

Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, January 13, 2014

Present: Van Stickles, Mayor
Mike Fanning, Council Member
Milt Felder, Council Member
Harold Void, Council Member
Danielle Sanders, Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

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

II. Opening Prayer

Councilman Michael Fanning provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Milt Felder made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2013 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mike Fanning and all were in favor.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comments

Mayor Van Stickles issued the Oath of Office to Michael Fanning for Town Council District No. 4. Councilman Fanning was re-elected to another four year term during the Town's November 5, 2013 municipal election.

Resident Claudette Pauling addressed the mayor and council regarding public gatherings and town events. She cited concerns regarding the Ellore Garden Club's Arbor Day celebration and the Ellore Lions Club tree dedication during that program. She discussed other public events and upcoming holidays, as well.

Michael Baskerville of Crosspointe Interactive addressed the mayor and council regarding a video being developed for Orangeburg County and proposed participation by municipalities within the county as part of its "Faces and Places" video project. The project will be launched on the Orangeburg County Development Commission website on January 31, 2014.

*Councilman Harold Void entered the meeting at 5:46pm.

V. Water Commission Report

The mayor and council reviewed the monthly report for the Ellore Water System, along with the minutes of the December water commission meeting.

There were 64 work orders in December and 614 water customers billed. Water loss was at 23% for the month. The water and wastewater facilities were in compliance with DHEC for the month.

Councilman Void inquired about the water leak on Highway 6 on Saturday. Councilman Fanning applauded the quick response of Dale Weatherford from the Water System, Willie Kinley and Chasity Avinger of the Town, and Preston Avinger of the Ellore Police Department in helping to address the problem.

Councilman Fanning inquired about the status of the Lake Marion Regional Water Authority and there was no additional update at this time.

The next Ellore Water Commission will hold its next meeting on January 14, 2014 at 6:00pm.

VI. Police Report

A report for December was presented at the meeting by Clerk of Court Danielle Sanders, with the following information for action taken:

- **Reportable and non-reportable incidents:**
 - **1 Arrest for Petit Larceny**
 - **4 Arrests for NCIC Wanted Persons**
 - **2 Arrests for Driving under Suspension**
 - **2 Arrests for Public Disorderly Conduct**
 - **4 calls to assist SCB&T**
 - **4 Requests for assistance by other agencies**
 - **9 Uniform Traffic Tickets**
 - **1 Ticket Issued for Operating without a Business License**

The Police Department participated in numerous safety checkpoints during the Christmas holidays and on New Year's Eve. The police department also responded to calls for service for theft of a vehicle, riding lawn mower with trailer, and several household items. Warrants are pending for all charges following the investigations of the Police Department.

The Clerk presented the Police Fines Report for the month of December, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected:** \$400.00
- **Remitted to State Treasurer:** \$235.67
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund:** \$19.25
- **Revenue Retained by Town:** *\$145.08 (Placed in Savings)

VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

Council reviewed the December 2013 financial reports for the Town in their binders, along with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month. The auditor has delivered a preliminary draft of the 2012-13 audit and should present the final draft at the February 10, 2014 council meeting.

Mayor Stickles announced that the new election for mayor will be held on February 11, 2014 and the candidates will be Stan Busch and Chasity Avinger. The election for Barbara Butler's vacated council seat in District 1 will be held that same day. Filing for council closed on December 27 at noon, and Kim Gidron and Daniel Weigand filed for that council seat.

Mayor Stickles noted that all registered voters should be receiving new voter registration cards from Orangeburg County with updated district information.

VIII. Old Business

No old business.

IX. New Business

Councilman Milt Felder made a motion to approve Annexation Resolution No. 0282-12-02-010.000 which assigns 740 Hampton Street to Town Council District 1. The property was annexed in 2008 and was assigned a zoning district as part of the ordinance but not a council district. Councilman Harold Void seconded the motion and all were in favor. The resolution will be forwarded to the Orangeburg County Voter Registration and Elections Office, as well.

The mayor and council discussed the proposal of Michael Baskerville regarding the Orangeburg County Development Commission's new "Faces and Places" video project which will be unveiled on January 31, 2014. The estimated cost for a 12-month participation enrollment is \$3,500.00 with sponsor spots available for a cost of \$600.00. Mayor Stickles also noted that the town can opt in at a later date if it chooses. Councilman Fanning suggested that the Town approach County Councilman Johnny Ravenell to discuss the County's funding of the project and whether there are alternative funding sources available. The mayor opened the discussion up to the public in attendance, and it appeared that the general consensus was to seek additional information regarding the project before moving forward. No action was taken.

The next Town Council meeting is Monday, February 10, 2014 at 5:30pm.

X. Executive Session***

Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter and was seconded by Councilman Harold Void. Council entered into executive session at 6:16pm.

Councilman Felder made a motion to leave executive session and enter back in to regular session. Councilman Void seconded and council left executive session at 6:34pm.

Councilman Fanning gave information announcing the resignation of Streets and Parks worker Steven Scott and thanked him for his service to the Town. He also announced that council regretfully accepted the resignation of Town Clerk Danielle Sanders, effective January 24, 2014.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to name Caitlin Felkel the acting Town Clerk/Treasurer under the current employment arrangements. He was seconded by Councilman Felder. Mayor Stickles abstained from voting, stating that it is a council position.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to begin advertising for the position immediately and to accept applications until February 7, 2014. Councilman Felder seconded. Applications would be reviewed at the February 10, 2014 town council meeting.

XI. Adjournment

Councilman Void made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilman Felder. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Sanders, Town Clerk