

Town Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 12, 2018
5:30PM

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
Chief Shawn Murphree
Assistant Chief Earl Kinley

Mayor Mike Fanning welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of several families in the community who lost loved ones recently. Mayor Fanning then provided the invocation. After the Invocation Mayor Fanning 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**

Chief Craig Hill, Elloree Fire Department, was unable to attend. Chief Hill would like report at least once per quarter at the council meeting.

- **Business of the Month Recognition**

None

- **Approval of Minutes**

Council Member Harold Void made a motion to approve the Council Minutes from February 12, 2018. Council Member Bill Brandenburg seconded the motion and all were in favor.

- **Elloree Water Department Report**

Ms. Cole Dantzler of the Elloree Water System presented the report. The Elloree Water System had 102 work orders for the month of February and 644 customers were billed. February's estimated water loss was 21%. Waste Water Plant had no violations with SCDHEC and the water Bacti samples were in compliance. The next meeting for the Elloree Water System will be March 13, 2018 @ 6:00PM.

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

Ms. Claudette Pauling spoke to Council concerning the importance of teamwork.

- **Police Report**

Chief Shawn Murphree presented the February 2018 Police Report.

There were 69 calls for service, 62 citations issued, and 14 warning tickets issued.

17 arrests for the following charges:

7-driving under suspension

4-open container

1-shoplifting

2-narcotics

1-weapon (handgun)

1-disorderly conduct

1-Receiving stolen goods

The Police Department had no incidents reported during the Trash to Treasures Festival.

Chief Murphree extended thanks to Lt. Austin Arant for providing his personal golf cart for the Town Hall Staff to use during Trash to Treasures. He thanked the Town of Elloree Staff, Ms. Daisy Pauling, and the Police Department for their teamwork and dedication to making the 2018 Trash to Treasures festival a success.

He gave special recognition to Assistant Chief Earl Kinley for his response and investigative work pertaining to the shoplifting incident at Helmly Brother's Hardware.

- **Clerk's Report**

Town Clerk Freda Trupiano presented Mayor Fanning and Council with the financial report for the Month of February. Council Member Harold Void made a motion to accept the financial report for the month of February and Council Member Bill Brandenburg seconded the motion. All were in favor. Ms. Trupiano then presented Court Fines Report for the months of January and February as reported:

January

Total Fines Collected	\$4730.00
• State Treasurer	\$2086.22
• Victims Fund	\$400.52
• Savings	\$2243.26

February

Total Fines Collected	\$4668.01
• State Treasurer	\$2120.29
• Victims Fund	\$391.10
• Savings	\$2156.62

Next court date will be March 19, 2018 at 4:30PM.

- Ms. Trupiano then presented the Trash to Treasures Update. 23 vendors participated with total revenue of \$280.00. She shared the positive comments received from participants and vendors alike. Special thanks was given to:

**Mayor Fanning and The Town Council
Ellore Police Department**

- Chief Shawn Murphree
- Asst. Chief Earl Kinley
- Lt. Austin Arant

Town Hall Staff

- Leslie Furtick
- Kayla Risher
- Freda Trupiano

Streets and Parks Staff

- Lindsey Wiles
- Harold Dash

Ms. Daisy Pauling

Citizen Participation and Yard Sales

Mr and Mrs Mike Spivey for preparing a delicious bbq feast for the Police Department and Town Employees.

Suggestion/Improvement for next year-Consider extending actual event time from 8am to 2:30 pm instead of 1:00 pm.

Ms. Trupiano presented an update for Ellore Trials:

The Mayor's welcome letter has been submitted to the Ellore Trials Office.

The banners have been placed on the downtown poles.

Planning and preparations are on schedule for the Saturday, March 24, 2018.

- **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Fanning gave an update on the different departments of the town. He stated he is very pleased with the Town Staff.

Town Hall- high level of professionalism, staff is working hard for the town.

Municipal Judge- Has been a great addition for the town. Bond hearings held here in town hall; Judge Avinger is very helpful in assisting Ellore in maintaining proper documentation and financial accountability.

Police Department-High level of visibility. Praise received from several businesses about their confidence in this department.

Streets and Parks-working hard to continue to clean the town. Uniforms have been purchased for the staff.

Residents

Mayor Fanning thanked the residents for helping clean up the town. Ms. Evan Dukes was recognized for litter pick up efforts and a plaque will be presented to her by Asst. Chief Kinley.

Since last month:

1. Signs added at Loyns Park and Joe Miller Park. Some additional landscaping to be completed with the two signs and plan to re-work (sand and paint) existing signs. Signs were \$1551.80 each. Please check the existing signs as they have been allowed to weather for far too long.
2. New Computers in Town Hall- A system crashed so we replaced two work stations that had programs and information transferred to the new computers. The computers and work was done by NTI Net at a cost of \$2750.40-the vital systems are Lawtrak and Quickbooks.
3. Ellore Trials Banners are now displayed. Thank you to SCE&G for their assistance.
4. The Downtown Business District has been cleaned and the parking space lines repainted.
5. On February 27, Mayor Fanning made a presentation to the Orangeburg County Tax and Tourism Board for money in promotion of Town of Ellore events. Ellore has been awarded \$2000.00. Mayor is looking into adding a LED marquis screen to promote our town. Signarama has one for \$9995.00 which includes a church discount of approximately \$6000.00
6. Mayor Fanning has attended two Ellore Trials Committee Meetings and all support services have been scheduled:
 - Street sweeper came thru town last week and did a nice job.
 - Adds have been purchased and a welcome letter for the Trials Program submitted.
 - Met with Orangeburg County litter Control Officer and pick up is scheduled for next week. Our streets and parks staff will be assisting Mr. Jim Bishop and his crew.
7. Before Trash to Treasures, an electrician was hired to repair the lighting and electrical outlets in the Downtown District Center Island. The job was completed at a cost of \$1575.98. Accent lighting and outlets have been repaired.
8. The Town's reserve police car has been painted and will be detailed (marked) prior to Ellore Trials.
9. Mayor Fanning has called the clock company and they are trying to repair both sides at this time.
10. A Chemical company has been contacted to get a quote for spraying the Behar grass around Joe Miller Park and town's center islands. Preventative maintenance will go a long way in keeping the parks ready for use.
11. Mayor stated he is open to suggestions for improvement projects from Council.
12. Chief Shawn Murphree has coordinated with surrounding agencies to assist with Ellore Trials. The SC Highway Patrol will be dedicating three troopers to assist with post trials traffic. Santee, Holly Hill, Eutawville, St Matthews Police Departments will be sending one officer from each department. The Sheriffs office

will also be patrolling. A traffic plan has been implemented this year to get the heavy traffic out of town efficiently and safely.

13. The Clock Company in Boston, Mass. Has been contacted and efforts underway to calibrate the clock.
14. In the next few months, special attention will be paid to improving the three main entrance signs and landscaping. Landscaping will also be done around the new park signs.
15. The Mayor stated he is very pleased with the level of teamwork shown by the town staff, citizens, local churches, and businesses.
16. Month by month, there will be a list of noticeable improvements.
17. The Town of Ellore metalworks sign is now hanging in the courtroom. The Mayor expressed his appreciation to Mr. Jimmy Williams who designed and crafted the metal sign for our town.

Old Business

- A draft of 2016 Audit presented by the Mayor to Council and will be discussed at the next council meeting. The Auditor will be present at next meeting to formally discuss it.
- Contract with Public Defenders Group-tabled until next meeting.

It is noted that the Clerk of Court may appoint a public defender to cases which carry a 30-day jail sentence per the Public Defenders Office.

- The Special Election is Tuesday, April 10, 2018 to fulfill unexpired council seat 3, which will be determined by write in candidate since no one filed for the election.

New Business

- Per Council member Harold Void, the Ellore Police Department will participate in the Easter Egg Hunt at Joe Miller Park.
- Orangeburg County -Adopt a Highway Program -will provide materials to those interested in adopting a highway.

- **Executive Session**

- **Adjournment**

Council Member Harold Void made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Council Member Kim Gidron and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Freda Trupiano
Town Clerk/Treasurer