

## **Minutes of Council Meeting Tuesday, July 7, 2009**

**Present:** Van A. Stickles, Mayor  
Barbara Butler, Council Member  
Michael Fanning, Council Member  
James V. Fogle, Council Member  
Harold Void, Council Member  
Larry McDowell, General Manager, Elloree Water System  
John D. Singh, Town Administrator  
Chasity D. Canaday, Town Clerk

### **I. Call to Order**

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

### **II. Opening Prayer**

Councilman Mike Fanning provided the invocation.

### **III. Approval of Minutes**

Councilman Jimmy Fogle made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2009 meeting as written. Councilman Barbara Butler seconded. All were in favor.

### **IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment**

**Frances Waite**, addressed the Mayor and council regarding the Town's continued designation as a Tree City USA. The Town is celebrating its second year with the designation.

Waite praised the Town for its continued efforts, including the hosting of a tree-pruning seminar and mulching trees along Highway 6. She also presented the Town with a Tree City USA

Mayor Van Stickles issued a proclamation recognizing the week of July 19-25 as National Independent Retailers Week. Local business owners in attendance included Ruth Felder and Holley Geiger of Casual Habits Gift Shoppe, Cathy Rast of

the Old Mil House Gift Shoppe, Jack Lane of the Ellore Bed and Breakfast, and Andrew and Edwina Friedman of The Antique Box.

Mayor Stickles issued a proclamation recognizing the month of July as Recreation and Parks Month. He recognized the members of Ellore's Citizen Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation for their efforts in improving the town's parks and recreation facilities. Members present included Chairman Jack Lane and member Joan Jameson.

## **V. Water Commission Report**

Ellore Water Commission Chairman Jane Singh presented the monthly report to the council and the minutes of the Water Commission's June 16, 2009 meeting.

He said the system completed 38 work orders and billed 663 customers during June.

The system billed 355 customers on behalf of the town for household trash services. The estimated water loss was 17%, down from 18% in May.

There were no violations for the water or wastewater facilities from the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Commissioner Singh also reported that the Ellore Water Commission will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 6:00pm at the Ellore Water System.

Singh reported that they have received approval for a principal forgiveness loan through the federal Stimulus program and will utilize the funds for valve improvements to the water system.

## **VI. Police Report**

Asst. Chief Lin Shirer delivered the monthly report for the Ellore Police Department, reporting the following information for action taken:

- **25 Calls for service**
- **6 Arrests**
  
- **44 Uniform traffic tickets**
- **1 Arrest for Public Disorderly Conduct**
- **6 Arrests during service of warrants**
- **1 Arrest of a person wanted by the Summerville Police Department**

- **1 Arrest of a wanted subject who was apprehended while attempting to burglarize the IGA by cutting into the the back door with a torch**
- **1 Arrest of a subject who drove through the Town of Ellore at over 100mph and failed to stop for blue light and siren. That subject is also being charged with Driving under Suspension and Driving Under the Influence 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense**
- **5 False Alarm Calls**
- **4 Calls to assist SCB&T**
- **3 Calls for assistance by the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office**

## **VII. Administrator Report**

Clerk Chasity Canaday presented the Administrator report, noting that the Town had a successful 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic at Joe Miller Park. The Clerk thanked the Town's civic groups for helping run the event, including the Ellore Garden Club, Evergreen Garden Club, Knights of Pythias, Pythian Sisters, Masons, Mentor Book Club, Ellore Lions Club, and and the Ellore Water System.

She also thanked the Police Department for providing fireworks for the event. Gross revenues for the event exceeded \$1500 which is earmarked for beautification projects.

She also reported on the June 20<sup>th</sup> Service Day hosted at Joe Miller Park by the Ellore Police Department. Volunteers worked to clean the park and to mulch the trees before enjoying lunch at the Gasque Shelter.

Clerk Canaday reported that the Town hosted the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours on June 11 at the Ellore Heritage Museum. The event was very well-attended.

Clerk Canaday reported that the Town will hold a Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 3. Town officials up for re-election include Mayor Van Stickles, Councilman Mike Fanning, Councilman Barbara Butler, and Water Commissioner Jane Singh. Filing opens on July 13 and will end on July 24 at the Town Hall.

## **VIII. Old Business**

Council reviewed the franchise agreement with South Carolina Electric and Gas. Mayor Stickles pointed out that there will be a change to Page 8, Section 8, increasing the franchise fee to 5% from the previous rate of 3%. Councilman

Fanning made a motion to approve the third and final reading of the franchise agreement. Councilman Void seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to approve the second reading of the borrowing ordinance in the amount of \$70,000 from South Carolina Bank and Trust. Councilman Fogle seconded and all were in favor. Councilman Butler abstained.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to approve the third and final reading of the 2009-10 fiscal year budget. Councilman Fogle seconded the motion and all were in favor.

#### IX. **New Business**

Clerk Canaday presented the Police Fines Report for the Second Quarter of 2009, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected: \$19,231.88**
- **Remitted to State Treasurer: \$9563.46**
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund: \$1461.66**
- **Revenue Retained by Town: \$8236.76**

Council approved expenditures in June for door repairs at the police department, not to exceed \$2500, and the purchase of a sound system, not to exceed \$1000. Canaday reported that the door project is underway and requested that council rescind approval for the sound system purchase.

The Clerk also requested additional expenditures for a total of \$1461.95 for fireworks, banking supplies, and the funds necessary to complete equipment installation for the new patrol car.

She asked that the remaining revenue in the amount of \$4274.81 be placed in a holding account for approval of future projects. Councilman Fanning made a motion to accept all information presented, rescind approval for the sound system purchase, and approve all other requested expenditures. Councilman Butler seconded and all were in favor.

#### X. **Executive Session\*\*\***

Councilman Fanning made a motion to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel matters. He was seconded by Councilman Void. The Mayor and Council entered into executive session at 6:01pm.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to come out of executive session at 6:46 and was seconded by Councilman Void. All were in favor.

No action was taken following executive session.

**XI. Adjournment**

Councilman Fanning made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Void seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Mayor Van Stickles adjourned the meeting at 6:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Chasity Sanders Canaday, Town Clerk/Treasurer