

Minutes
City Council Meeting
Tuesday, August 9, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Mullins City Council was held Tuesday, August 9, 2016 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, Linda Schiavo, Sherry C. Hayes, Terry Davis, Captain Joe Graham, Captain Phil Mostowski, Justin Turner, Chad Hayes, Ava Hayes, Kim Nelson, Reggie McDaniel, David & Pam Anderson, Ken Foster, Tarus Gilchrist, Jerry Jacobs, Michael Cullipher, Norma Cullipher, Revel Rogers, Public Access TV, and many others.

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

David Anderson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: The invocation was given by 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 August 9, 2016.

Mayor McMillan asked Council to consider amending the agenda to include a lease agreement for property located on Gapway Street. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to amend the agenda to include the lease agreement. Council Member Davis seconded the motion.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Council Member Schiavo second the motion.

4. Consent Agenda:

(a) Approval of Minutes – June 14, 2016 – City Council Meeting

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to table the approval of the consent agenda until the next meeting. Council Member Davis seconded the motion.

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5. Old Business:

(a) Second Reading of Ordinance #16-003, "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF MULLINS, SOUTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE; AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE.

Council Member Davis made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance #16-003, "AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR THE CITY OF MULLINS, SOUTH CAROLINA; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER OF AMENDING SUCH CODE; AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE. Council Member Sanders seconded the motion.

6. New Business:

(a) Consideration of a request from Senator Kent Williams, SC Senate District 30, for funding of in-district expenses for staffing, supplies and other items in the amount of \$5000.00.

Council Member Sanders made a motion to approve the request for \$2,500.00. Council Member Davis seconded the motion.

Council Member Hayes asked what the money was used for. Mayor McMillan stated the money was used for local staffing and office expenses. Mayor McMillan also stated they also receive money from the County of Marion, and the City of Marion.

(b) First Reading of Ordinance #16-6004, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AWARD, EXECUTION, AND DELIVERY OF AN EQUIPMENT LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT BY THE CITY OF MULLINS, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$325,000, RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO."

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Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance #16-604, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE AWARD, EXECUTION, AND DELIVERY OF AN EQUIPMENT LEASE/PURCHASE AGREEMENT BY THE CITY OF MULLINS, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$325,000, RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF OTHER NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO." Council Member Davis seconded the motion.

(c) Consideration regarding submittal of a grant request to the Marion Healthcare Foundation for the funding of Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) to be placed in various City of Mullins facilities.

City Administrator Hudspeth stated he will be submitting a grant request to the Marion County Healthcare Foundation for the funding of AED's. Council Member Sanders made a motion for the submittal of the grant request. Council Member Davis seconded the motion.

7. Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report

Mayor McMillan stated the Golden Leaf & BBQ Festival will be held on September 23-24. There will be a total of \$11,000.00 in prize money for the BBQ event. So far 16 cook teams have signed up for the competition. The Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring the Jebb Mac Band on Friday night. Beer and Wine will be offered.

Street/Sanitation

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips stated \$273,000.00 has been awarded from the Hwy. Commission. The property located at the corner of Smith & James Street has been cleaned. There have been many visitors at the Tobacco Museum this month, including 20 multi-international students.

Chief Stetson noted the call volume is down this month. The site for Station #3 did not pass inspection. They will try the same spot, just further down.

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Mayor McMillan stated letters were written months ago for a Tiger Grant for RJ Corman so that they may move forward with the railroad. RJ Corman received \$9.7 million for continued upgrades of the railroad.

An invitation has been given by Mayor Bobby Davis for a joint Town Hall meeting at the Opera House to discuss Community Policing.

Tree/Library/Animal Control

Council Member Davis thanked everyone for working with the explorer program chartered through the Boy Scout Program. Davis stated the trees are getting trimmed by Duke Energy in preparation for the upcoming storms. Davis also stated the concern of all the mosquitos. Davis noted there had been concern with coyotes in the City and Animal Control has placed several traps out for that problem. The library is still getting some maintenance on the inside and it is almost time for some landscaping outside.

Recreation / Insurance

Council Member Sanders stated the Recreation Department hosted 3 tournaments. Over 300 children have been registered to play football/soccer. There are 12 church teams playing softball and they have 2 weeks left to play. There will be a ceremony for the new soccer fields. The date and time will be announced. The gym on Park Street is open. Adults play on Tuesday and Thursday. A Committee meeting will be called to discuss the purchase of some fans for the gym on Park Street. Sanders stated the Recreation Director is responsible for the upkeep of Smith Haven Park.

Police

Council Member Linda Schiavo stated the crime rate is down around the City. A matching grant that was awarded to the department has allowed the department to purchase 3 - 2016 Ford Interceptors. These cars were in-service on July 4th. They are equipped with in-car cameras and radars. The Police Department has also received a grant for \$13,485.00 for the body cameras.

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Finance / Drainage

Council Member Wilson commended Captain Graham and Justin Turner for an active shooter program that was conducted at CD Joyner in Marion and also at Council Member Wilson's church. The program helps businesses learn what they need to do if they come into a situation involving a shooter.

Council Member Wilson mentioned that Tarus Gilchrist is going to clear some driveways in certain areas. A street sweeper will make a big difference in the appearance of our streets.

Council Member Wilson noted the FY 2017 has been approved. Hudspeth noted the Audit would begin soon and be completed by the end of the year.

Administrative

City Administrator Hudspeth stated the cost for demolishing the old Belk building would cost between \$100,000.00 - \$200,000.00. Fines for dilapidated house and vehicles would be added to the property owners taxes.

Council Member Hayes asked if the audio had been repaired. Hudspeth stated he would check with Holly. Hayes asked if there was a Golden Leaf Pageant this year. Mayor McMillan stated there would not be a pageant this year. Hayes stated previous pageants became a burden for the Town and its became costly. Hayes noted if there was a pageant in the future that should be discussed so the City wouldn't be burden with additional costs.

Hayes stated Ordinance #10.28.050 junk vehicles & 15.04.010 property maintenance cover a lot about properties. Hayes asked what the ordinances are for if they are not adhered to. Hudspeth stated lots are handled with letters before they are cut by the City. When they are cut by the City they are then billed. If they do not pay the bills it will be added to the citizens taxes.

Hayes stated she had received calls about missed pickups for trash service. Hayes asked if there was a contract for this service. Hudspeth stated there was a contract and the company had been experiencing several problems over the past month. Hudspeth stated Council should consider looking over

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the contract before renewing. Mayor McMillan stated AWS had lost 3 people in the past month, along with problems with the trucks.

Hayes asked what the amount was the City Administrator and the Mayor could approve. Hudspeth stated the amount is \$5,000.00 after the policy has been followed. Anything over \$5,00.00 has to be publicly bid and approved by Council.

Hayes asked if the City was still renting the old Wally's building. Hudspeth stated the building is no longer being rented by the City.

Hayes asked if there is a Juvenile Curfew. Hayes stated if the curfew was enforced a lot of the crimes would be cut back. Chief Bethea stated there has not been an issue with juveniles being out late at night. Hayes stated she had seen juveniles out late and there was an issue. Bethea stated no reports have been made. Hayes asked what could be done if they are in violation. Bethea stated they will be brought to the Police Department and their parents are called. If they are a repeat offender the parent will be issued a ticket.

Hayes asked if there are tickets being written for litter. Bethea stated tickets will be written if someone is seen littering.

Hayes stated there are homeless people in Mullins. What can the City do to help those homeless. Bethea stated the Police Department can not pick those people up and take them to a shelter. Bethea said if they are called they can handle it accordingly. Hayes stated a homeless man went to a place of business and was asked to leave the building and when he did he passes out on the street and nothing was done about it. Davis stated the shelters are doing all they can for these people. Davis stated the students of the High School are going around every month picking up trash. Hayes stated she helps homeless people that come by her shop. Hayes wants to know if anything can be done about the homeless. Chief Bethea stated those people have to want help. Mayor McMillan stated a committee could be put together to try to reach out to these people. Davis stated the homeless shelters are working with DSS and Alcohol & Drug Abuse places to help these people.

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William L. McMillan

Attest:

Felicia S. Turner
City Clerk