

# Planning Commission



## Minutes of the Monday, March 13, 2017 Called Meeting

### *Members of the Planning Commission*

Woods Burnett  
*Chairman*

Leonard Carter, Jr.  
Timothy V. Key  
Larry Watts

Bob Clark  
JoAnn McKie  
Briton Williams

1. **Call to Order** – The March 13, 2017 called meeting, having been duly publicized, was called to order by Chairman Chip Burnett at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
  2. **Roll Call** -- Members present were Chairman Woods Burnett and Commissioners Len Carter, Bob Clark, JoAnn McKie, and Briton Williams. Commissioner Tim Key joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Larry Watts was absent. Also present were Charles Martin, Interim Director of Planning and Development; Kuleigh Baker, Administrative Assistant for Planning and Engineering; Mayor Lark Jones; Mayor-Elect Bob Pettit; all City Council members; members of the public; and the press.
  3. **Staff Member** – Mrs. Kuleigh Baker was introduced as the new Administrative Assistant for Planning and Engineering.
  4. **Approval of Minutes** – The February 16, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes were approved as written.
  5. **Confirmation of Agenda** – There were no changes made to the agenda.
  6. **Draft 2017 Comprehensive Plan** -- Craig Lewis of Stantec presented an overview of the Draft 2017 Comprehensive Plan with a review of the 9 State-required elements of Comprehensive Plans and the company's Top 10 Recommendations for the City of North Augusta. Mr. Lewis summarized key points of each chapter of the proposed Comprehensive Plan including enhancing existing public parks, restructuring Georgia Avenue for pedestrian friendliness, and addressing current zoning ordinances as they relate to mixed use and infill development. Following the conclusion of the presentation, Chairman Burnett briefly reviewed the Commission's public participation guidelines.
- **Public Hearing – Draft 2017 Comprehensive Plan** – The public hearing, having been duly publicized, opened at 7:45 p.m. for comments on the Draft 2017 Comprehensive Plan.

Rob Harris, 1800 Flamingo Road, stated that he recently moved back to North Augusta because of his love of Minor League Baseball. He compared North Augusta's Greenway to the Atlanta Beltline as an impetus for downtown development. Mr. Harris voiced his concern about the lack of a pedestrian bridge to

connect Georgia Avenue / 13<sup>th</sup> Street to downtown Augusta, Georgia.

Lark Jones, 629 Stanton Drive, noted that many of the maps in the proposed draft were too small to see details clearly, including the maps on pages 18, 43, 48, 64, 80, 101, 107-108, 128, and 187. He pointed out that the founder of Hamburg was incorrectly listed as George Schultz and should be changed to Henry Schultz. Mr. Jones also requested that a reference to the Hamburg Massacre be corrected to reflect all of those that died during the event. He noted that the monuments to WWI and WWII soldiers were relocated to Wade Hampton Park. Mr. Jones asked for Craig Lewis' recommendations on the current zoning matrix as it relates to minor projects in infill.

Mary Ann Bigger, 5 Greenforest Court, and Director of North Augusta Forward, expressed North Augusta Forward's willingness to support and cooperate with the City of North Augusta in implementing the Comprehensive Plan and made it known that the organization would continue to bring more awareness to downtown.

There were no other public comments. Chairman Burnett closed the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Chairman Burnett stressed the need for a Downtown Development Director and made note of key points from the Comprehensive Plan including walkability, complete streets, and mixed use development. Chairman Burnett thanked members of the City Council, the Mayor and Mayor-Elect, press, and the citizens of North Augusta for attending the meeting.

Commissioner JoAnn McKie stated her initial thoughts on the 2017 Draft Comprehensive Plan were that the amount of information was overwhelming but praised Craig Lewis of Stantec for pointing out other cities and communities where it was easy to see how the plan can and will work for North Augusta.

There were no additional comments from members of the Planning Commission.

**7. Adjourn** – With no objection, Chairman Burnett adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kuleigh Baker  
Administrative Assistant, Planning & Engineering  
Secretary to the Planning Commission