

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 9, 2018

5:30 PM

Present:

Mayor Mike Fanning

Bill Brandenburg, Council Member

Harold Void, Council Member

Kim Gidron, Council Member

Freda H. Trupiano, Town Clerk

Kayla F. Risher, Administrative Assistant

Shawn Murphree, Police Chief

Earl Kinley, Assistant Police Chief

- Mayor Mike Fanning welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was followed by a short prayer. Mayor Fanning provided the invocation and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

- Mayor Mike Fanning called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Special Guests

- Mayor Mike Fanning invited Chief Craig Hill from the Elloree Fire Department to speak. Chief Hill reported that there were approximately 150 calls last year for accidents, alarms, and fires. Chief Hill stated that the Fire Department is looking for volunteers, particularly first responders. Over the past few years the Fire Department received 2 FEMA grants which totaled over \$65,000. The grants allowed the Fire Department to extend their rescue and firefighting capabilities with new equipment. Mayor Fanning would like Chief Hill to report periodically on the Fire Department.

· **Approval of Minutes**

- Council Member Harold Void made a motion to approve the council minutes from March 12, 2018. Council Member Kim Gidron seconded the motion and all were in favor.

· **Elloree Water Department Report**

- Jane Singh, Board Member of the Elloree Water Department presented the report. The Elloree Water System had 61 work orders for the month of March and 644 customers were billed. March's estimated water loss was 12%. The Waste Water Plant had no violations with SCDHEC and the water Bacti samples were in compliance. Singh stated that the Water Department sent out letters to update customer contact information so that they can implement an emergency contact system. The Water Department can now send billing statements via email. The next meeting for the Elloree Water System will be April 10, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

· **Audit Report**

- The 2016 Financial Audit for the Town of Elloree was presented by Murdaugh and Associates. Tripp Wingard reported from the Audited Financial Statement booklet and explained which pages to find specific information. He also stated that the revenues were up for the general funds. Wingard mentioned that the 2016 audit for the town was a clean audit.

· **Public Comments, Concerns, Information or Recommendations to Council**

- None.

· **Police Report**

- Chief Shawn Murphree presented the March 2018 Police Report.
- There were 62 calls for service, 45 tickets issued, 7 warnings, 3 traffic safety check points, and 2 vehicle pursuits.

Tickets and Arrests:

- 1- Child Restraint
- 5- Seatbelts
- 9- Thoughtless Operation
- 1- License Plate Tag Expired
- 7- Driver's License Violations
- 7- Alcohol Violations
- 2- Operating Uninsured Vehicles
- 2- No Vehicle License
- 1- Loud Music
- 1- Reckless Driving
- 5- Simple Possession of Marijuana
- 1- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- 3- Carrying Concealed Weapon
- 4- Warrants Served
- 1- Unlawful Communication
- 1- Forgery (2 counts)
- 1- Possession of Firearm by Violent Felon
- 1- Possession of less than 1 Gram of Meth

- Chief Murphree extended thanks to the Santee, Holly Hill, St. Matthews, and Salley Police Departments; the Orangeburg Sheriff's Office, and the South Carolina Highway Patrol for their assistance during the Ellore Trials. There were 0 incidents in town on the day of the Ellore Trials.
- Chief Murphree also thanked three concerned citizens who made phone calls to him to report suspicious activity in the town. Two of the calls resulted in two narcotic arrests. The other resulted in two individuals trespassing on private property. Chief Murphree stated that this is a great example of the citizens and the Police Department working together to protect our community.

- Council member Harold Void gave a special thanks to the Ellore Police Department for helping with the Egg Hunt on March 28, 2018 at Joe Miller Park. Chief Murphree mentioned that the Police Department will coordinate more activities in the future.

Clerk’s Report

- Town Clerk Freda Trupiano presented Mayor Fanning and Council with the financial report for the month of March.

February

<u>Total Fines Collected</u>	\$4668.01
• State Treasurer	\$ 2120.29
• Victims Fund	\$391.10
• Savings	\$2156.62

March

<u>Total Fines Collected</u>	\$4048.00
• State Treasurer	\$2060.46
• Victims Fund	\$413.80
• Savings	\$1573.74

- The next court date will be April 16, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

- Ms. Trupiano stated that the election polls will be open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm at the New Ellore Elementary school on April 10, 2018 to fill the unexpired council seat that was held by Mr. Felder in District 3. No one signed up for the unexpired seat; therefore, it is a write in election.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Mike Fanning gave an update on the departments of the town.
- Town Staff: Mayor Fanning stated that he is very pleased with the Town Staff. Many business licenses were mailed out. The Town Clerk is doing a great job of corresponding with the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce and the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce. Kayla Risher was recognized as the new Zoning Administrator and the town website was updated to current zoning rules and regulations.
- Streets and Parks: Mayor Fanning stated that the Streets and Parks guys are doing a good job and they have a schedule of daily tasks to follow. Mayor Fanning thanked Streets and Parks for cutting and cleaning up Loyns Park the previous week. Mayor Fanning mentioned that the containers are in high demand right now and they are given out on a first come, first serve basis. The town truck needed a new starter and was repaired locally. Streets and Parks will continue to maintain the downtown section. Mayor Fanning suggested Streets and Parks have Spring/Summer hours from 8:00 am-3:00 pm.
- Police Department: Mayor Fanning stated that the Police Department was very prepared for the Ellore Trials. Traffic was well regulated and there were several police check points.
- Upcoming Projects:
 - The July 4th festival will be the next event.
 - Joe Miller Park:
 - 1.) Will be leveled off with top soil and grass seed will be dispersed.
 - 2.) The council will soon decide whether to repair or remove the fountain at Joe Miller Park. A motion was made by Council Member Harold Void to price the cost of the fountain repairs; the motion was seconded by Council Member Bill Brandenburg, and all were in favor.
 - 3.) The playground area original mulch will be replaced with certified playground mulch.
 - 4.) Plans will be made to sand and paint the signs on the Highway 6 side of the park.
 - 5.) New mulch will be placed around the trees and signs.

6.) Planning to install a few sections of fence on the road side of the walking trail.

· Joe Miller Park and the ball field will be surveyed and priced for spraying of weeds.

- Currently working with funding and looking for a location for a new electronic sign to advertise town events.
- Looking into the state contract for a gator for the Streets and Parks department to use. Two agencies were contacted and the town was put on a list to receive a gator.
- Checking into a portable radar to track speed and slow down traffic.

Old Business

- Debrief of Ellore Trials: Mayor Fanning stated that the Ellore Trials committee was a pleasure to work with. He thanked Mr. Harold Young at Orangeburg County for sending two containers to the training center for no charge. The Orangeburg County Litter Control picked up about 680 pounds of garbage on the road side the week of the Trials. Mayor Fanning's church group also contributed to the trash pick-up prior to the trials. Mayor Fanning thanked SCDOT out of Holly Hill for sweeping the streets and also filling in pot holes.

New Business

- Mayor Fanning mentioned that budget workshops will take place in May to prepare the 2018-2019 budget.
- July 4th Celebration: Mayor Fanning stated that the town is open to suggestions to improve the July 4th celebration. He also mentioned that he would like something at the event to be organized honoring those who have served and who are in the military other than having only fireworks.

Executive Session

- Mayor Mike Fanning requested to enter an executive session for a discussion of negotiation for a proposed contractual agreement for the acquisition of property referred to as Project X. Council Member Harold Void made a motion to enter the executive session which was seconded by Council Member Bill Brandenburg. The executive session began at 6:16 pm. The session convened at 6:42 pm after a motion

was made by Council Member Void and seconded by Council Member Brandenburg.
No action was taken during the executive session.

- **Adjournment**

- Council Member Harold Void made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Council Member Bill Brandenburg and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Freda H. Trupiano

Town Clerk/Treasurer