

## **Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, November 3, 2008**

**Present:** Van A. Stickles, Mayor  
Barbara Butler, Council Member  
Michael Fanning, Council Member  
Larry McDowell, General Manager, Ellore Water System  
John D. Singh, Town Administrator

### **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 Michael Fanning made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2008 meeting as written. Councilman Butler seconded. All were in favor.

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

Mayor Stickles announced that there have been four new businesses opened in Ellore within the past two months.

He welcomed Danny and Elaine Nesbitt of the Railroad Café who recently opened a restaurant in town. Mayor Stickles thanked them for meeting a need of the town.

He also welcomed Lake Side Landscaping and Feed, owned and operated by Brian Hooks. Lake Side relocated from Santee this month and will share a building with another new business Jen's Pet Parlor, owned and operated by Jennifer Cope-Jobe.

Finally, he welcomed Mike Daniel, an attorney from Mt. Pleasant who recently opened an office in Ellore.

Mayor Stickles thanked the new business for choosing Ellore and noted how important a strong business sector is to the town.

## **V. Water Commission Report**

Elloree Water Commission General Manager Larry McDowell presented the monthly report to the council.

He said the system completed 49 work orders and billed 630 customers during October.

The system billed 350 customers on behalf of the town for household trash services. The estimated water loss was 17.5%, up from 12% in September.

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

General Manager McDowell also reported that the Elloree Water Commission will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2008 at 6:00pm at the Elloree Water System.

## **VI. Police Report**

Officer Shawn Murphree delivered the monthly report for the Elloree Police Department, reporting the following information for action taken:

**10 Calls for Service**

**2 Arrests**

**1 Arrests of subjects wanted from other jurisdictions**

**1 Arrest for Drinking in Public**

**1 Arrest for Malicious Injury to Property**

**8 False Alarm Calls**

**6 Requests for Escorts from Businesses**

**39 Traffic Stops**

**27 Uniform Traffic Citations**

In addition, Officer Murphree thanked the Pythian Sisters of Elloree Temple No. 4 for joining with the Police Department to sponsor Trunk or Treat at Joe Miller Park on Halloween. Committee members included Chasity Sanders Canaday, Sally Jo Coulliette, and Christine Bickley.

He also thanked the businesses and organizations who helped sponsor the event, including Golf Santee, Pizza Hut of Santee, the Elloreë Lions Club, the Knights of Pythias, the Elloreë Fire Department, Attorney Mike Daniels, Old Mill House Gift Shop, Casual Habits, South Carolina Bank and Trust, the Elloreë IGA, Scherer Data Computer Services, Elloreë Heritage Museum, Elloreë Water System, and Carquest-Elloreë Auto Parts.

Officer Murphree also noted that the Elloreë Police Department was recognized this month by AAA Carolinas with their "2008 Traffic Safe Community Award." There were four winners in the state in the under 10,000 population category, including Elloreë. Mayor Stickles noted that this award was well-deserved for many reasons, including the presence and enforcement policies of the Police Department as well as their proactive approach to crime and traffic enforcement.

Officer Murphree added that the Police Department welcomed a Cub Scout Troop from Lexington on October 25. The Troop camped at Santee State Park, toured the Elloreë Heritage Museum, and then visited the Police Department before eating lunch at the Railroad Café.

The Cub Scouts learned about the equipment and weapons at the Police Department, as well as how the Police Department works. The Cub Scouts were given fingerprint and ID kits to do with their parents and learned how to behave in emergency situations.

## **VII. Administrator Report**

Administrator John Singh delivered the Administrator's report, noting that the Law Track Software has now been installed on all computers in the Town Hall and Police Department,

The software will increase the ability to track tickets, court dispositions, and court revenue. It will also greatly aid the officers in transmitting reports to SLED.

The new system can be used for receipts, dockets, and other court related functions to streamline court administration functions. The software will be purchased from Nicholson Business Systems and paid for with funds generated from court fines with a total cost of \$3500.00.

The Town hosted its annual Arts and Antiques Festival on October 17 and 18, 2008. The event was held on downtown Cleveland Street and featured special store sales, street vendors, live entertainment, jump castles, and food vendors.

A Commerce Forum will be held on November 11, 2008 at 5:30pm to discuss the festival and next year's schedule of events.

Singh noted that Trunk or Treat was a success again and applauded the Police Department and the Pythian Sisters for the job they did organizing the event. He also recognized the many civic groups, businesses, and individuals who participated.

Mayor Stickles applauded Carquest-Elloree Auto Parts for their participation and their particularly inventive tent. Carquest won the Trunk or Treat award for Best Tent/Trunk.

Singh reminded citizens that the Town will host the Lights of Winter event on Saturday, November 15, 2008. The event will kick off at 5:00pm with the Cooking on Cleveland cook-off and will end at 7:00pm with the announcement of the contest winners and the turning on of the downtown lights.

Dr. Bob Holman will conduct a book singing of his book "Homeward Bound" in the Elloree Heritage Museum from 5:00-7:00pm that same night, and there will be a silent auction for the Pork Fest Pigs.

#### **VIII. Old Business**

The Council heard the third and final reading an annexation request regarding Lot#10 Monsum Court with TMS#0283-20-02-014.000. Councilman Fanning made a motion to approve and was seconded by Councilman Butler. All were in favor.

There was a public hearing on Monday, November 3, 2008 at 5:00pm at the Town Hall for any interested parties regarding the proposed annexation. There were no objections to the proposed annexation.

Councilman Butler made a motion to approve the second reading of an ordinance to enter into a franchise agreement with Tri-County Electric. Councilman Fanning seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Council reviewed the second reading of an ordinance for annexation of 740 Hampton Street, TMS#0282-12-02-010.000. Councilman Fanning made a motion to approve the request, and Councilman Butler seconded. All were in favor.

A public hearing will be held on 5:00pm on December 2, 2008 to review the proposed annexation.

## IX. **New Business**

Council reviewed a request from Police Chief Preston Avinger and Clerk of Court Chasity Canaday to amend the 2008-09 budget due to revenue from police fines. The Town does not include ticket revenue in its annual budget and has decided to amend its budget quarterly to reflect any revenue generated.

At that time, the council will also approve expenditures for that revenue. Mayor Stickles noted that the fines collected for the third quarter of 2008 totaled \$13,205.00, with \$7,606.51 remitted to the State Treasurer, \$642.73 retained for Victims Assistance, \$495.58 for the Police Equipment Fund, and \$4,460.18 retained by the Town.

Council reviewed the \$4,460.18 in revenue and requested expenditures.

Singh noted that the Citizens Advisory Committee for Parks and Recreation will hold their quarterly meeting on November 5, 2008 at 5:30pm. The meeting is open to the public.

Singh also announced that the Town Hall will be closed on November 4, due to the General Election. He reminded voters in the Ellore Precincts that they will vote at Ellore Elementary-Middle School. Voter information was posted at the Town Hall and distributed in town.

Singh informed the Mayor and council members that the results of the September special election were overturned. A new election has been scheduled for January by the Orangeburg County Voter Registration and Elections Office but that it appears that the required deadlines will not be met again. The Town has not received notification from the County listing filing deadlines.

According to state law and the State Election Commission, the election is handled in its entirety by the County Voter Registration and Elections Office with limited involvement from the Town. The Town is responsible for providing poll workers and for certifying the election results.

Singh also announced the Town's holiday schedule, noting that the Town Hall will be closed on November 4 for the General Election and on November 11 for Veterans Day. The Town will close at 12:00pm on November 26, the day before Thanksgiving and will be closed on November 27 & 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The Town Hall will close at 12:00pm on Christmas Eve, December 24 and will be closed on December 25 & 26 for Christmas.

Singh announced that Mayor Stickles is now a member of the Board of Directors for the Orangeburg County Chamber of Commerce and will begin serving in January 2009.

Mayor Stickles noted that on November 12, he will be attending Orangeburg County Development Commission's Economic Growth Summit and the unveiling of the Jafza-SC Master Plan.

Mayor Stickles noted that he and Administrator Singh recently met with representatives of Orangeburg County to discuss upcoming projects for the Town of Elloree, particularly the Elloree Community Center. A meeting is planned for December 10 with the Town and the County, as well as state representatives, to determine if that project is still feasible.

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

There was no executive session.

**XI. Adjournment**

Councilman Fanning made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Butler seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Mayor Van Stickles adjourned the meeting at 6:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Chasity Sanders Canaday, Town Clerk/Treasurer