

**MINUTES OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL - ZOOM
AUGUST 2, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT	MAYOR	TODD M. HARRELSON
	COUNCIL	LEWIS C. HARDEE, Jr. CARROLL D. PADGETT, Jr. MICHAEL E. SUGGS JOAN S. GAUSE JAN P. VESCOVI
ASSENT		TERRENCE T. HARDEE

NEWS MEDIA present were Mrs. Jen Boyd Causey, writer for Tabor-Loris Tribune, and Ms. Annie Rigby, writer for The Loris Times.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harrelson.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mayor Todd Harrelson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Todd Harrelson.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by Interim City Clerk Todd K. Massey II

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Loris Chamber of Commerce:

Samantha Norris stated that the Big City Sale was still in full swing and doing well and it would continue for another month. On August 19, the Chamber will host a Blood Connection blood drive from 10 am to 3 pm at the Courtyard n Main. The 42nd Annual Loris Bog Off is rapidly approaching. We have several new events this year, one of which is a 5K. We will also have four bands, and we are changing the placement of the Main Stage and rearrange a few other things as well.

McLeod Loris Hospital Report:

Mayor Todd Harrelson advised that McLeod Loris Hospital will be having a vaccine clinic tomorrow August 3rd from 4-8pm at the Center for Health and Fitness. If more info is needed, please call 843-716-7111. They will have more exciting news coming soon.

Mayor Todd Harrelson stated that he attended an Opioid Symposium at CCU this morning. Would love to see the City of Loris have a place for people to get help. I will get information together and have at the next meeting.

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr., made a motion to table the minutes until next meeting, seconded by Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, Jr. All voted in favorably.

BUSINESS:

Attorney Kenneth Moss stated that he filed a motion to lift the stay in the case, with the litigation of the old Loris High School. This is a recent filing, that will go on the motions calendar agenda that will come to a judge for a decision. The family that owns this property would still like to have a meaningful conversation to see if there is any interest in some of the property being owned by the City. If there is interest, please look at it, let's decide sooner rather than later.

Mayor Todd Harrelson stated that he thought it would be a good idea to have a conversation with the family, just talk.

Councilwoman Jan P. Vescovi replied that she would be open to having a conversation with the family, because we are not committed to anything we are just talking. We can see what our options are. We have a great deal of the community asking about the building, and would like to see a facility that could be used for multiple purposes for the city of loris.

Mayor Todd Harrelson replied that he gets multiple calls a week of people inquiring about the gym, and the use of the gym.

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr., stated that he had no objection to having a meeting, but there needed to be an agreement that anything said in that meeting could not be used at trial in these issues.

Attorney Kenneth Moss replied that he would do it under the cloak of a mediation conference. The rules are pretty clear about that.

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr., made a motion to table the first reading of Ordinance 04-21, an Ordinance for Annexation of Property on Perrin Road. Seconded by Councilwoman Joan S Gause. All voted favorably.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Hardee absent, no report.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Gary Buley absent, no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Ricky Bellamy stated that he has contacted multiple companies about water flow meters. They can come in and willing to come in and set them up, but if we have several months of dry weather, we will collect little to no information. To purchase two meters and install ourselves would be between \$20-\$30,000.000. If taken care of the way they should be they would last a long time. If the company does the installation, we are looking at \$3-\$6000.00 per month, so it would not take long to reach \$20,000.00. Once the issue is found and fixed you would not need the meters unless monitoring different areas. Our important thing is when they are set up, we need rain. Ricky Bellamy suggested that we even rent flow meters by the month if we can get them. Cost would be roughly \$1000 a month. This past month we were chosen to do a Palmetto Drill with EOC through DHEC. We participated in a live storm scenario, the way we would handle a storm with a lot of water down, sewer, power outage and reporting to DHEC then everything reporting back to normal. We were one of several cities chosen to do this. It is live reporting, not emailing or phone calls. We have implemented the radio meter reader and done a final training. That is working out well.

Interim City Clerk Keith Massey added that with the American Rescue Plan funds that would allow us to update the meters, we would have to report once every three months to the Federal Government.

Ricky Bellamy introduced Jordan Phillips as the new Water Technician.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Andy Bell is absent. Mayor Harrelson stated that Mr. Bell would have a report prepared for the next meeting.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

Interim City Clerk Keith Massey advised that we had a Top Gun Softball Tournament this past Saturday. Parents and teams started showing up as early as 6:30 am and we closed the gates at 11:30pm. There were twenty-five teams with 49 games played on five fields. Everything went smoothly, the concessions could not keep up. Everyone did an amazing job. I will have an economic impact statement prepared for

you at the next meeting to show you how much this does impact us. Jeff Anderson sent a message to the Council that he was absolutely thrilled to have his organization here and cannot wait to come back.

Councilwoman Joan S. Gause asked what the rules are concerning fireworks. I have heard them three nights in a row between the times of 9:30-10pm for about thirty minutes each time.

Mayor Todd Harrelson replied we have a noise ordinance as of 10pm. So, fireworks after 10pm you would need to call the police and let them handle it.

PUBLIC AND PRESS:

Freddy Mincey stated he wanted to make a comment on an article from the Tabor-Loris Tribune titled "Mayor signed deed giving alleyway to a merchant, Loris council did not know".

Attorney Kenneth Moss explained a Quick Claim Deed.

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr., asked Mayor Todd Harrelson after conversation to go back to Mr. Charlie Todd and ask for the deed back.

Kimberly Rudelitch stated that she has been speaking about city ordinances being updated since 2018 with no response. Have they been updated? What is the hold up?

Mayor Todd Harrelson replied that the noise ordinance had not been updated.

Annie Rigby, writer for the Loris Times asked if a Recreation Director had been hired?

Mayor Todd Harrelson replied that someone was coming but due to health issues in his family, he is not ready to make the move.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

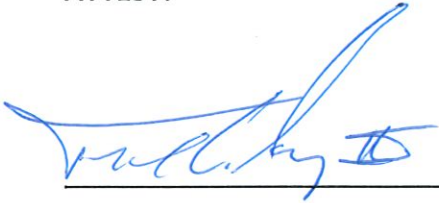
A motion was made by Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr. to enter executive session, followed by a second from Councilwoman Jan. P. Vescovi. All voted favorably at 6:37pm.

Councilwoman Jan P. Vescovi made a motion to come out of executive session, second by Councilman Lewis C. Hardee, Jr. All voted in favor at 7:42pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Carroll D. Padgett, Jr. Made a motion to adjourn seconded by Councilwoman Jan P. Vescovi. All voted favorably to adjourn at 7:49pm.

ATTEST:



Todd K. Massey II

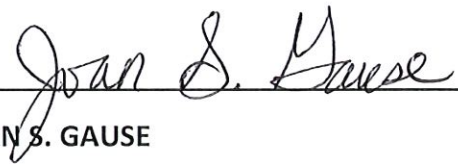
CITY CLERK




TODD M. HARRELSON

MAYOR

LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS



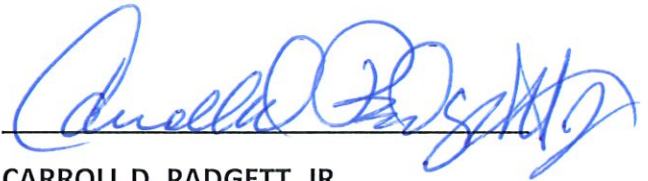
JOAN S. GAUSE



LEWIS C. HARDEE JR.

Absent _____

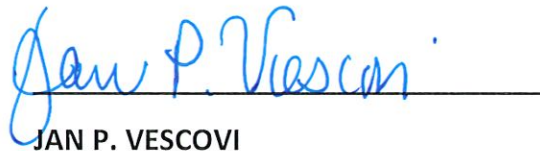
TERRENCE HARDEE



CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.



MICHAEL E. SUGGS



JAN P. VESCOVI