

## **Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, November 14, 2011**

**Present:** Van Stickles, Mayor  
Barbara Butler, Council Member  
Glynda Bullington, Assistant Town Clerk

**I. Call to Order**

Mayor Van Stickles called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. and welcomed back Craddock Morris of the Calhoun Times who had been ill.

**II. Opening Prayer**

Councilman Barbara Butler provided the invocation.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the October 10, 2011 council meeting was not possible as there was not a quorum present. Mayor Stickles and Councilman Butler noted that they found no discrepancies. The October minutes will be submitted for approval at the December 12, 2011 Council meeting.

Mayor Stickles commented that he had just attended the swearing in of Chasity Avinger, Ellore Town Clerk and Treasurer, as an attorney-at-law in Columbia. He added that he was very proud of this accomplishment and her opening her own practice in Santee that is already in progress.

**IV. 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 October.

The Water System completed 51 work orders and billed 647 water customers during the month of October. They also billed 325 garbage customers on behalf of the Town. Estimated water loss was 19%.

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

There will be a public hearing December 12 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall to discuss the results of the rate study conducted by Rural Water Association.

Elloree Water Commission will hold their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 6:00pm at the Elloree Water System building.

**V. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comment**

There were no special guests or public comments.

**VI. Police Report**

A report for October was presented at the meeting by Assistant Clerk Glynda Bullington, with the following information for action taken:

- **1 Arrest for Driving without a license**
- **1 Arrest for Operating an unregistered vehicle**
- **3 Arrests for Careless Driving**
- **1 arrest for DUI**

Other reportable and non-reportable incidents:

- **3 calls to assist SCB&T**
- **2 requests for assistance by other agencies**
- **1 report of a stolen vehicle that was recovered by the South Carolina Highway Patrol. During the course of investigation, it was discovered that the vehicle was not stolen but involved in an accident.**
- **5 Uniform Traffic Tickets**

Mayor Stickles commended Police Chief Preston Avinger and his diligence in getting to the truth of the matter regarding the above stolen vehicle report. His many hours and efforts led to the correct resolution of the mystery.

Assistant Clerk Glynda Bullington presented the Police Fines Report for the month of October, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected: \$2204.64**
- **Remitted to State Treasurer: \$1200.28**
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund: \$115.93**
- **Revenue Retained by Town: \*\$888.43**

\*Retained amount to be placed in Savings.

## **VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report**

The Assistant Clerk referred Council members to the October 2011 financial reports for the Town in their binders, along with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month.

Fall Fest, held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, was reported on at the last meeting. On October 18<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Stickles and Assistant Clerk Margo Banks went to Ellore Elementary to present awards to the Coloring Contest winners which consisted of coupons from McDonalds and candy bags. In addition, each Coloring Contest participant was presented a certificate. The event was covered in the Times and Democrat and the Santee Stripper. A Fall Fest follow-up meeting was held at 5:00pm on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at the Town Hall.

Ellore celebrated Halloween in a big way on October 31<sup>st</sup> with its annual Trunk or Treat event held on the Haunted Half Mile (the walking trail) in Joe Miller Park. Approximately 20 businesses and organizations handed out bagfuls and bucketfuls of candy from tents and trunks set up along the path. Over 600 Trick or Treaters 12 and under were admitted with glowing wristbands and, when those ran out, police badge stickers were given out. Treats were distributed to the colorfully-costumed children from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Also held were a Bring Your Own Pumpkin contest sponsored by the Pythian Sisters and a Scarecrow Contest by the Ellore Garden Club. A Trunk or Treat follow-up meeting will be held this Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Mayor Stickles commented that the Town appreciates the assistance of the Water Department prior to and during the event which contributed greatly to its success.

The next event coming up is our annual Small Town Christmas on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Santa visits are scheduled all day in participating businesses and civic organizations, followed by a Christmas parade at 5 p.m. Breakfast with Santa, sponsored by the Ellore Lions Club, kicks off the festivities from 8:30 a.m. until 11. Shops along Cleveland Street open at 10 a.m. with Santa's visits beginning at 11. As Santa visits each shop or business, there will be a Naughty or Nice competition to see which host gives the warmest welcome to visitors. The day before, on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, storefront displays will be judged and the winner announced during Small Town Christmas. Town Hall will participate by providing free gift wrapping for purchases made from businesses in town only on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Fliers detailing Small Town Christmas events and schedules are available at the Town Hall.

Assistant Clerk Bullington noted that the town election scheduled for November 8 was not officially held due to the uncontested candidates as follows: Harold Void, Town Council District 2, Milt Felder, Town Council District 3, and Water Commissioner Jerry Fogle. These officials will be sworn in during the December 12, 2011 council meeting.

Assistant Clerk Bullington informed the Mayor and Council that a meeting of the Board of Zoning Appeals was held at 5:00pm on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 to address a variance request, a request for a special exception to zoning, and the election of a new Board chairman. The results of this meeting will be compiled and mailed to council by Clerk Chasity Avinger and will also be covered at the December council meeting.

**VIII. Old Business**

There was no old business. However, Mayor Stickles lauded the success of the Coloring Contest for students at Ellore Elementary that was part of Fall Fest. He noted that the students did an excellent job in adhering to the criteria he followed in judging the entries which were neatness, use of bright colors and imagination, especially given the young age groups who submitted entries.

**IX. New Business**

There was no new business.

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, 2011.

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

There was no executive session.

**XI. Adjournment**

Councilman Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glynda Bullington, Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer