

## **Minutes City Council Meeting Tuesday, May 12, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Mullins City Council was held Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. in the Raymond Pridgen Auditorium. The following were notified of the time, date, and place of the meeting: Mayor William L. "Bo" McMillan and Members of City Council, the City Staff, and the press. Present at the meeting were the following: Mayor William L. "Bo" McMillan, Mayor Pro Tem Patricia Phillips, Council Members: Carolyn Wilson, Jo Sanders, Terry Davis, Linda Schiavo, and George Hardwick; City Attorney Robert Corley, Police Chief Mike Bethea, Fire Chief Robert Stetson, Joe Graham, John Turner, Eddie Page, Claudia Hughes. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Butler, Johnny Brown, Timmy Smith, Connie Black, Public Access TV, and many others.

- 1. Call Meeting To Order & Welcome:** Mayor McMillan called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.

City Attorney Robert Corley led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation:** The invocation was given by Council Member / Chaplin Carolyn Wilson.

- 2. Disclosure that local media has been informed of meeting pursuant to South Carolina Freedom of Information Act:** Mayor McMillan stated the local media had been contacted regarding the time, date, and place of the regular scheduled meeting for May 12, 2015.

- 3. Approval of Agenda:** Council Member Davis made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- 4. Consent Agenda:**

- (a) Approval of Minutes April 14, 2015 – City Council Meeting
- (b) Approval of Monthly Bills

Council Member Sanders made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Council Member Davis seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

- 5. Old Business:**

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- (a) Consideration of an award for construction of heating and air conditioning systems for Fire Station #1 and #2 and replacement unit at City Hall.

City Administrator Hudspeth stated the bids were much higher than expected and asked that the consideration be tabled until the June meeting.

- (b) Consideration of award of a design-build contract for the design and construction of a 2-room bathroom facility at Dogwood Park.

City Administrator Hudspeth presented the bids from Patrick Brady Construction (\$27,000.00), Patrick Kimbrell (\$34,155.00), and Vanguard (\$30,000.00). Patrick Brady Construction was the apparent low bidder. Council Member Schiavo made a motion to accept the bid from Patrick Brady Construction at \$27,000.00. Council Member Davis seconded the motion. The facility would include a shingled roof and a men/women's restroom.

Council Member Davis asked if lighting and cameras could be installed at the park for security reasons. Hudspeth stated he would check on lighting for the park. Davis also questioned when trash cans would be available. Mayor McMillan stated Tarus was looking into purchasing trash cans and possibly grills.

Council Member Wilson stated the Recreation Committee had some questions about the park that should be answered at a Committee Meeting. Hudspeth stated he would schedule a meeting in the next week. Mayor McMillan stated a ribbon cutting was held for Mary Lois Rutland Memorial Park today at 5:00 p.m.

**6. New Business:**

- (a) First Reading of Ordinance #15-001, "An Ordinance To Raise Revenue And Adopt A Budget For The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016"

Hudspeth presented a power point presentation for the 2015-2016 Budget. Total expenses for the budget are projected to be \$4.4 million. Expenses are off about

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\$350,000.00 from last year. Expenses are up around \$200,000.00. Revenues are up \$150,000.00. Hudspeth stated there are not many ways to raise revenues and the other option would be to use some of the City's reserve funds. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips asked if Department Heads would be included in the budget process. Hudspeth stated he would be meeting with each Department Head to review their needs and what could possibly be cut.

Council Member Sanders asked if anyone was working on annexation. Hudspeth stated in order to annex you have to have something to offer the residents. The City already provides fire protection to residents. The City could provide police protection verses residents using the County.

Hudspeth stated he has spoken to the Police Chief and the department would be buying the body cameras in the current years budget and laptops in the 2015-2016 budget. Hudspeth noted the need for body cameras.

Hudspeth stated a new fire truck would be included in the budget.

Salary increases are not included in the budget.

The new Fire Station will be staffed by splitting the staff from the main station. There are no funds for operating a 3<sup>rd</sup> Fire Station.

Hudspeth stated there are some Hospitality funds that could be used for an African American Museum. There is available room at the Tobacco Museum for possibly including the African American Museum. The problem is the Depot ownership is still up in the air. Hudspeth urged Council to wait until that is resolved before moving forward. Hudspeth also stated Reggie has received donations totaling over \$30,000.00 for an art room.

Hudspeth stated there was no money allocated for a street sweeper. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips asked if it is cheaper to lease a sweeper or to purchase one.

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Hudspeth stated it is basically the same thing. The payments are just spread out over a couple of years. Council Member Wilson stated the City needs to be watchful of the spending that is going on.

Council Member Sanders asked if Aqua City has paid the City anything. Hudspeth stated he has spoken with the City Attorney concerning eviction.

Council Member Sanders made a motion to accept the First Reading of Ordinance #15-001, "An Ordinance To Raise Revenue And Adopt A Budget For The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016". Council Member Davis seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

(b) Consideration of an addendum to Duke Energy's South Carolina Municipal Electric Service Agreement.

Hudspeth stated this would be for underground electric lines and it would be a 50/50 match.

Council Member Wilson made a motion to accept the Consideration of an addendum to Duke Energy's South Carolina Municipal Electric Service Agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

(c) Consideration of a request from the Mullins First Baptist Church to close the portion of James Street from Main Street to Smith Street and convey the easement to the church.

(d) Consideration of a request from the Mullins First Baptist Church to award the church an option to purchase the property adjacent to their building between James Street and Wine Street (property formerly used for the Old Brick Tobacco Warehouse).

Council decided to take both items into consideration.

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(e) Proclamation for Peace Officers' Memorial Day

Mayor McMillan read the Proclamation for Peace Officers' Memorial Day

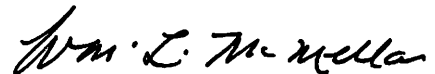
7. **Committee Reports:** Hudspeth stated Gapway Park is currently under construction. Fire Station #2 is almost complete. Hudspeth noted lot maintenance has been progressing. Both the City has cut lots as well as some property owners.

8. **Comments:** Mayor McMillan recognized Mrs. Butler. Council Member Sanders stated a Recreation meeting will be held to discuss some things happening at the park. Mrs. Butler asked how the public would know if the City will be putting up cameras and lighting. Mrs. Butler also noted signs should be placed in the Park so citizens will know what can and can not be done in the park.

Mayor McMillan recognized Mr. Joseph Butler. Mr. Butler asked what the City was doing to bring people to Mullins. Mr. Butler commended the Police Department for the jobs they do. Mr. Butler also stated signs should be placed in the park because people can't assume what they can and can't do.

Mayor McMillan recognized Johnny Brown. Mr. Brown thank the City for what was done as the park. Mr. Brown also stated the City would have help keeping the park clean.

9. **Adjournment:** Council Member Davis made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.



William L. McMillan

Mayor

Attest:

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Felicia S. Turner  
Clerk