. Dinkins to approve the traffic schedule as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

M-2. Certification of Delegates & Alternates to the Land of Sky Regional Council. Mayor Copelof explained that back in December, Council certified her as the primary member of the Land of Sky Regional Council but I didn't name an alternate. At this point, I appoint Council Member Mac Morrow as the alternate. Mr. Daniel moved, seconded by Ms. Dinkins to appoint Mr. Morrow as the alternate on the Land of Sky Regional Council. Motion carried unanimously.

M-4. 2022 AARP Community Challenge Grant. Mr. Morrow moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel to approve the application for the 2022 AARP Community Challenge Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

N. Remarks/Future Agenda Considerations.

Mr. Baker said about the Ecusta Trail, this thing is gonna get built. I don't know when it's gonna be completed, but it's gonna be built and it's gonna be amazing and a lot of people are gonna be excited about it and a lot of people will probably be taking credit for it but we're gonna work hard and I think this community is behind that thing in a pretty special way.

Ms. Dinkins thanked everyone that is working on the Short Term Rental Task Force as it is a great group of people. We have a really tricky subject but I would like to thank everyone by name. Nory LeBrun, Dee Dee Perkins, Ryan Jacques, Isaac Allen, Jeremy Owen, Tripp Presnell, Daniel Trusler, Madeline Offen, Hannah Bowers, Mack McKeller, Aaron Bland, Aaron Baker and myself. The first thing the community will see is an economic study talking about all the things short term rentals bring us in this community.

Mr. Morrow thanked the Transylvania Garden Club for what they have done and the impact it has on a park. No doubt this other piece of artwork will be an asset.

Mr. Harrell said it is often that we have items on the agenda that don't affect certain department heads but they have been coming to the meetings just in case you all have a question. Is it ok for them not to come to the meetings if they don't have anything on the agenda? Council consensus was that it's fine for department heads not to come to City Council meetings if they do not have anything on the agenda.

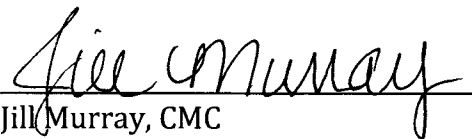
Attorney McKeller said that there are no closed sessions. I am working on an updated council procedures manual and I will be presenting it in probably the next few weeks. If anyone has any input, I would love to hear from you.

Mayor Copelof said she really appreciates the initiative and volunterrism in our community. The Transylvania Garden Club is one of those examples. They maintain the garden and that is a lot. The City does not maintain those gardens. That makes it very special. Also, with Blue Zones coming up with this grant and putting it together, that type of initiative, what we can do as a staff, it's really appreciated. We're working in a collaborative environment. I just want to thank everyone for doing that. I am still working with the County Commissioners in terms of the Ecusta Trail and I have another one of my Meet the Mayor sessions at Food Matters, upstairs, on Thursday, March 24th from 11:00am-1:00pm.

O. Closed Session(s) – None

P. Adjourn – There being no further business, Ms. Dinkins moved, seconded by Mr. Daniel, the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.


Maureen Copelof
Mayor


Jill Murray, CMC
City Clerk

Minutes Approved: April 4, 2022