

Regular Meeting of City Council
New Ellenton City Hall
Tues., Feb. 18, 2025 7:00 PM
Minutes

Meeting streamed live on city Facebook page

WORK SESSION: 6:30 pm*No votes taken during work session*

WELCOME: Mayor Kimberly Williams

INVOCATION: Geneva S. Jackson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All Stood

COUNCIL ROLL CALL:

Council Present: Kimberly Williams; Carl Culpepper, III; Ashley Morgan; Ricky Foster; James Anderson; Elvira Johnson-Holley; Geneva S. Jackson

Council Not Present: N/A

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Jade Nealious- Crowning Lupus Back to School Giveaway July 19th-Not in attendance
Deborah Creech- Not in attendance & Tina Thomas – Christ Central Updates-2/22/25 Life Skills class will be hosted by Dr. Malinda Wright and open to the public; Senior Day: food boxes, health/wellness classes, bingo; 200 people fed @ Christ Central; Golden Harvest grant will be used to update refrigerators; clothes closet is full and won't be able to accept any further donations; Blessing Box @ Christ Central installed by Stacy Valentine
Leesha & Torres Johnson- Movie & Popcorn Night-Not in attendance

***Administration-(City Clerk: Zorayda El)**-Website Update: service agreement completed today & testing to begin immediately; completion set for 7/1/25; Codification Update: completed ordinance questionnaire & processed payment; awaiting next steps from American Legal Publishing Corp.; Statement of Economic Interest reports are due by 3/30/25; Follow-up request to Smoothie Groove: Edith Ogletree(owner) thanks council for extending their assistance; in process of having final inspection while moving through road blocks; hopes to open by 3/5/25.

***Fire Chief-(Mike Kellems)**-Not in Attendance

***Police Chief-(Chief J. Solomon)**-information from police report(report available at www.newellentonsc.com with approved minutes); Body Cam Update: everything delivered, G&S Computing to complete server integration within 2 weeks; Camera System Update: 2/24/25 Verkada representative to install system at Farmer's Market, Evans Park, and City Hall; will update if cameras are available for bathroom in Evans Park; Council Request: add an additional camera in Evans Park for a one-time payment between \$500-\$1000 to address the concerns of vandalism and unsupervised children in Evans Park; Police Car Update: 2014 Dodge Charger to be taken out of service and re-purpose of equipment; Tahoe ordered in December and should arrive in April/May; Police Contact Update: any non-emergency calls to 803-652-7770 will be forwarded and answered by the officer on duty; Radio Update: 2026 deadline to get 16 new radios @ \$909/radio(includes \$241 discount); Corporal Ayre(SRO): D.A.R.E. has 2 weeks left before graduation(date to be determined); new SRO uniform with mascot on it.

***Streets/Roads/Sewer-(Jason Morgan)**-previous DHEC issues must be completed; Storm Clean-up Update: contractors are 95% complete; park restroom purchases to be completed by the end of next week; Old Whiskey development is making progress; Community Center: folding chairs ordered/delivered (chose lighter weight for ease in moving them); purchased dump trailer to move debris more easily.

***Parks/Recreation-(Jessica Weathersbee)**-Baseball: 2 T-ball, 1 Baseball, and 1 Softball team; speaker Mr. Williams did not attend due to prior engagement; bridging gap with Christ Central for community service needs; Workday at NEMS field: 3/1/25 @ 9am; Aiken School Board to fix leaks, new roof on press box, and water fountains installed at NEMS field building; Fence @ Evans Park: fencing will be started on one side; installation will have to be complete before 4/1/25 to allow enough time before SRNS event later in the month (fence quotes available at www.newellentonsc.com with approved minutes);

prospective dates for community egg hunt-4/5, 4/12, and 4/19; DJ Jammin James-Emcee for Christmas Parade 12/6/25; Brenda's Balloons & Southern Carolina-will donate flowers to city; BK Keenan-donating 20 gallons of a neutral color paint for Painter's Union to paint Community Center; volunteers are welcome to assist with concession stand(Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday games @6pm)-Pastor Ratcliff: announcer

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Special Council Meeting December 23, 2024

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Rickey Foster

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

Council Meeting February 7, 2025

Motion to approve: Rickey Foster

2nd to the motion: Elvira Johnson-Holley

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

OLD BUSINESS: N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Fencing Bid for Evans Park

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: James Anderson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval for Elite(\$15,692.43)to be completed 4/1/25; if the terms are not met by Elite, Superior(\$18,650.21) will receive contract and must be completed by 4/1/25

Approval of New Garbage Service Contractor

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: James Anderson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval for Capital Waste to begin after May 31st, 2025

Approval of 2025 Council Retreat Goals List

Motion to approve:

2nd to the motion:

**no vote taken; added to March meeting agenda*

Approval of Sale of Fire Truck 2018 Freightliner Tanker 25

Motion to approve: Rickey Foster

2nd to the motion: James Anderson

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval of sale to Central City Fire Department

Approval of Sale of Fire Department's Ladder Truck

Motion to approve: Geneva S. Jackson

2nd to the motion: Rickey Foster

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL:

*Plaque presented to City Administrator, Kenny Cook, by council who thanked him for his years of service, willingness to explain/share, and getting the city's first full-time administrator; new administrator (Lynn McEwen) to begin 3/10/25.

***Kim Williams(Mayor):** Hope Charter School: application submitted to state and awaiting approval; school will give residents a choice of another school in the area; school will be located on property next to Christ

Central; K-2nd grade will be available with hopes to extend grade level each year to have time to prepare children for testing in 3rd grade; New Business to city: Rinky Dink Outdoors coming soon; Karate: Chief Solomon & Jessica Weathersbee to assist with development of prospective karate program in the city; Master Karen-Inner City Martial Arts Instructor to teach

***Elvira Johnson-Holley-** SRP Bank Update: teller construction has begun; hopes for full-service branch in the future; O'Reilly's ribbon cutting to be determined; New Business to city: Nuclear City Nutrition-will let Jessica know details of ribbon cutting; Military banner: Jessica will make forms available on social media platform & she has information on brackets to hang them

***Geneva S. Jackson-** Gospel Concert: Four Mile Baptist Church Choir- to be held 4/11/25 at Farmer's Market; flyer sent to local churches for participation; may be able to incorporate egg hunt on the same day(Jessica-there may not be enough children to participate due the 2 week break from school); Black History Program: Gail Diggs, speaker; to be held at Community Center 2/28/25 @ 7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to approve: Carl Culpepper, III

2nd to the motion: Ashley Morgan

There was a unanimous vote in favor of approval

EXECUTIVE SESSION: N/A

INFORMATION:

Supporting materials attached:

Central City Fire Dept. – Letter of intent



City Clerk Signature/Date



Mayor Signature/Date

To: New Ellenton City Council
From: Kenny Cook, Administrator/Lynn S. McEwen
Subject: Council Goals
Date: February 7, 2025

I have listed the goals the Council discussed at the Council Retreat on Friday, February 7, 2025. I have listed them based on the priority Council assigned to each goal from high to low. Hopefully this will help provide a quick overview going forward.

High- Improve code enforcement
High- Streamline daily purchasing
High- Review time procedures/time clocks vs tame apps according to dept. needs
High- Make departments exempt employees (according to FLSA standards and rules)
High- Complete mapping of sewer system
High- Clear sewer right-of-way where needed
High- Resolve camera issues
High- Transition to new website (working and make sure that we can update website as needed)
High- Work on sidewalk repairs in the city limits (check DOT ownership vs city)
High- Expand to a full-fledged farmers market
High- Create emergency management plan

Medium- Incorporate New Ellenton's 75th anniversary celebration into 2027 activities
Medium- Rebrand New Ellenton youth sports
Medium- Add to existing parks (exercise equipment)
Medium- Update sewer lift station to meet future demands
Medium- Add and/or replace welcome to New Ellenton signs
Medium- Streetscape grant
Medium- Grant for sidewalk expansion in town

Low- Health and wellness grant.
Low- Look at ways to develop 600+ acres in city limits.