

**Minutes  
City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Mullins City Council was held Tuesday, February 13, 2018 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: Eddie Kitchen, Terry Davis, City Attorney Robert Corley, Jerry Jacobs, Officer Anthony Inman, Police Chief Mike Bethea, Fire Chief Robert Stetson, Public Access TV, and many others.

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

Steve Johnson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Invocation:** The invocation was given by Council Member/Chaplain Robert Woodbury.

**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 February 13, 2018.

**3. Approval of Agenda:**

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to accept the Approval of Agenda. Council Member Kitchen seconded the motion.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

- (a) Approval of Minutes – January 9, 2018 – City Council Meeting
- (b) Approval of Monthly Bills

Council Member Sanders made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Council Member Wilson seconded the motion.

**Page Two**  
**Minutes - City Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

**5. Public Presentation**

(a) Introduction of SC Criminal Justice Academy Graduate and New Mullins Police Officer: Anthony Inman

Mayor McMillan recognized Mullins Police Officer – Anthony Inman.

**6. Old Business:**

There was no old business.

**7. New Business:**

(a) Approval of Risk Management Resolution #18-001

Council Member Kitchen made a motion to accept Risk Management Resolution #18-001. Mayor Pro Tem Phillips seconded the motion.

(b) Approval of Law Enforcement Assistance And Support Agreement Resolution #18-002

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips made a motion to accept Law Enforcement Assistance And Support Agreement Resolution #18-002. Council Member Woodbury seconded the motion.

(c) Consideration of a proposal for the modification and installation of a new City of Mullins sign to be installed

Council Member Davis stated the donation of the sign would cost the City money that could be used for other projects. Hudspeth stated lights could be placed on the current sign. Council Member Woodbury stated the City should accept the sign and store it until funds can be appropriated to install it.

Consensus of Council was to accept the sign from Francis Marion.

**Page Three**  
**Minutes - City Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

**8. Committee Reports:**

Administration – Mayor Pro Tem Pat Phillips  
Police – Council Member Eddie Kitchen  
Fire – Council Member Terry Davis  
Recreation – Council Member Carolyn Wilson  
Street/Sanitation - Council Member Robert Woodbury  
Finance – Council Member Jo Sanders

Mayor Pro Tem stated newly elected have never been chairs of committees.

Mayor McMillan stated by placing Mayor Pro Tem Phillips on one committee it would free her time up for the African American Museum.

Council Member Kitchen stated he would be riding along with police officers next week.

Council Member Davis asked how Fire Station#2 is running. Hudspeth stated there are several openings at the Fire Department. Applications are being accepted.

Fire Chief Robert Stetson stated business owners should be encouraged to maintain the areas around their businesses. Stetson stated one of the tankers would be back in service after its repaired. The cost of the repair is \$7,000.00.

Council Member Davis stated there is a fire hydrant on North Mullins Street that needs to be repaired. Hudspeth stated GSWSA is responsible for hydrant maintenance.

Hudspeth stated demolition of abandoned houses could be added to property taxes.

Council Member Sanders noted Jones Street and North Smith Street are full of litter.

Mayor Pro Tem Phillips asked what the procedure for abandoned houses is. Hudspeth stated when condemning a house a lien is placed on the property and the owner has one year to pay the taxes and get the property back.

**Page Four**  
**Minutes - City Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

Council Member Woodbury asked if grants are available for the demolition of these houses. Hudspeth stated CDBG funds are available when you have more than one house in the same area to be demolished.

Hudspeth noted the request for City Court to be transferred to the County Magistrate.

**9. Comments:**

**10. Adjournment:**

Council Member Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Kitchen seconded the motion.

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William L. McMillan  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Felicia Sawyer

**Minutes**  
**Police Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

The Police Committee Meeting was held Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the Raymond Pridgen Auditorium. The following were notified of the time, date, and place of the meeting: Police Committee and local media. Present at the meeting were the following: Council Members: Eddie Kitchen, Carolyn Wilson, Jo Sanders, Police Chief Mike Bethea, City Administrator David Hudspeth.

- 1. Call meeting to Order & Welcome:** Chairman Kitchen
- 2. Disclosure that local media has been informed of meeting pursuant to South Carolina Freedom of Information Act**
- 3. Re:** Department Review

Council Member Kitchen stated the meeting was called since the departure of Joe Graham and Eddie Page. Kitchen questioned how those duties were split among the Department. Bethea stated Graham's duties were split between the remaining investigators. Page's position is no longer needed. Michael Hartson is now the Lead Investigator. There are a total of 25 officers, 3 of which are investigators. The investigators are taking turns working the road. Shawn Ceo, Taylor Wallace, and Antonio Strickland are working the schools.

Hudspeth stated some of those salaries could be divided among the remaining officers or used for things needed in the Department.

There are currently no employees attending the academy. Hudspeth stated if an officer graduates the academy and then goes to another organization, that organization has to reimburse us.

Kitchen stated while working on the budget those salaries could be appropriated.

Sanders would like to compare salaries to other departments. Hudspeth stated new hires make around \$26,000.00.

Bethea stated once the new officers are trained it will be decided who will go to the drug unit.

**Page Two**  
**Minutes - Police Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

Council Member Kitchen asked Hudspeth to explain what is going on with Municipal Court. Hudspeth stated Judge Campbell retired at the beginning of the week. Hudspeth stated any fine that could carry jail time would need representation from an attorney/public defender. Court should be transferred to the County. The fine money would go to the Magistrate's Office. The City collects around \$50,000.00 each year in fines. All court functions would be transferred to the County. Hudspeth stated negotiations are in the process with the County.

Kitchen asked how the Police Department would handle a shooting at a school. Bethea stated it would be handled the same way everyone else has. The location would be assessed before entering the building. It would be a multi-agency response. Officers are trained with active shooter classes.

Kitchen asked Chief Bethea and Captain Mostowski to record a daily activity log. Wilson asked what the purpose of the log was. Kitchen stated it could make things more efficient. Wilson stated employees have a duty list. Sanders stated the best thing would be to have a calendar with the things that need to be done. Bethea stated it was not necessary for investigators or road officers to use a daily log.

Kitchen would like to start doing ride alongs. It would be better to ride with an officer that has been with the Department for a while. Kitchen suggested riding with the watch commanders.

It was the consensus of the Police Committee to start the daily activity log.

**4. Adjournment**

Kitchen adjourned the meeting.

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Eddie Kitchen  
Police Department Committee Chairman

ATTEST:

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Felicia Sawyer  
City Clerk

# CITY OF MULLINS

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February 22, 2018

Tim Harper, County Administrator  
2523 E Hwy 76  
Marion, SC 29571

Re: Mullins Municipal Court

Dear Mr. Harper:

Based on our earlier conversation and the discussions I have had with the Mullins City Council, I am requesting Marion County consider assuming all court responsibilities currently being performed by the Mullins Municipal Court. This would include, but not be limited to, the following court functions:

- All bench and jury trials
- Jury Selections
- All bond hearings to be held at the County Magistrate's Office
- All warrants
- Expungements
- NRVC's
- Receive payment of fines and fees
- Completion of all disbursement reports and submission of all fees to the State of SC
- General Sessions Transmittals
- Public Defense
- Victims' Advocacy

In exchange for providing the above services, the City of Mullins would waive all potential revenue generated from fines and fees collected for charges made by the Mullins Police Department.

The above arrangement would be dependent on approval of both councils. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
David E. Hudspeth  
City Administrator

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF MARION  
CITY OF MARION**

***PROCLAMATION***

**AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH 2018**

The American Red Cross saw a record-breaking year in 2017 of challenging domestic and international response efforts. Through the support of its volunteers, in just 45 days, the Red Cross responded to six of the largest and most complex disasters of 2017 including back-to-back hurricanes, the deadliest week of wildfires in California history, and the horrific mass shooting in Las Vegas. In addition, the Red Cross responded to nearly 50,000 home fires in 2017, providing casework assistance to help 76,000 families recover.

In Eastern South Carolina, the Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors in need. The Eastern SC chapter assisted with more than 360 local disasters in the past year alone. They installed nearly 3,500 smoke alarms with its partners and reached almost 600 children with fire safety information. In our area, the Red Cross handles an average of 800 emergency military calls every year collects an average of 20,100 units of blood from our generous blood donors.

March is American Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help members of the community. The Red Cross depends on these local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in Mullins who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand.

Across the country and around the world, the American Red Cross responds to disasters big and small. It collects about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply; provides 24-hour support to military members, veterans and their families; teaches millions lifesaving skills such as lifeguarding and CPR; and through its Restoring Family Links program, connects family members separated by crisis, conflict or migration.

We dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William L. McMillan, Mayor of Mullins, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Mullins and South Carolina do hereby proclaim March 2018 as American Red Cross Month. I encourage all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen, and of Mullins, South Carolina.

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William L. McMillan  
Mayor