

# North Augusta



*South Carolina's Riverfront*

## MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2020

*Robert A. Pettit, Mayor*

*J. Robert Brooks, Councilmember  
Pat C. Carpenter, Councilmember  
Fletcher L. Dickert, Councilmember  
David W. McGhee, Councilmember  
Eric H. Presnell, Councilmember  
Kevin W. Toole, Councilmember*

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **STUDY SESSION**

The study session for the City Council meeting of the City of North Augusta of March 16, 2020, having been duly publicized, was called to order by Mayor Pettit at 6:04p.m. in the Council Chambers on the third floor of the Municipal Center and recessed at 7:00 p.m. for the City Council Regular Meeting. Following the Council meeting, Study Session re-convened at 8:05 p.m. The Study Session/Executive Session concluded at 8:54 p.m.

Per Section 30-4-80(e) notice of the meetings by email was sent out to the current maintained "Agenda Mailout" list consisting of news media outlets and individuals or companies requesting notification. Notice of the meetings was also posted on the outside doors of the Municipal Center, the main bulletin board of the Municipal Center located on the first floor, and the City of North Augusta website.

Members present were Mayor Pettit, Councilmembers Brooks, Carpenter, Dickert, McGhee, Presnell, and Toole.

Also in attendance were Rachelle Moody, Interim City Administrator; Kelly F. Zier, City Attorney; Richard E. Meyer, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, Cammie T. Hayes, Director of Finance and General Services; John C. Thomas, Director of Public Safety; James E. Sutton, Director of Public Services; Lillian E. (Libby) Hodges, Director of Planning and Development; J.D. McCauley, Manager of Human Resources; Ricky Jones, Manager of Information Technology, and Sharon Lamar, City Clerk. The members of the public and the media were also in attendance.

**ITEM 1. CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: Items on the March 16, 2020 Council Agenda- Council Discussion**

Interim City Administrator, Rachele Moody, led Council's discussion of the March 16, 2020 meeting agenda.

**ITEM 2. PUBLIC SAFETY: Fire Station 1 – Council Update**

Rachele Moody, Interim City Administrator, shared with Council the updates that have been made to the Master Plan Renderings of Fire Station I. Many of the suggestions of citizens have been incorporated into the plan. The building has been moved slightly on the property to allow the ladder truck access to all bays.

**ITEM 3. HUMAN RESOURCES: City of North Augusta's Response to Coronavirus COVID-19 – Council Update**

J.D. McCauley, Manager of Human Resources, provide information to Council about the City's preparation for response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

**ITEM 4. ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS: 5<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project – Council Update**

Rachele Moody, Interim City Administrator, updated Council on the Augusta-Richmond County 5<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project. Many Councilmembers weighed in with comments. A resolution will be forthcoming at another Council meeting seeking Council's approval of a "Letter of No Exception" for SCDOT. Ms. Moody also recommended a lease agreement for the use of City property near the bridge gateway that the project requires for a laydown yard.

*At 7:00 p.m. on motion of Mayor Pettit, second of Councilmember Presnell, Council agreed to recess the Study Session to reconvene after the regular City Council meeting.*

*Council reconvened the Study Session at 8:05 p.m.*

**ITEM 5. CITY PROPERTY: Riverside H.F., LLC Lease Agreement – Council Review**

City Attorney, Kelly Zier, reviewed with Council a revised lease agreement offered by Riverside H.F., LLC. The original agreement was presented at a former Study Session. Council's suggested revisions have been accomplished. Several Councilmembers shared additional thoughts on the agreement and project. Questions were answered by Lance Jones, Riverside H.F., LLC representative. Mr. Zier reminded Council an ordinance is required for authorization to enter into the agreement.

**ITEM 6. LEGAL: Executive Session – Request of the Mayor**

On motion of Mayor Pettit, second of Councilmember Toole, Council agreed to enter Executive Session to discuss a proposed contractual matter. Council moved into the Council Conference Room for this discussion. Rachele Moody, Interim City Administrator; Kelly F. Zier, City

Attorney; Cammie Hayes; Director of Finance and General Services; J.D. McCauley, Manager of Human Resources; and Sharon Lamar, City Clerk; were also in attendance.

In compliance with Section 30-4-70 (a) (2) the Mayor requested an executive session for the purpose of:

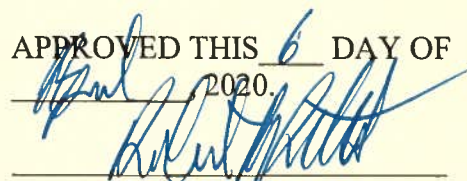
(2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claims, or the position of the public agency in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the agency of a claim.

*Discussion is related to the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam*

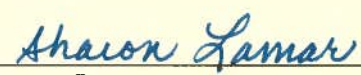
On motion of Councilmember Presnell, second of Councilmember Dickert, Council adjourned the Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. Upon returning to open session, council did not take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.

APPROVED THIS 6 DAY OF

March, 2020.

  
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Robert A. Pettit, Mayor

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Sharon Lamar  
City Clerk