

Graymoor-Devondale

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

March 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Graymoor-Devondale City Council was held at the Graymoor-Devondale City Office, 1500 Lynn Way.

CITY OFFICERS PRESENT: Mayor John Vaughan, Council Members Michael Allen, Alan Bryant, Angela Coan, David Meiners and Mark Sites. **ALSO PRESENT:** City Attorney John Singler and City Clerk Nancy Perito. **ABSENT:** Council Member Yvette Winnette and City Engineer Mark Madison.

GUESTS PRESENT: See List.

PUBLIC FORUM: Hunter and Liz Foy commented on the proposed ordinance addressing natural landscaping and property maintenance. Hunter expressed concern regarding language in Section 4:iv giving “sole” authority to the Code Enforcement Officer to make decisions. Liz expressed that the language around “natural landscaping” still needs some work as it is still open to interpretation. Also in Section 4:i, she felt that 10 feet from the property line is limiting and a bit excessive.

Rachel Cundiff inquired as to how much of a problem is this in the city. Attorney Singler explained that there had been complaints against the Foys and therefore; natural landscaping was being addressed as a result of a Code Enforcement Board meeting with them. Michael Allen stated that it was not a big problem, but the city felt it necessary to get ahead of the issue.

Mayor Vaughan stated there have been similar issues in the past and the current ordinance only addressed issues in a broad description. This is an attempt to develop a better definition of what is allowed. Mayor Vaughan also addressed that the Code Enforcement Officer works under the Council’s direction. The intent is to issue warnings to bring attention to the issue that needs to be addressed and come to an understanding about a resolution. The Code Enforcement Board is made up of residents, peers, neighbors who may have their own interpretation and make decisions based on the information provided. The Code Enforcement Officer also works in consultation with the Mayor and City Attorney.

Angie Sullivan agreed the language is pretty cut and dry. She also disagreed with the language “solely determined by the Code Enforcement Officer”. She inquired about wild flower gardens. Attorney John Singler stated that the ordinance was an attempt to address plant materials that are allowed or not allowed.

Tracye Church’s concern was for the maintenance of three rental properties near her home. She stated more attempts to address issues at these properties is needed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Michael Allen motioned to approve the minutes of the February, 2024 meeting. David Meiners seconded the motion and the February, 2024 minutes were approved by a vote of four (4) in favor and one (1) abstained.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Alan Bryant motioned to approve the February, 2024 treasurer's report. David Meiners seconded the motion and the February, 2024 treasurer's report was approved by unanimous vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Development updates: Bull Run: Kristen Hedden has provided a construction update for March 18, 2024 through April 12, 2024. They are planning to turn some units over to the Management Group for renting sometime in April. Waste Management will provide services to Bull Run as part of the City's contract. Mayor Vaughan will reach out to Kristen about the real timeline for waste services.

VA: The VA is starting construction of the second parking garage. This structure will be closer to some of the residential properties.

Herr Ln: They will be paving Herr Ln. on March 29th.

US 42 Interchange: There are no updates on this project.

b) Techny Ln. Light Installation: There are no updates on the date of installation. This is on LG&E's list.

c) Girard Dr. Sidewalk Project: Steve Kurowsky has met with Paula McCraney about the project. He would like to start construction by June 1, 2024. Some of the funds have been allocated. Larry Brunner of St. Albert the Great church is confident that the church will be able to contribute to the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

a) Introduction and 1st Reading of Ordinance #5, Series 2023-24, an ordinance repealing and replacing city ordinances relating to property maintenance standards and nuisances: Changes made to the proposed ordinance include: adding "or carport" at the end of #3, page 2; change #4,i. to "fifteen feet from the edge of pavement and five feet from adjacent property lines (exclude sidewalks) and take out the word "solely" in #4,iv and add "at the direction of the Mayor".

Michael Allen motioned for introduction and 1st reading and seconded by David Meiners. The motion was approved by a vote of four in favor and one opposed.

b) Approval of Audit Report for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year: Alan Bryant motioned to approve the audit report. Michael Allen seconded the motion and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

c) Introduction and 1st Reading of Ordinance #6, Series 2023-2024, an ordinance amending the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023: Angela Coan motioned for introduction and 1st reading and seconded by David Meiners. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

a) Public Safety: Mayor Vaughan reported that he reviewed the monthly incident report. There was a fatal incident in the City of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Mayor Vaughan was notified by the Police Chief.

There are still a number of traffic incidents; making left turns in no left turn lanes, speeding on Devondale Dr. and driving in the Westport Rd. turning lane.

b) Code Enforcement: George Stewart sent his February report for review. Mayor Vaughan requested that the revisions of Ordinance #5, 2023-2024 be sent to George for review.

c) Sanitation: Mark Sites reported that a bulk item on Herr Ln. has now been picked up. Waste Management needs to consistently empty the trash cans on Westport Rd. at the bus stops.

d) Public Works/Signage: Michael Allen is still working on the Greenlawn Rd. curbing and the radar signs. He and Mark Madison reviewed the city's roads and determined that Girard Dr. between Greenlawn Rd. and Buttonwood Rd. needs paving. All leaning signs were repaired by Larry Nalley.

e) Beautification: No report.

f) Insurance/Finance: Alan Bryant reported that the city is in good financial shape. The city should see increased revenue from Bull Run Townhomes.

g) Public Information: No report.

h) City Clerk: There is still one outstanding rental property renewal. There is one outstanding business license renewal. There are six outstanding property tax bills. Liens will be placed on those properties that have not paid by March 31, 2024.

i) Special Projects: No report.

j) Ice and Snow Removal: No report.

k) Legal: No report.

There being no further business to discuss, the motion for adjournment was made Michael Allen and seconded by David Meiners. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy Perito, City Clerk

Approved _____

John Vaughan, Mayor