

Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, May 7, 2012

Present: Van Stickles, Mayor
Barbara Butler, Council Member
Michael Fanning, Council Member
Milt Felder, Council Member
Chasity Sanders Avinger, Acting Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

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

II. Opening Prayer

Councilman Barbara Butler provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2012 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor.

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2012 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment

Auditor Chip Summers of Brodie, Summers & Wilkes presented the 2010-11 fiscal year audit to council, noting that the Town received an unqualified audit, which is the highest that a municipality can receive. He also presented the following information:

Cash Available As of June 30, 2012: \$14,647.00 (Town) \$8,610.00 (Water System)

Total Debt As of June 30, 2012: \$273,837 (Town) \$1,457,149 (Water System)

Net Assets As of June 30, 2012: \$791,773 (Town) \$1,000,541 (Water System)

Resident Claudette Pauling addressed the mayor and council regarding several concerns including the public use of the gym at Joe Miller Park and other recreational opportunities for young people in the town. She stated that she did not feel like her requests to council were being answered. Mayor Van Stickle asked her to explain which concerns had not been addressed, and she chose to leave the meeting.

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 April.

The Water System completed 63 work orders and billed 649 water customers during the month of April. They also billed 315 garbage customers on behalf of the Town. Estimated water loss was 6.5 %.

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

Notices of the rate increase were included on the May water bills and will go into effect in June. The final billing for garbage service will appear on the July bills.

Elloree Water Commission will hold their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 6:00pm at the Elloree Water System building.

VI. Police Report

A report for April was presented at the meeting by Assistant Chief Lin Shirer, with the following information for action taken:

- **1 Arrest for Loitering**
- **1 Arrest for Driving Under Suspension**
- **4 Arrests for Open Container**
- **2 Arrests for Parties to a Crime**
- **2 Arrests for Sale of Alcohol to a Minor**
- **1 Arrest for Unlawful Carrying of a Pistol**

Other reportable and non-reportable incidents:

- **5 calls to assist SCB&T**
- **5 requests for assistance by other agencies**
- **28 Uniform Traffic Tickets**

Acting Clerk Chasity Avinger presented the Police Fines Report for the month of April, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected:** \$4993.50
- **Remitted to State Treasurer:** \$2631.93
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund:** \$231.21
- **Revenue Retained by Town:** *\$2130.36 (Placed in Savings)

VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

The Acting Clerk referred Council members to the April 2012 financial reports for the Town in their binders, along with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month.

Chasity Avinger updated the mayor and council regarding garbage services. The Town's current contract for garbage collection with Suburban Disposal will end on June 30, 2012. Final billing to residents will appear on the July 2012 water bills. Residents are now free to contract directly with Suburban Disposal or another private company or may choose to transport their own household trash to the local convenience site, located on Midway Road.

Letters were mailed to all residents notifying them of the change. Mid-Carolina Sanitation of Orangeburg included service information with that letter, and Suburban Disposal is expected to contact customers directly shortly. The town ordinance requiring all residents to have garbage cans will be repealed during the June town council meeting.

Clerk Avinger also reminded everyone that business licenses are not past due and should be paid as quickly as possible to avoid additional late fees.

Clerk Avinger and Officer Shirer updated the mayor and council on the status of the Police Department's patrol car laptop project. All supplies have been purchased and are now being installed for use.

Clerk Chasity Avinger also presented the mayor and council with the final copy of the Town's new Public Request policy, which was adopted by council during the April 9, 2012 Special Town Council Meeting. The policy is available at the Town Hall, along with the request forms for addressing council during meetings.

The Clerk discussed the issue of animal control, noting that the number of complaints being received has increased over the past two weeks. Orangeburg County has been notified of the issue, and the Town is also working to catch animals when the animal shelter is accepting them.

The Clerk also noted that the process of reviewing and updating town ordinances is continuing. Avinger Law Firm is doing the project without charge to the town with the understanding that the updates will be done systematically over the next eighteen months. Clerk Avinger encouraged the mayor and council to explore other options for more expedient progress but cautioned them about costs.

Mayor Stickles thanked council for attending Pork Fest and the National Day of Prayer, noting that both events were successful and held at Joe Miller Park. The Mayor attended both, along with Councilman Mike Fanning, Councilman Milt Felder, Councilman Barbara Butler, and members of the Police Department.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. **New Business**

Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to approve Ordinance 05-7-12.001 by title only adopting the budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year and was seconded by Councilman Barbara Butler. All were in favor.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, 2012.

X. **Executive Session*****

Councilman Fanning made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss Town Hall personnel and was seconded by Councilman Butler. Council entered into executive session at 6:19pm.

Councilman Butler made a motion to leave executive session and was seconded by Councilman Fanning. Council reentered regular session at 6:28pm.

Councilman Milt Felder made a motion to hire Danielle Winningham for the open position at Town Hall and was seconded by Councilman Butler. All were in favor.

XI. **Adjournment**

Mayor Van Stickles made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilman Felder. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chasity Sanders Avinger, Acting Town Clerk