

North Augusta



South Carolina's Riverfront

MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2022

Briton S. Williams, Mayor

*J. Robert Brooks, Councilmember
Pat C. Carpenter, Councilmember
Jenafer F. McCauley, Councilmember
David W. McGhee, Councilmember
Eric H. Presnell, Councilmember
Kevin W. Toole, Councilmember*

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Public Power Hour was streamed for public viewing online at: "City of North Augusta – Public Information" on [www.Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/cityofna) and "City of North Augusta Public Information" on [www.YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofna).

PUBLIC POWER HOUR

The April 4, 2022 Public Power Hour began at 5:30 p.m. Members present were Mayor Williams, Councilmembers Brooks, Carpenter, and Toole. Councilmembers McCauley, McGhee and Presnell were absent. Also in attendance were Ricky Jones, Manager of Information Technology and Sharon Lamar, City Clerk.

1. April Jordan spoke to Council regarding the Cumbee Center to Assist Abused Persons. (See ATTACHMENT PPH #1)
2. Hope Mixon spoke to Council regarding adding sidewalks on West Five Notch Road.
3. Tom Roberts spoke to Council concerning adding student murals on the Greenway tunnel at the Rapids. (See ATTACHMENT PPH #3.)

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of North Augusta of April 4, 2022 having been duly publicized was called to order by Mayor Williams at 6:00 p.m. and also streamed online for public viewing at "City of North Augusta – Public Information" on www.Facebook.com and on the City YouTube page: "City of North Augusta Public Information" then adjourned at 6:17 p.m. Per Section 30-4-80, (e) notice of the meeting 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 meeting 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.

Mayor Williams rendered the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Mayor Williams, Councilmembers Brooks, Carpenter, Presnell, and Toole. Councilmembers McCauley and McGhee were absent.

Also in attendance were Rachele Moody, Assistant City Administrator; Kelly F. Zier, City Attorney; John C. Thomas, Director of Public Safety; Ricky L. Jones, Manager of Information Technology, J.D. McCauley, Manager of Human Resources; and Sharon Lamar, City Clerk.

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of March 21, 2022; the minutes of the Joint city Council/Planning Commission Meeting of March 23, 2022; and the Study Session of March 28, 2022 were approved by general consent.

ITEM 5. PERSONNEL: Lt. Tim Thornton, Retirement – Recognition of Service to the City of North Augusta

Mayor Williams recognized Lt. Tim Thornton's retirement from the City with these words-

Over the course of his thirty-six (36) year career Lieutenant Thornton would navigate a very broad-based career.

Tim began with North Augusta Public Safety as a volunteer in 1983 and in 1985 he was hired as a Public Safety Officer. After a few years in the patrol division, he moved onto the traffic unit investigating accidents and enforcing the traffic laws. Eventually Tim became an Investigator with the department's criminal investigations division where he investigated all types of felonies. In 1996 Tim was the lead detective on the Department of Social Services triple homicide case. The perpetrator was arrested and eventually convicted in the high-profile case. Tim was later promoted to Detective Sergeant, supervising other investigators and continuing to work cases. In 2012 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant of The Office of Professional Standards. There he acted as the department's Public Information Officer, Internal Affairs and Accreditation Manager. In his role as accreditation manager, Tim spearheaded the department's first SC state accreditation and then in 2017 helped the

department obtain CALEA or National Accreditation for the first time. Lieutenant Thornton utilized his role as PIO in an attempt to shine a bright light on Public Safety, informing the citizens of North Augusta that the department was always striving to keep them safe.

Lieutenant Thornton started and maintained the department's "Cop Card" program, trying to get children to identify and feel comfortable with the public safety officers. Tim headed up the department's awards program for officers, making sure that the men and women of Public Safety were shown appreciation for their meritorious actions. He also took lead in the department's "Christmas Classic" charity golf tournament that raised money for Christmas gifts for the neediest children in the community. He was always very involved in the community, especially his church.

Lt. Tim Thornton **was a** good ambassador for Public Safety and therefore the City of North Augusta and he will be missed.

ITEM 6. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: Resolution No. 2022-16 – Accepting a Deed of Dedication for the Streets, Sanitary Sewer, Stormwater Collection, and Fire Suppression Systems, and Associated Easements and Rights of Way, Along with a Maintenance Guarantee and Letter of Credit for Sweetwater Townhomes

On the motion of Councilmember Presnell, second of Councilmember Carpenter, Council agreed to consider a resolution to accept a Deed of Dedication for the streets, sanitary sewer, stormwater collection, and fire suppression systems, and associated easement and rights of way, along with a Maintenance Guarantee and Letter of Credit for Sweetwater Townhomes. There were no comments from citizens. Council approved the resolution with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-16
ACCEPTING A DEED OF DEDICATION FOR THE STREETS,
SANITARY SEWER, STORMWATER COLLECTION AND FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS, AND
ASSOCIATED EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY, ALONG WITH A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE
AND LETTER OF CREDIT,
FOR SWEETWATER TOWNHOMES

WHEREAS, Sweetwater Townhome, LLC developed Sweetwater Townhomes according to the requirements of the North Augusta Planning Commission and the City, and owns the streets, utilities and easements; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §5.8.4.3 of the North Augusta Development Code, the Director of Planning and Development and the City Engineer approved the final subdivision plat for recording on March 14, 2022 and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the City that, upon approval of a final subdivision plat, the City will, following inspection by the City's Engineering department, accept a deed of dedication for the streets, utilities, etc. for the purpose of ownership and maintenance when said deed is accompanied by a maintenance guarantee; and

WHEREAS, a maintenance guarantee and supporting letter of credit accompany the deed; and

WHEREAS, the City Engineer has made final inspection of the subject improvements and these improvements meet City standards.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof, do hereby accept a deed of dedication for:

ALL those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in Aiken County, South Carolina shown and designated as "Candleberry Garden 28' R/W", and "Broomsedge Way 28' R/W", as shown on that plat dated January 11, 2022, revised February 23, 2022, prepared for Sweetwater Townhome Development, LLC by Southern Partners, Inc., which plat is recorded in the Office of the Register's Mesne Conveyance, Aiken County, South Carolina on March 15, 2022, in Plat Book 63, Pages 865-866, (the "Plat"). Reference is made to said Plat which is incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds, courses, distances, dimensions and location of said land.

Together with, a non-exclusive easement in perpetuity for the use, repair, and maintenance of utilities on and under that property designated and described as those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in Aiken County, South Carolina, being (i) those two "20' Storm Easement" tracts, (ii) that certain "20' San. Sewer Easement" tract, and (iii) that certain "30' Sanitary Sewer Easement" tract, as each of the same are shown on said Plat. Reference is made to said Plat which is incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds, courses, distances, dimensions and location of said land.

By acceptance of this deed, Grantee agrees to promptly maintain, repair and replace the storm water and sewer lines and apparatuses installed or within each said easement, and that upon completion of any maintenance or repair of same, Grantee shall promptly return any disturbed land to its pre-disturbed condition.

Derivation: Deed Book _____, Page _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Maintenance Guarantee and cash deposit in the amount of \$73,000.00 are hereby accepted.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

ITEM 7. PUBLIC SAFETY: Resolution No. 2022-17 – Resolution Authorizing Funding for Equipment Additions for Public Safety Vehicles

On the motion of Councilmember Brooks, second of Councilmember Toole, Council agreed to consider a resolution authorizing funding for equipment additions for Public Safety vehicles. John Thomas, Director of Public Safety, added the funding will equip 66 vehicles with secure in-car storage for rifles. There were no comments from citizens. Council approved the resolution with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-17
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR
EQUIPMENT ADDITIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY VEHICLES

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2022 the City of North Augusta Public Safety Department was dispatched to a possible burglary in progress that developed into a high speed pursuit and active shooter situation with injury to an officer and damage to multiple vehicles in the City's public safety fleet; and

WHEREAS, subsequent to this incident, the City's Public Safety Department with support from the City Administrator researched alternate equipment for in-car rifle rack storage and pursued obtaining sealed bids for the purchase of the racks; and

WHEREAS, 3 vendors responded to the bid request and based upon review of the bid documents 2 were considered complete bid responses with the low bidder of Global Public Safety LLC totaling \$30,262.59; and

WHEREAS, funding has been identified within the operating budget of the Public Safety Department sufficient to make the purchase; and

WHEREAS, the City Administrator and Public Safety Department support the addition of in-car rifle rack storage to public safety fleet vehicles to assist public safety officers in protecting and serving the citizens of North Augusta.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council for the City of North Augusta, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that the City is authorized to purchase in-car rifle rack storage equipment from Global Public Safety and that the funding source be the Public Safety Department operating budget within the General Fund not to exceed \$30,262.59.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS _____ DAY OF APRIL, 2022.

ITEM 8. PUBLIC SERVICES: Resolution No. 2022-18 – Authorizing the City of North Augusta to Enter into a Professional Engineering Services Contract with AECOM to Perform Design Services for Various Water and Wastewater Utility Capital Improvement Projects

On the motion of Councilmember Presnell, second of Councilmember Carpenter, Council agreed to consider a resolution authorizing the City to enter into a Professional Engineering Services contract with AECOM to perform design services for various Water and Wastewater Utility Capital Improvement Projects. Rachele Moody, Assistant City Administrator, shared this will be a three year contract for “on call”, as needed engineering services for design and specifications. There were no comments from citizens. Council approved the resolution with a unanimous 5-0 vote.

Please see a copy of the proposed resolution below:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-18
AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA
TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT
WITH AECOM TO PERFORM DESIGN SERVICES FOR VARIOUS WATER AND WASTEWATER
UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the City of North Augusta desires to retain the services of an engineering firm to provide services related to the design of various water and wastewater utility capital improvement projects; and

WHEREAS, 4 firms responded to a “Request for Qualifications” and were reviewed by a committee consisting of the following: Director of Public Services, Superintendent of Water Production, and Assistant City Administrator; and

WHEREAS, 3 qualified firms were selected for interviews and based upon the ranking of the firms, it has been determined that AECOM be engaged by contract for the purposes of performing such services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of North Augusta, South Carolina, in meeting duly assembled and by the authority thereof that the City is authorized to enter into a professional engineering services contract with AECOM for the provision of water and wastewater utility engineering services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administrator is authorized to execute such documents as necessary to enter into said contracts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for the water and wastewater utility engineering services shall be from the Utility Operations & Maintenance Fund or included in capital project improvement budgets as adopted by City Council.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH AUGUSTA, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

ITEM 9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Rachelle Moody, Assistant City Administrator, announced the flags will be removed from the top of the Municipal Center this week and the City email migration to the “.gov” platform has been slightly delayed. She also announced City crews will be pruning the large tree in the amphitheater this week and the City of North Augusta will sponsor the North Augusta High School vs Midland Valley High School baseball game on Monday, April 11th.

ITEM 10. PRESENTATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

A. Citizen Comments:

None

B. Council Comments:

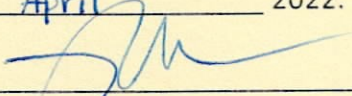
Mayor Williams announced the following:

- The new restaurant on Georgia Avenue, McNeely's Place, opened last week with great reviews.
- The first quarterly, Community Trash Bash, in partnership with First Providence Foundation will be held Saturday, April 23 in the Carrsville neighborhood beginning at the Society building at 314 Barton Road from 9 am-11am. Trash bags, gloves, sticks, and trash cans will be provided. The Foundation is providing bottled water and an opportunity to learn more about the ongoing efforts at the Society Building. There will also be a yard sale and bake sale.
- This year's Mayor's Prayer Event will be held on Thursday, May 5th from 7:30 am until 9:00 am in conjunction with the National Day of Prayer at the Wesley Center at Grace United Methodist Church. The morning will begin with a light breakfast followed by the prayer service at 8:00 am.

ITEM 11. ADJOURNMENT

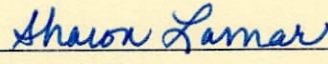
The regular City Council meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 18th DAY OF
April 2022.



Briton S. Williams
Mayor

Respectfully submitted,



Sharon Lamar
City Clerk

Whether you are marching to Take Back the Night or Wearing Denim for Denim Day, efforts to combat sexual assault are strongly emphasized in April. Cumbee Center, together with sexual assault crisis centers around the state, recognizes Sexual Assault Awareness Month during the month of April.

Sexual assault remains a critical public health issue and is often referred to as murder of the soul. It is one of the most catastrophic crimes in our society today. Aside from the physical injuries, survivors of sexual violence endure lifelong pain from emotional and psychological trauma. The staff and volunteers of the Cumbee Center provides compassionate, confidential and trauma informed services to victims like these each day and could give testimony to the emotional and psychological scars that last well beyond the physical agony.

Cumbee Center combats sexual violence on many fronts. Foremost, if a person experiences a sexual assault and seeks medical attention, an advocate will meet them at the emergency room to provide support that is nonjudgmental before, during, and after a forensic exam. Cumbee Center exists to believe, empower and educate. In doing so, we listen, validate reactions, and promote healing. Largely, Cumbee Center provides services to survivors and their families well after an experience of sexual trauma. In addition to hospital advocacy, Cumbee Center offers court and legal advocacy, case management, counseling, emergency shelter, community outreach, prevention education and a 24-hour crisis hotline. The key components to all services and actions by Cumbee Center follows a survivor-centered approach which seeks to empower the survivor by prioritizing their rights, needs and wishes.

In April, we ask that you join in our efforts to break the silence and bring AWARENESS to the critical public health issue of sexual violence. Awareness ribbons are frequently used to show support or raise consciousness for a cause. This month, Cumbee Center has adorned Laurens Street in Aiken, Georgia Avenue in North Augusta, Main Street in Barnwell and Courthouse square in Edgefield with teal awareness ribbons to represent the need for social change, a culture that reduces the tolerance of abuse and the support we offer survivors.

Please visit us at www.cumbeecenter.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more information. If you or someone you know are in need of our services, an advocate is available to assist you twenty-four hours daily. The crisis hotline number is 803-649-0480.

YOUR VOICE HAS POWER

APRIL IS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

The Cumbee Center raises awareness for sexual assault and educates the community about the resources available for survivors.

The Cumbee Center serves victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in 6 South Carolina counties.

- Crisis Intervention
- Hospital Accompaniment
- Emergency Shelter
- Legal & Court Advocacy
- Information & Referrals
- Counseling

The Cumbee Center
is here to help.



Cumbee
center



BELIEVE. EMPOWER. EDUCATE.

CALL OUR 24/7 HOTLINE

(803)649-0480

WWW.CUMBEECENTER.ORG

Public Power Hour

April 4, 2022

Tom Roberts will speak to Council concerning adding student murals on the Greenway tunnel at the Rapids.



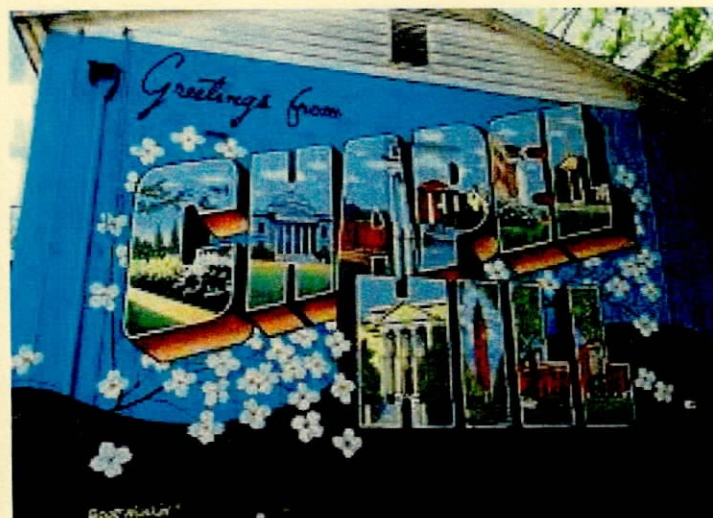
Hey Tom, You can show them this picture to get a basic idea. The inside of the wording can be filled with more basic scenes than the one included. Flowers native to our area and ivy. If they want the background behind the lettering that can be done as well, or it can just be left alone with the plain wall around it. This is just an extremely busy time of year for me. The fall is when I would be able to paint with the students.

Meredith Noland

Visual Arts Teacher

Junior Class Sponsor

North Augusta High School



Public Power Hour

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