

Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, March 1, 2010

Present: Van A. Stickles, Mayor
Barbara Butler, Council Member
Michael Fanning, Council Member
Harold Void, Council Member
Chasity D. Canaday, Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

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

II. Opening Prayer

Councilman Harold Void provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting as written. Councilman Harold Void seconded. All were in favor.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment

The Mayor recognized members of the Mentor Book Club of Ellore and applauded their work in encouraging literacy in the community. The Book Club owns and maintains the Mentor Branch Library in Ellore, which is on the Orangeburg County Library circulation system. Members present included Chasity Canaday, Kristine Carver, Pat Holman, Nell Irick, Judy Lambert, Cindy Lane, and Linda Stickles.

V. Water Commission Report

Ellore Water System General Manager Larry McDowell delivered the council report for the Water System, providing the Mayor and Council with monthly reports from February.

The Water System completed 33 work orders and billed 656 water customers during the month of February. They also billed 353 garbage customers on behalf of the Town. Estimated water loss was 18%, up from the 16% in January.

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

Valve replacement is scheduled to begin on March 1, 2010 and will be done by Carolina Tap and Valve. McDowell noted that customers may experience water discoloration during the process but there should only be minor outages.

Ellore Water Commission will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 2010 at 6:00pm at the Ellore Water System.

VI. Police Report

A joint report for February/March will be presented at the April meeting.

Clerk Canaday presented the Police Fines Report for the month of February, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected: \$2406.00**
- **Remitted to State Treasurer: \$1414.72**
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund: \$144.37**
- **Revenue Retained by Town: \$846.91**

Clerk Canaday also presented the Mayor and Council with an expenditure request for police fines revenue generated during this budget year, which will be addressed in Old Business.

VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

The Clerk presented the February 2010 financial reports for the Town, with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month. The Clerk noted that she will be meeting with the Town's auditor to review reports and make budget adjustments due to the new accounting system.

Clerk Canaday noted that the Town will partner with the Mentor Book Club to host Story Time at the Mentor Branch Library on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 in recognition of Read Across America Day. The reading will begin at 3:30pm and will be done by Mayor Van Stickle, Police Chief Preston Avinger, Municipal Judge Frank Quattlebaum, County Councilman Johnny Ravenell, and Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter, who will all read Dr. Seuss books.

DHEC held a H1N1 flu shot clinic on Friday, February 5, 2010 at Joe Miller Park. Despite short notice for residents, the clinic was deemed a success with over 60 people receiving shots during the 4 hour period. They will host another shot clinic on Thursday, March 4, 2010 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at Joe Miller Park.

Trash to Treasures is scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 8:00am-5:00pm on downtown Cleveland Street with numerous large yardsales throughout town. Mayor Stickles and Flavor Masters Catering will serve food at the event to raise money for the town's Relay for Life team.

The Ellore Trials are scheduled for March 20 and more information can be obtained through the Ellore Training Center at 897-2616. Pork Fest is scheduled for April 9 & 10 at Joe Miller Park, and several competing teams have already registered for the event. The Pork Fest pigs have been delivered and can be sponsored by businesses and civic groups.

Clerk Canaday noted that a Rabies Clinic will be held on April 20, 2010 from 4:00pm-6:00pm at Helmly Brothers Ace Hardware. Mayor Stickles added that Relay for Life will be held on April 23, where the Town of Ellore team will participate.

The Clerk also informed the Mayor and council that several donations have been made to the Town's beautification fund in memory of Ruth Felder. Donors include Frances Kesler, Connie King, Steven and Andrea Geiger, Cynthia Smith, Emma Cuttino, Barbara Gail Friffin, Georgie Mae Antley, Chasity Sanders Canaday, Wilhelmina Binfield, Jimmy and Sarah Ann Fogle, Russell/Teague Sunday School Class, and Kay Dantzer.

VIII. Old Business

Clerk Canaday presented the Mayor and Town Council with an expenditure request for police fines collected during the month of February 2010. The Clerk requested that \$846.91 collected in February be used to offset the \$5,618.91 paid out of the General Fund for a Streetscape loan closing in January. \$642.72 was approved for reimbursement in January.

Councilman Void made a motion to approve the Clerk's request. Councilman Fanning seconded the motion and all were in favor.

The Clerk noted that this leaves a remaining balance of \$4129.28 remaining for reimbursement to the General Fund that will be address in upcoming months.

The Mayor and Council again reviewed a recommendation from the Planning Commission regarding a rezoning request for Donald Smith's property on Browning Road. Councilman Void made a motion to approve third and final reading of Ordinance No. 01-04-10.1 which would approve the requested rezoning. Councilman Butler seconded the motion and all were in favor.

A public hearing was held at 5:00pm on Monday, February 8, 2010. Councilman Fanning noted that the Mayor and Council requested additional information regarding the proposed project for the property, and the information was received prior to the council meeting. There were particular questions about the tenant policies for the project.

Councilman Butler made a motion to approve second and final reading of Ordinance No. 02-08-10-1 to authorize Transfer of Election Authority to the Orangeburg County Office of Voter Registration and Election Commission. Councilman Fanning seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

A public hearing was held at 5:00pm on Monday, March 1, 2010.

Councilman Fanning made a motion to approve second reading of Ordinance No. 02-08-10-2 adopting by reference the Orangeburg County animal control ordinance and animal control code for enforcement within the Town of Elloree. Councilman Butler seconded and all were in favor.

A public hearing was held at 5:15pm on Monday, March 1, 2010.

Clerk Canaday presented the Mayor and Council with information regarding several concerns with the town's garbage service. The town currently bills its customers \$7.94 per month for weekly garbage pick-up, which is the amount that contracted service actually costs the town. However, there has been a difference in the amount billed and the amount collected each month for some period of time, and it appears that there is a large number of garbage carts that are being picked up but not being billed, with the majority of those cans located outside of the town limits.

The Town currently contracts with Suburban Disposal for garbage collection services and has an ordinance that makes garbage service mandatory for water customers within the city limits. However, they will also currently provide service up to half mile outside of town for water customers.

Council discussed several options to eliminate the revenue shortfall, which comes out of the General Fund. Clerk Canaday added that a can audit was conducted and that she is working with both Suburban Disposal and the Water Department to make sure that cans are only in billed locations. She asked that council discuss the

matter further in their April meeting after she has more information available for their review.

IX. **New Business**

Water System General Manager Larry McDowell informed the Mayor and Council that the Water System is working with a grant writer to seek a Community Development Block Grant to extend water service to Tee Vee Road. Mayor Stickles thanked McDowell and noted that the Town will receive the report as information only.

McDowell also reported that the Water System received notification that they have received a grant for approximately \$90,000 to install energy efficient aerators at the Water System's wastewater treatment facility.

Mayor Stickles issued a proclamation recognizing March 2, 2010 as Read Across America Day. He stressed the importance of childhood literacy and praised the Mentor Book Club for the work they do to promote reading in the community.

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to elect Councilman Mike Fanning to serve as Mayor Pro Tem for the next two years. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Void, and all were in favor.

Councilman Void asked if the town has considered doing some type of fundraiser for Haiti relief. There was discussion about Haiti and Chile earthquake victims, and Clerk Canaday volunteered to follow up on the topic.

Mayor Stickles announced that he attended the Municipal Association's Elected Government Officials Institute and Legislative Action Day in February along with the mayors of Vance, Holly Hill, and Eutawville.

He also announced that he hosted a Mayors Breakfast on February 9, with mayors attending from Santee, Vance, Eutawville, Holly Hill, Bowman, and St. Matthews. He also attended another meeting on February 12 with the mayors and Dr. Cash-Greene, superintendent for Orangeburg County Consolidated School District 3.

Mayor Stickles noted that the town plans to follow up on recent citizen complaints regarding the new Verizon phone book and the idling CSX locomotive.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 5, 2010.

X. Executive Session***

There was no executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Councilman Void made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Butler seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Mayor Van Stickles adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chasity D. Canaday, Town Clerk