

Minutes
Fire Committee Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023

The special meeting of the Fire Committee was held Monday, April 10, 2023 at 2:00 P.M. The following were notified of the time, date, and place of the meeting: Chairwoman Terry Davis, and Members of the Fire Committee, the City Staff, and the press. Present at the meeting were the following: Chairwoman Terry Davis, Council Members: Mayo Phillips (telephone), Fire Chief Robert Stetson, Captain Shawn Lee, and City Clerk Felicia Sawyer-Norton.

1. Call Meeting To Order & Welcome: Chairwoman Terry Davis called the meeting to order and welcomed all present.

2. Disclosure that local media has been informed of meeting pursuant to South Carolina Freedom of Information Act: Chairwoman Terry Davis stated the local media had been contacted regarding the time, date, and place of the special meeting for Monday, April 10, 2023.

3. New Business:

- (a) Budget**
- (b) Burn Ordinance**

Council Member Terry Davis recognized Fire Chief Robert Stetson. Stetson briefed the committee on the Burn Ordinance changes. A copy is attached.

Chief Stetson presented a rough draft of the upcoming FY Budget. This includes: 20% raises for employees, and a new training facility.

Chief Stetson stated the COG truck would be ready by December 5th. There is a provision included in the budget for \$118,000.00 for the fittings of the new truck.

Increasing salaries would complete with other agencies. Chief Stetson would like to focus on full-time and part-time personnel.

Council Member Davis stated the department should approach Representative Fry concerning First Responders.

A motion was made by Council Member Terry Davis to allow Maurice Eaddy to work on Fire Department vehicles while on duty. Council Member Mayo Phillips seconded the motion. This will be presented at the next Council Meeting.

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4. Adjournment:

Council Member Terry Davis made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Mayo Phillips seconded the motion.

Council Member/Fire Committee Chairwoman Terry Davis

Attest:

Felicia S. Norton, City Clerk

FIRE PREVENTION

The Mullins Fire-Rescue Department Is a Division of The City of Mullins and The Marion County Emergency Services Department. The Mullins Fire-Rescue Department, is charged with enforcing the provisions of governing fire codes, as promulgated in Sec. 23-9-30 of South Carolina State Law and Title/Chapter 8 of The City of Mullins Code of Ordinances in the Mullins Fire-Rescue response area in Marion County and ensuring compliance with governing building and fire codes through education, inspection, and enforcement.

Purpose

Each year illegal or unprescribed burns contribute to increased fire calls and emergency responses. These responses can often result in loss of life and property and property damage. In addition, aide in adding unnecessary pollutants and carcinogens to the air thereby stressing the environment for the residents of The City of Mullins. This ordinance is designed to inform contractors and residents of the rules and safety regulations concerning open burning in The City of Mullins. To prevent, abate, and control air pollution resulting from air contaminants released by the open burning of refuse or other combustible materials in making efforts to improve the living conditions and overall quality of life for the citizens of The City of Mullins.

Application

This ordinance shall apply to all operations involving open burning, except those specifically exempted in this chapter.

Definitions

Clean wood - natural wood charcoal, natural wood or cull cut lumber which has not been painted, varnished, or coated with similar material; has not been pressure treated with preservatives; and does not contain resins or glues as in plywood or other composite wood products; provided however, commercially available fireplace logs, starter logs, and similar products are also considered clean wood.

Construction and demolition waste – building waste materials, including but not limited to waste shingles, insulation, wood to which any protective coating, chemical treatment or fixative has been applied, or in any nail, tack, or similar fixative is embedded, wiring, plastics, packaging, and rubble that results from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition operations on a house, commercial, or industrial building, or other structure.

Cull lumber – construction lumber which has not been treated, or had any varnish, paint, resin, glue, or other fixative applied to its surface, and has no nails or tacks. Cull lumber specifically does not include press wood, plywood, composite wood, or similar wood-based products.

Fire Chief – the chief of The Mullins Fire-Rescue Department, or any other person designated by the fire chief.

Open burning – kindling or maintaining a fire where the products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack, chimney, or filtering system. This includes burning areas which are self-contained, such as burn barrels, in ground or above ground burn pits, or fire rings of masonry or metal construction, patio wood burning units or other similar contrivances, as well as non-area contained campfires.

Patio wood-burning unit – chiminea, patio warmer, or other portable wood-burning device used for outdoor recreation and/or heating.

Recreational fire – the burning of clean wood and wood charcoal contained in an outdoor fireplace, barbecue grill, masonry or metal fire pit, or ring for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, or similar purposes, bonfires.

Refuse – anything that can be fuel for fire other than clean wood or cull lumber, and includes cardboard, paper or plastic rubbish, debris or trash, and any putrid, unhealthy or unwholesome part of any animal, broken furniture, or waste material.

Yard waste – all trees, all shrubbery, hedge trimmings, leaves and limbs, yard cleanings, and other similar items which are not cultivated nor cared for by persons owning or controlling the premises.

General Prohibitions.

- (a) It shall be unlawful for a person to engage in open burning in the City of Mullins unless the burning is specifically permitted by this article, or under the International Fire Code.
- (b) It shall be unlawful for a person to engage in the open burning of refuse and yard waste in the City of Mullins. The City of Mullins provides yard waste collection services.
- (c) It shall be unlawful for a person to engage in the open burning of construction and demolition waste on a job site in the City of Mullins; provided however, cull lumber which has not been treated, painted, glued, or had resin applied, and contains no nails, tacks or other fixatives, may be burned only if Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) regulations are followed.

Permissible Burning, generally.

While recognizing that open burning contributes to air pollution, the City of Mullins is aware that certain types of open burning may reasonably be allowed in the public interest; therefore, the following types of open burning are permissible as specified, if burning is not prohibited by ordinances and regulations of governmental entities having jurisdiction, if atmospheric conditions or local circumstances do not warrant or deems open burning hazardous, and the burn meets the requirements of the International Fire Code. No person shall kindle or maintain any open fire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on any private property, or in any public ground, without a permit or other proper authorization. Open burning is allowed, without a permit, for the following circumstances: decorative, cooking and/or heating on private property. The diameter of the decorative, cooking and/or heating surface shall not be greater than four feet (48 inches). Natural vegetation (i.e., firewood), liquid propane, natural gas, or charcoal is the only allowable fuel source. During construction or demolition of buildings or structures, no waste materials or rubbish shall be disposed of by burning on the premises or in the immediate vicinity.

Open Burning, Recreational Fires, Portable Outdoor Fireplaces

- (a) **General.** A person shall not kindle or maintain or authorize to be kindled or maintained any open burning unless conducted and approved in accordance with the City of Mullins Code of Ordinances, The International Fire Code, and the Department of Environmental Control (DHEC) where applicable, and any other codes and standards set fourth by any other governmental agency or bureau that may be appropriate for the situation.
- (b) **Prohibited open burning.** open burning shall be prohibited when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous. **Exception:** prescribed burning for the purpose of reducing the impact of wildland fire when authorized by the fire code official.
- (c) **Nature of material being burned.** Open burning is limited to natural and ordinary combustible materials. The burning of heavy smoke producing materials, including leaves, limbs and yard debris is prohibited. The City of Mullins provides curb side pick up services for this type of rubbish. No processed or demolition debris or construction products (wood, plastic, vinyl, or shingles) shall be burned.
- (d) **Meteorological conditions.** Open burning shall not be initiated until at least one (1) hour after sunrise and shall be extinguished at least two (2) hours prior to sunset. Burning shall be restricted to periods when surface wind speed is less than 15 m.p.h.

- (e) **Open burning near airports.** All burning operations within one (1) mile of an airport must obtain approval from the airport authority. The fire code official reserves the right to request such approval in writing.
- (f) **Commercial open burning operations.** Commercial open burning is defined as burning conducted on a commercial property, not including agricultural open burning. All open commercial open burning permits will be required to have an air curtain destructor and pit.
- (g) **Agricultural open burning operations.** Agricultural burning is defined as the burning of vegetation such as grass, woody species, crop residue, and other dry plant growth for agricultural purposes.
- (h) **Residential open burning operations.** Residential open burning is defined as burning land clearance materials on one (1) or two (2) family residential property.

Locations and Distances.

The location for open burning shall not be less than the distances specified in this section for the type of open burn being conducted.

- (a) **Residential open burning.** The location for residential open burning shall not be less than one hundred (100) feet from any structure, vehicle, fence, or public roadway. The open burning shall not be within two hundred (200) feet of any structure which is not on the same property. **Exception:** Fires in approved containers that are not less than thirty (30) feet from a structure or public roadway; and not less than one hundred (100) feet from any structure which is not on the same property.
- (b) **Commercial open burning.** The location for commercial burning shall not be less than five hundred (500) feet from any structure or public roadway, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within five hundred (500) feet from any structure or public roadway.
- (c) **Agricultural open burning.** The location for any agricultural open burning shall not be less than two hundred (200) feet from any structure or public roadway, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within two hundred (200) feet of any structure or roadway. **Exception:** Where it is not feasible to maintain agricultural burning two hundred (200) feet from public roadways or structures on the same property, the fire code official shall have the authority to reduce setback requirements for special cases after verifying that adequate safety measures have been met and controls in place.
- (d) **Bonfires.** A bonfire shall not be conducted within fifty (50) feet of a structure, public road or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within fifty (50) feet of a structure, public road or combustible material shall be eliminated prior to ignition. Bonfire dimensions shall not exceed six (6) feet in diameter and six (6) feet in height.

- (e) Recreational fire.** Recreational fires shall not be conducted within twenty-five (25) feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within twenty-five (25) feet of a structure or combustible material shall be eliminated prior to ignition.
- (f) Portable outdoor fireplaces and fire pits.** Portable outdoor fireplaces and fire pits shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated on a combustible deck or within fifteen (15) feet of a structure or combustible material. **Exception:** portable outdoor fireplaces and fire pits used at one-and two- family dwellings shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- (g) Attendance.** Open burning, bonfires, recreational fires, and the use of portable outdoor fireplaces shall be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished. A minimum of (1) portable fire extinguisher complying with section 906 of the International Fire Code with a minimum 4-A rating or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization

Right of entry and inspection.

The fire chief or any authorized officer, agent, employee or representative of the municipality, who presents credentials may inspect any of the grounds or property for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with the provisions of this ordinance, and such entry and inspection shall be in compliance with state and local law regarding code inspections.

Enforcement and penalties.

Permits. Permits are required to conduct open burning within the City of Mullins and must be obtained from the fire code official. These include but are not limited to kindling a fire for recognized silvicultural or range or wildlife management practices, prevention or control of disease or pests, or a bonfire. Application for such approval shall only be presented by, and permits issued to the owner of the land upon which the fire is to be kindled. Permits may be applied for at Mullins City Hall. At least twenty-four (24) hours' notice is required for all permits to allow ample time for notification of the fire official and allow scheduling for inspection of the location the open burn will be conducted, and permit issued upon fire official approval.

Exception: Permits are not required for recreational fires or portable outdoor fireplaces used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Fires exempt from permits must still comply with all safety requirements of this ordinance and the International Fire Code.

Authorization. Where required by state or local law or regulation, open burning shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management

authority (DHEC), provided that all conditions specified in the authorization are followed. Approvals from (DHEC) will be included with the burn permit application where applicable.

Permit validity. Open burn permits have an operational period of up to three (3) days as noted on the permit unless restricted by state or local authorities. Permits shall not be transferable. Any permission granted in this section will be subject to continued review and may be withdrawn at any time. The fire code official for the city of Mullins will issue all permits for open burning in the city limits and may place conditions and limitations on the permit to protect the public. No permit will be issued for the burning of yard waste, the city provides for the collection of yard debris. Burning for the purpose of clearing land shall be prohibited.

Compliance with all laws.

The authority to conduct open burning under the provisions of this ordinance does not exempt or excuse any person from the consequences, damages, or injuries which may result from such conduct, nor does it excuse or exempt any person from complying with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and orders of the governmental entities having jurisdiction, even though the open burning is conducted in compliance with this ordinance.

Enforcement and penalties.

The fire chief is authorized to enforce the provisions of this ordinance by immediate extinguishment of any open burning that negatively impacts public health, safety, or welfare, or that is not in compliance, or at his/or her discretion, and to issue ordinance summons for violations. The fire code official will act as the extinguishment authority. When open burning creates or adds to a hazardous situation, or a required permit for open burning has not been obtained, the fire code official is authorized to order the extinguishment of the open burning operation. If the responsible party refuses or is non-compliant with the fire code official's order, law enforcement will be notified to respond to the location, and issue the appropriate fines or penalties set fourth in the City of Mullins Municipal Code.

FIRE

OFFICE SUPPLIES						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
Supplies	Misc. Pens, Paper, Printer Ink	Daily Operations for Three Stations	1,000	3	3,000	0
					0	
					3,000	0

DUES AND FEES						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
NFPA Membership	Annual Renewal		145	1	145	
IBC Membership	Annual Renewal		145	1	145	
EMT	Annual Renewal		300	1	300	
Fire & Life Safety Membership	Annual Renewal		50	2	100	
IAFC Membership	Annual Renewal		25	1	25	
Mar. Co. Fire Chiefs Assoc	Annual Renewal		180	1	180	
NFPA/IBC Subscriptions	Annual Renewal	NFPA \$1275.00 IBC \$1275.00	1,275	2	2,550	
					3,445	0

SERVICE CONTRACTS						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
VC3			\$218.54	12	2,622	
stationary backup generator Pm	annual service and maintenance	preventive maintenance	900	1	900	
breathing air compressor Pm	annual service and maintenance	preventive maintenance	700	1	700	
quarterly air quality tests	annual service and maintenance	OSHA required air test for breathing air compressor	100	4	400	
Physicals	Yearly Physicals	OSHA Required Physicals	250	30	7,500	
	Applied Knowledge	6 mth. Audit PM Sheets EMP Training	4,200	1	4,200	
					16,322	0

SUPPLIES AND MINOR EQUIPMENT						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
25 sections of attack hose	1.1/2", 2", 3" hose	replace failed and damage hose	140	25	3,500	
5 sections of large dia hose	5" LDH for supply	replace failed and damage hose	668	5	3,340	
Loose Equipment	Loose Equipment For New Tanker	Received \$500K for New Tanker This would cover Eqpt.	118,000	1	118,000	
Nozzles	Fire Suppression	Replace worn older Nozzles	800	2	1,600	
Gate Valves 3"	Water Supply	Replace worn older Gate Valves	0	0	0	
Turnout Gear For Full Time	Required PPE to Replace Out of Date Gear	6 Sets To Replace Gear that is past it's Lifespan	2,600	6	15,600	
New Radio Batteries	Portable Radio Batteries	16 New Batteries For Portable Radios need Replacing	158	18	2,844	
					144,884	0

TRAVEL						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
EMS conference	continuing ed units	for recert	1,000	1	1000	
fire conference	annual conference and business meeting	to send up to delegates to represent the dept. in voting	2,000	1	2000	
Mileage, Per Diem	Mileage, Meals, Accommodations	For Fire Conv. EMS Conf. South Carolina Fire Academy	1,000	1	1000	
					0	
					4,000	0

UNIFORMS						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
Full Time Uniforms	Shirts, Pants, Boots, Coats	Replace worn Uniforms and Supply any New Hires	720	7	5,040	
Uniforms For 2 Hires/Part Time	Shirts, Pants,Boots,Coats,Badges	Supply New Hires/ Part Time	1200	2	2,400	
					7,440	0

TRAINING						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
Class and Certifications	Fees for SCFA Classes	Required Classes For Continuing Education	2000	1	2,000	
IFSTA Manuals	Training Manuals	ISO Required for Updated Training	2000	1	2,000	
	Fire Prevention	Materials	2000	1	2,000	
					6,000	0

MAINTENANCE TO EQUIP						
Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend
Annual Fleet PMs	DOT Inspections on All Apparatus	Required Yearly By DOT	2,550	5	12,750	
SCBA Flow Test	Test AirPacks	Service and Maintain SCBAs	1,800	1	1,800	
Ladder Testing	Test Ground Ladders	Required Yearly Testing For OSHA	1,600	1	1,600	
Aerial Ladder Testing	Test Ladder on Aerial Truck	Required Yearly Testing For OSHA	1,500	1	1,500	
Hose Testing	Test all Hose	Required Yearly	6,000	1	6,000	
Nozzle Testing	Test all Nozzles	Ensure Adequate Water Flow	1,000	1	1,000	
Pump Testing	Test all Apparatus Pumps	Required Yearly	250	5	1,250	
Service Small Equip.	Service and Repair Saws, PPVs, Generators	Maintain or Replace all Small Engine Equipment	4,000	1	4,000	
Vehicle Tires	Replacement of worn tires as needed	As recommended by consultant	12,000	1	12,000	
Repair Bed on Rescue35	Repair Bed and Bed Cover on Rescue35	Currently no cover on rear of truck covering equipment	7,900	1	7,900	
					49,800	0

MAINTENANCE TO BLDG						
Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommendation	
HVAC For Sta30	Yearly Repairs and Maintenance Too Costly		0	0		
Metal Building For Forrestry TRK	Metal Bldg Required To House Trucks/S.O.R.T. Equip	20,000	1	20,000		
Bay Doors	Maintenance to Bay Doors (all stations)	175	11	1,925		
Reseal Roof STA35	Preventative Maintenance/Repair including Walls	2,500	1	2,500		
				24,425	0	

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE						
Item Requested	Description	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommendation	
Hose Bed Covers	Replace all Hose Bed Covers	1,700	3	5,100		
Buffing & Paint Reconditioning	Buff and recondition pain on all apparatus	1,000	3	3,000		
Phase I Repairs to Aerial	Repair Aerial Truck	50,000	1	50,000		
				58,100	0	

UTILITIES						
Item Requested	Description	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommendation	
AT&T	INTERNET	525	12	6,300		
PEE DEE ELECTRIC	1702 OLD STAGE ROAD	275	12	3,300		
DOMINION	161 E FRONT STREET/747 MILLERS ROAD	675	12	8,100		
DIRECT TV	747 MILLERS ROAD	110	12	1,320		
GSWSA	WATER	120	12	1,440		
			0	0		
			0	0		
			0	0		
				20,460	0	

FIRE

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
Desktop PC			0	0			
Comm Grade Copier/printer			0	0			
					0	0	

MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
Rescue Pumper							
Tanker Pumper							
Scott Air Packs		Finish replacing the old Draeger Packs and supply aerial	8,000	6	48,000		
Skid Units and Misc Equipment		2 new brush trucks need skid units & misc equipment	0	0			
Extrication Tools		1 Hurst E-Draulic Cutter and 1 Spreader	43,805	1	43,805		
					91,805	0	

OTHER OUTLAY

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
Radio Base Station		Install Base station radios at Sta37	8,000	1	8,000		
Mobile Radios		Currently no comm in either truck. Required for ISO	0	0			
Portable Radios		Currently at a shortage of handhelds for Personnel. Required for communications for ISO. 2,757	100	10	1,000		
HVAC Unit		Replace current unit	0	0			
New Pagers		Digital Programmable Pagers	700,000	1	700,000		
Training Facility/Burn Building		*Required by ISO			709,000	0	

TRANSPORTATION

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
Possible Forestry Acquisitions				0	0	0	

DEBT SERVICE-PRINCIPAL

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
	Equipment Leasing	\$238,581 Total	24,000	1	24,528	24,528	Due 8/30/22
	Community Leasing Partners	RESCUE PUMPER & TANKER PUMPER	76,110	1	76,110	76,110	Due 7/8/22
	Training Facility/Burn Building	Replace Training Facility/Burn Bldg that was destroyed	42,000	0	0	0	Required to Maintain Current ISO Rating
					109,639	100,638	

DEBT SERVICE-INTEREST

Item Requested	Description	Purpose/Justification	Cost Per Unit	Quantity Requested	Total Budget Request	Manager Recommend	Manager Notes
	Equipment Leasing		5,080	1	3,169	3,169	Due 8/30/22
	Community Leasing Partners	RESCUE PUMPER & TANKER PUMPER	19,153	1	19,153	19,153	Due 7/8/22
					0	0	
					22,322	22,322	

