

Minutes
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mullins City Council was held Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. The following were notified of the time, date, and place of the meeting: Mayor Robert L. Woodbury and Members of City Council, the City Staff, and the press. Present at the meeting were the following: Mayor Robert L. Woodbury, Council Members: Carolyn Wilson, Mayo Phillips, Eddie Kitchen, Terry Davis, Kindra Brewton-Pompey, Interim City Administrator Holly Jackson, City Attorney Bob Corley, Captain Phil Mostowski, Michael Hayes, Special Events Coordinator Oglaretta White, Carl Brunson, K. Stephen Hardnett, Spencer Jordan, and many others.

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

City Attorney Robert Corley gave The Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem / Chaplain Carolyn Wilson gave the invocation.

Mayor Woodbury read the Civility Pledge.

2. Disclosure that local media has been informed of meeting pursuant to South Carolina Freedom of Information Act: Mayor Woodbury stated the local media had been contacted regarding the time, date, and place of the regular meeting for February 14, 2023.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Council Member Terry Davis made a motion to accept the Approval of the Agenda. Council Member Kitchen seconded the motion.

4. Consent Agenda:

- (a) Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2023 – City Council Meeting
- (b) Approval of Minutes – February 2, 2023 – Police Committee Meeting
- (c) Approval of Monthly Bills

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5. New Business:

- (a) Recognition of Mrs. Beverly Gasque / Mullins Housing Authority

Mayor Woodbury stated this would be tabled until further notice.

- (b) Annexation

Mayor Woodbury discussed possible annexation in the City of Mullins. Mayor Woodbury suggested a Sub-Committee for Annexation. Council Members that are interested should give their name to the Clerk.

6. Committee Reports:

Council Member Mayo Phillips gave an overview on the report given by Museum Curator Ronda Bain. The museum received a \$4,000.00 donation from the tobacco board as well as \$400.00 from the attending farmers.

Special Events Coordinator Oglaretta White stated a grant was submitted on February 9th. The needs assessment for CDBG will be due on March 17th.

Council Member Albert Woodbury stated he had nothing to report.

Council Member Terry Davis noted the Budget Calendar and Financial reports were given to Council. There was nothing to report on Fire or Weeds & Demolition.

Council Member Kindra Brewton-Pompey stated she had nothing to report at this time.

Council Member Eddie Kitchen state a Police Committee meeting was held. Issues discussed included advertisement for manpower, treatment of employees, attracting new employees. Council Member Breton-Pompey asked what the estimated time would be for the City to take night shift back. Officer Tyrese Fore has completed the Academy. The department is working towards have 16 working officers.

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Captain Phil Mostowski stated Fore would be in the FTO program with a Senior Officer before being released to patrol on his own. Shane Branch will graduated from the Academy in three (3) weeks. One officer was relieved of her duties for failure to complete the training program.

The Police Department will hopefully be able to assume the night shift by the end of March or early April.

Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Wilson stated Street/Sanitation Director Tarus Gilchrist was not available to attend the meeting tonight. Mayor Pro Tem stated the department has one truck that is non-functional at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Wilson stated the landscape for the Park Street Gym is underway at this time. The Park Street Gym renovations will be complete in the coming weeks. Basketball games have been held at Marion-Mullins Christian School and Palmetto.

7. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Woodbury stated the report from the Special Events Coordinator Oglaretta White was included in the packet. The Building Code Department stated 18 permits have been pulled this past month.

Mayor Woodbury stated the City has recouped \$35,000.00 with the cooperation with Data Max.

Mayor Woodbury stated the Museum Flyer was included in the packet. There are no restrictions for Animal Control. The Boy Scouts will have a project at Smith-Haven Park on February 25th. Chick-fil-a will be on the green space on February 22nd.

Mayor Woodbury stated Anderson Brothers Bank celebrated ninety (90) years of banking today. A proclamation was given on behalf of the City of Mullins.

Mayor Woodbury gave congratulations to Council Member Terry Davis on her graduation from the advanced program with MASC.

8. Comments:

- (a) Michael Hayes – Mullins Police Department

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Mayor Robert Woodbury recognized Michael Hayes. Hayes stated his concerns of no Police Protection after hours and citizens were afraid. Hayes stated morale in the Police Department is down. Mayor Woodbury acknowledged Mr. Hayes' concerns.

(b) K. Stephen Hardnett – Animal Control

Mayor Robert Woodbury recognized K. Stephen Hardnett. Hardnett stated his packet was given to Council. Hardnett stated the need and benefits of biking and walking for health reasons. Citizens are scared of the free roaming animals in the City. Mr. Hardnett encouraged the community to get out and walk and ride their bikes. Mr. Hardnett thanked Council for allowing his comments.

9. Executive Session:

(a) Contractual / Green Space

Council Member Eddie Kitchen made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council Member Terry Davis seconded the motion.

10. Return to Open Session:

Council Member Mayo Phillips made a motion to Return to Open Session.

Mayor Woodbury stated no action was taken.

11. Adjournment:

Council Member Carolyn Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Terry Davis seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Robert L. Woodbury

ATTEST:

Felicia Sawyer-Norton, City Clerk