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|  | **MINUTES OF**  **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  **AND PUBLIC HEARING**  **CITY HALL**  **MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024**  **– 6:00 PM** |  |
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| **PRESENT** | **MAYOR** | **MICHAEL E. SUGGS** |
|  | **COUNCIL** | **JOAN S. GAUSE**  **LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.**  **ANDREA COLEMAN**  **CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.**  **TONYA F. SYKES** |
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**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Suggs at 6:00pm on Monday, January 8, 2024.

**INVOCATION:**

The Invocation was given by Councilwoman Gause.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Suggs.

**ROLL CALL:**

The roll was called by City Clerk Graham.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** No comment from public or press.

1. ORDINANCE 15-23 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LORIS TO UPDATE THE CLASS SCHEDULE AS REQUIRED BY ACT 176 OF 2020.
2. ORDINANCE 16-23 – AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX 0.3 ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LORIS AS MU (MIXED-USE) LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWESTERN SIDE OF HIGHWAY 9 BUSINESS EAST [PIN: 185-02-03-0028].
3. ORDINANCE 17-23- REQUEST TO ANNEX 0.34 ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LORIS AS R-1.7 (LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) LOCATED ALONG THE WESTERN SIDE OF NORTH COX ROAD [PIN:  176-09-01-0011].
4. ORDINANCE 18-23- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LORIS

**ADJOURNMENT: Councilwoman Gause made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilman Padgett. All in favor. Motion passes and the Regular Council meeting resumed.**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

1. **CALL TO ORDER: Regular Council Meeting called to order by Mayor Suggs.**
2. **RECOGNITION- 2023 10U STATE CHAMPION FOOTBALL-** Mayor Suggs presented each 10U Coach with a plaque of appreciation. All players were recognized and presented with a certificate.
3. **MINUTES:**
4. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING—AUGUST 7, 2023-** Motion made by Councilman Hardee to approve the minutes if August 7, 2023, Regular Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
5. **COMMUNICATIONS:**
6. **MAYORS’S REPORT-** Mayor Suggs stated that the Horry County League of Cities will be held on January 28, 2024, at 6PM. The event will be hosted by the City of Conway and held at the Old Post Office. There will be a Special election for the vacant council seat. City Clerk Brandy Graham will begin accepting Notices of Intent on January 19, 2024, and the window to sign-up will close on February 2, 2024, at Noon. The election will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, from 7AM to 7PM. Mayor Suggs thanked all city employees for a festive holiday season. Samantha Norris stated that the Loris Chamber of Commerce has received many compliments on the Downtown Tuesday events. Businesses and citizens were very pleased. The Annual retreat for the Chamber will be held in January.
7. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

**1.FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 AUDIT UPDATE**- Administrator Young stated that he has a draft of the 2021-2022 Audit report. He will forward to council. The 2023 audit should be completed in a couple of months.

**2.HOSPITALITY TAX AUDIT REPORT-** Administrator Young stated that the auditor has collected the needed information. He hopes to meet this week or next with the auditor. They are in the process of matching receipts to expenditures. Councilman Padgett asked if the minutes approving the expenditure would be included. Administrator Young said they are in the process of trying to match the purchase to the minutes.

1. **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**
2. **CODE ENFORCEMENT**- Meredith Holmes stated that 600 inspections were completed in 2023. There were 42 complaints reported. All other monthly information was listed on the report received by council.
3. **FIRE-** No report.
4. **POLICE-** Report in Council packet.
5. **PUBLIC WORKS**- Report in Council packet.
6. **RECREATION-** Report in Council packet.
7. **BUSINESS**
8. **SECOND READING- ORDINANCE 15-23 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LORIS TO UPDATE THE CLASS SCHEDULE AS REQUIRED BY ACT 176 OF 2020-** The motion was read by City Clerk Graham. Motion made by Councilwoman Gause to approve the ordinance amending the business license schedule. Seconded by Councilman Padgett. All in favor. Motion passes.
9. **SECOND READING- ORDINANCE 16-23 – AN ORDINANCE TO ANNEX 0.3 ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LORIS AS MU (MIXED-USE) LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWESTERN SIDE OF HIGHWAY 9 BUSINESS EAST [****PIN: 185-02-03-0028]-** The motion was read by City Clerk Graham. Motion to approve the 2nd reading of the ordinance to annex made by Councilman Hardee. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
10. **SECOND READING– ORDINANCE 17-23- REQUEST TO ANNEX 0.34 ACRES INTO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF LORIS AS R-1.7 (LOW-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) LOCATED ALONG THE WESTERN SIDE OF NORTH COX ROAD [PIN:  176-09-01-0011]-** Motion to approve the 2nd reading of the ordinance to annex made by Councilman Padgett. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.
11. **SECOND READING- ORDINANCE 18-23- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LORIS**- Motion to amend the zoning ordinance made by Councilman Hardee. Seconded by Councilwoman Gause. All in favor. Motion passes.
12. **ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE-** Motion to nominate Councilman Padgett as Mayor Pro Tempore was made by Councilwoman Sykes. Seconded by Councilman Hardee. All in favor. Motion passes.
13. **APPROVAL OF 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE-**  Motion to approve the 2024 Regular Council Meeting Schedule was made by Councilman Hardee. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
14. **DISCUSSION OF AXON AGREEMENT REGARDING BODY CAMERAS FOR LORIS POLICE DEPARTMENT-** Administrator Young stated that the 10-year agreement would be for the storage of body camera footage. The 10-year agreement would lock in a price for that period. Attorney Moss reviewed the proposal and had no objections. Councilman Padgett made a motion to approve if the language remained the same. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.
15. **CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**
16. **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS- 2 VACANCIES**

**PUBLIC AND PRESS COMMENTS- Lynn Grecko stated that she was not going to speak but was afraid that the progress of the Animal Control Ordinance had slowed down. She asked a committee to review. She is hoping to have a first reading soon.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion to enter Executive Session made by Councilwoman Gause. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in Favor. Motion passes.

1. **DISCUSSION ON CONTRACTUAL MATTERS AND PROPERTY MATTERS**
2. **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

Motion made by Councilman Hardee to exit Executive Session. Seconded by Councilwoman Coleman. All in favor. Motion passes.

The Council received a legal briefing from Attorney Moss. Administrator Young discussed personnel matters. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:**  
Motion made by Councilman Hardee for adjournment; Seconded by Councilwoman Gause. All members voted in favor. There being no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

**BRANDY GRAHAM MICHAEL E. SUGGS**

**CITY CLERK** **MAYOR**

**LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**JOAN S. GAUSE**

**LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.**

**ANDREA L. COLEMAN**

**CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.**

**TONYA SYKES**