

**Minutes of Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2008**

Present: Van A. Stickles, Mayor
Barbara Butler, Council Member
Mike Fanning, Council Member
Chasity Sanders Canaday, Clerk/Treasurer
Jane Singh, Commission Chairman, Elloree Water System
John D. Singh, Town Administrator
Preston Avinger, Chief of Police

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 Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2008 meeting as written. Councilman Mike Fanning seconded. All were in favor.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment

There were no special guests or public comments.

V. Water Commission Report

Elloree Water Commission Chairman Jane Singh presented the monthly report and minutes of the May 13, 2008 water commission meeting to the council.

He said the system completed 26 work orders and billed 643 customers during March.

The system billed 363 customers on behalf of the town for household trash services. The estimated water loss was 18%, up from 16% in April.

There were no violations for the water or wastewater facilities from the Department of Health and Environmental Control. The Hampton Street well is on-line and operational.

McDowell added that Cole Dantzler attended the South Carolina Rural Water Office Forum in Columbia, and the Water System hosted the SC Rural Water meeting in Elloree. There were approximately 47 people in attendance to discuss chlorine hazards and repair.

General Manager McDowell also reported that the Elloree Water Commission will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 10, 2007 at 6:00pm at the Elloree Water System.

Mayor Stickles thanked the Water System and its employees for the service they provide for the town and its residents. Singh asked that residents report any leaks as quickly as possible to the Water System.

VI. Police Report

Chief Preston Avinger delivered the monthly report for the Elloree Police Department, reporting the following information for action taken:

23 Calls for Service

1 Criminal Domestic Call

1 Incident involving an emotionally disturbed person who was forcibly transported to the Regional Medical Center for mental and physical evaluation

1 Arrest for Possession of Powder Cocaine

4 Arrests for simple possession of marijuana

3 Arrests for subjects wanted by the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office

2 Arrests for the larceny of two of the stolen concrete pigs

53 Traffic Stops

45 Uniform traffic tickets

VII. Administrator Report

Administrator John Singh delivered the Administrator's report, noting that the Town hosted Leadership Orangeburg last month. The group ate lunch at Joe Miller Park and listened to speaker Mayor Van Stickles before visiting the Museum.

Singh noted that he was named to the State Board of Directors for the Heritage Corridor, adding that it is a great opportunity to represent Elloree and the eastern section of Orangeburg County.

The administrator reminded citizens that it is now hurricane season, urging them to prepare for an emergency in their homes. He asked that residents report downed power lines and try to stay off of the roads when emergency personnel are working to clear roads and debris.

Singh updated the Mayor and council regarding the installation of sidewalks on Harlin Street. Senator John Matthews has committed to providing the necessary funding for that project, and the town is working with citizens to send letters to the Senator to try to expedite the project.

The town and the Ellore Water System were subject to a surprise OSHA inspection last month, and no major violations were found. There were several minor violations that are under repair.

Administrator Singh noted that the equipment for the new toddler playground should be delivered this week. The town received a partial grant for the project from the Joseph J. Miller Foundation and the remainder of the necessary funds from penny sales tax money earmarked for recreation.

The Police Department will hold a Service Day on Saturday, June 14, 2008 at 10:00am at Joe Miller Park to install the new playground and to clean up Joe Miller Park and Loyns Park. The Ellore Lions Club and town officials are also assisting, and volunteers are welcome. Lunch will be provided.

Singh reported that the town has met with Orangeburg County officials and the Boys and Girls Club to discuss the future of the organization in town and possible improvements to the program.

VIII. Old Business

Administrator John Singh presented the Town of Ellore Budget, with projected Income and Expenses of \$532,136.00. Payroll expenses are \$161,262.00 is allocated for payroll expenses, \$214,550.00 for payroll liabilities and employee benefits, Town expenses of \$130,118.00, Police Department expenses of \$11,798.00, and Streets and Parks expenses of \$14,408.00.

He reported that the Police Department will be the only department receiving raises, with one officer receiving a 2% raise and the other two receiving a 3% increase.

The Town will implement a 2 mill increase for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to approve the second reading of the budget, as presented. Councilman Barbara Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A public hearing will be held on June 26, 2008 at 5:30pm to discuss the budget before the third and final reading of the budget at the July 8, 2008 Town Council meeting.

Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to approve the second reading of a borrowing ordinance from South Carolina Bank & Trust of \$70,00.00 by Title Only. Mayor Van Stickle seconded the motion. Councilman Barbara Butler abstained. The motion was approved.

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the second reading of an ordinance implementing a \$1.00 increase for monthly household trash services due to fuel increases. Councilman Mike Fanning seconded the motion. All were in favor.

IX. New Business

Administrator Singh discussed an ongoing issue of false alarms at homes and businesses, noting that the council should consider implementing an ordinance penalizing property owners for excessive false alarm calls.

Mayor Stickle reported that he hosted his Mayors Meeting at the Ellore Heritage Museum on May 15th with representatives of Jafza International attending along with the Towns of Santee, Vance, Holly Hill, Vance, and Bowman.

He will host a Mayors Breakfast on Thursday, June 26, and has invited the mayors from Santee, Vance, Eutawville, Holly Hill, Bowman, Cameron, and St. Matthews.

The Town and Flavor Masters Catering held a Bank Appreciation Day for South Carolina Bank & Trust. Councilman Barbara Butler thanked the town for recognizing the bank and for all that the town does.

The Town's July council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 8, 2008 at 5:30pm.

X. Executive Session***

There was no executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Mike Fanning seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Mayor Van Stickle adjourned the meeting at 6:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Chasity Sanders Canaday, Town Clerk/Treasurer