

Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, January 9, 2012

Present: Van Stickles, Mayor
Barbara Butler, Council Member
Harold Void, Council Member
Milt Felder, Council Member
Chasity Avinger, former Town Clerk
Margo Banks, Clerk of Court
Glynda Bullington, Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

Mayor Van Stickles called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

II. Opening Prayer

Councilman Barbara Butler provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2011 council meeting as written. Councilman Void seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment

Mayor Stickles welcomed special guest Claudette Pauling. She congratulated Chasity Avinger on her new law practice as well as Bobby and Andre Lewis who were present at the meeting and recently opened their business Fish Fry Friday on Cleveland Street.

Ms. Pauling proceeded to thank the Ellore business community for the beautiful Christmas parade and requested that next year's parade be dedicated to the memory of the former owners of Hall's dime store.

Her last item was to inform council that February is Negro History Month and that in 1910 the Orangeburg museum featured an exhibit of the Rosenwald School and that most of the displayed items came from Ellore. She also offered to provide photos to be displayed in the Ellore Heritage Museum during the Negro History Month observance.

V. Water Commission Report

Systems Manager Cole Dantzler delivered the council report for the Water System and provided the Mayor and Council with monthly reports from the month of December.

The Water System completed 41 work orders and billed 648 water customers during the month of December. They also billed 322 garbage customers on behalf of the Town. Estimated water loss was 13%.

All water and wastewaters facilities are in compliance with the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Cole said she reminded all customers to leave faucets dripping when we have freezing temperatures.

Ellore Water Commission will hold their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 6:00pm at the Ellore Water System building.

VI. Police Report

A report for December was presented at the meeting by Clerk of Court Margo Banks with the following information for action taken:

- **(3) Arrests for Shoplifting**

Other reportable and non-reportable incidents:

- **(4) calls to assist SCB&T and**
- **(2) requests for assistance by other agencies**
- **(1) report of a stolen credit card**
- **(2) reports of credit card fraud**
- **(4) Uniform Traffic Tickets were issued.**
- **(4) Special Assistance incidents. On 12/31 Ellore Police Department Partnered with the Santee Police Department and performed 2 License Checks in Ellore and 2 License Checks in Santee. Resulting cases included 2 unlawful carrying of a hand gun, 1 recovered stolen handgun and 1 DUI.**

Clerk of Court Banks also presented the Police Fines Report for the month of December, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected:** \$1254.00
- **Remitted to State Treasurer:** \$778.10
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund:** \$60.65
- **Revenue Retained by Town:** *\$475.90

Ms. Banks noted that the retained amount was placed in savings.

VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

Town Clerk Glynda Bullington referred Council members to the December 2011 financial reports for the Town in their binders with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month, which they reviewed and accepted. She also referred council members to a letter in their binders reminding them of the April 15th deadline for submitting disclosure forms to the State Ethics Commission.

Clerk Bullington next referred council to flyers in their binders which included a list of upcoming events in 2012, the first of which is the spring Trash to Treasures event scheduled for March 10th, the Ellore Trials on March 24 and PorkFest on April 13 & 14. She reported that Clerk of Court Margo Banks has already distributed flyers and postcards for Trash to Treasures and individuals and organizations are already signing up. A preliminary meeting for PorkFest was held at 5 p.m. before the council meeting with Mayor Stickles and Chasity Avinger in attendance. Mayor Stickles noted that this year's event will not be sanctioned by the SC Barbeque Association as in previous years and therefore will be completely revamped allowing for a wider range of participants. Details will be forthcoming.

Mayor Stickles again lauded Ellore's Christmas Parade and what a wonderful job the town's Business Association did in organizing and implementing it. Edwina Friedman of The Antique Box singled out Linda Childers and Karen Hull for their individual efforts. Councilman Void added that it outshone the parades held in Vance and Santee in number of participants by a considerable margin. .

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. New Business

Mayor Stickles said the Town has been asked to participate in a Martin Luther King parade in Holly Hill next Saturday, January 14. The Mayor said he wouldn't be able to go but that any council member wanting to do so should let him know.

Chasity Avinger referred council to a letter in their binders terminating the Town of Ellore contract with Suburban Disposal out of North Charleston dated July 23, 1996. The Town plans to seek bids for services, possibly adding yard trash collection to current services being bid, and Suburban has said they will be among those bidding for a new contract.

Mayor Stickles added that he plans to schedule a workshop with council next month to address getting a contract to handle yard trash collection, rather than the current collection method by town employees. The procurement policy is to be updated next month with the first reading in February and a second and third in March and April. It will set forth contract standards and the appeals process.

Ms. Avinger next asked that council members look over a contractual agreement with CSX Transportation, Inc. entered into in 2000. Ms. Avinger pointed out that CSX has been charging the Town \$100 a year for the past 12 years to give us the right to maintain a specified area on either side of the railroad track. Councilman Butler made a motion to terminate this contract immediately; it was seconded by Councilman Void, and the motion was carried. The Town will also seek to be reimbursed the \$1,200 overpaid to CSX.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012.

X. Executive Session***

Clerk Avinger requested an executive session to discuss personnel. Councilman Void made a motion to enter executive session. He was seconded by Councilman Butler. Council entered into executive session at 6:09pm. Councilman Butler made a motion to leave executive session and was seconded by Mayor Stickles. The session ended at 6:24pm. (

Councilman Butler made a motion to name Glynda Bullington as Town Clerk and to name Margo Banks as Clerk of Court. She also included in her motion that these two employees be granted the raises in amounts recommended by Chasity Avinger. She was seconded by Councilman Void, and the motion was approved.

XI. Adjournment

Councilman Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. He was seconded by Councilman Void, and the meeting was adjourned by Mayor Stickles at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glynda Bullington
Town Clerk