

Minutes of Council Meeting Monday, October 8, 2012

Present: Van Stickles, Mayor
Barbara Butler, Council Member
Mike Fanning, Council Member
Milt Felder, Council Member
Harold Void, Council Member

I. Call to Order

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

II. Opening Prayer

Councilman Michael Fanning provided the invocation.

III. Approval of Minutes

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2012 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor.

IV. Special Guest OR Public Request or Comments

Mayor Van Stickles swore Richard Bochette and Angelia Kinley onto the Town's Board of Zoning Appeals. Robert Bochette was nominated by Councilman Milt Felder and Angelia Kinley was nominated by Councilman Barbara Butler.

The mayor recognized Chasity Sanders Avinger to speak regarding domestic violence. She briefly discussed domestic violence and provided the mayor with a proclamation declaring the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Elloree. She noted that Avinger Law Firm, LLC and Elloree Police Department are both participating in the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office's "Paint the Color Purple" initiative and will be selling purple light bulbs. The Sheriff's Office is asking that the bulbs be placed on porches during the week of October 22-28.

Councilman Harold Void made a motion to approve the proclamation and was seconded by Councilman Mike Fanning. All were in favor, and the proclamation was approved.

Resident Claudette Pauling addressed the mayor and council. She noted that she would like to have a meeting with the mayor, town council, and the town attorney in private. Mayor Stickles tried to answer Ms. Pauling's request but she left the meeting. The mayor explained to those at the meeting that council cannot meet with her privately as a whole because of statutory requirements regarding the gathering of a quorum of public officials. The mayor and council suggested meeting with her on October 23 at 10:00am. That meeting will be public and posted at Town Hall. The town's attorney will not be invited, but Ms. Claudette is welcome to bring her own legal representative.

Andrew Friedman of the Ellore Business Association addressed the mayor and council about Christmas events. The EBA will be hosting a Taste of Ellore on Saturday, December 1 from 5:00-7:00pm. This event will replace the Cooking on Cleveland event sponsored by the Town. Proceeds will benefit the EBA's advertising and promotion efforts. During the same event, there will be a lighting ceremony for the wreaths on downtown Cleveland Street.

On November 30 at 5:30pm, the Ellore Business Association and the Town will be working to replace the lights on the existing wreaths for downtown.

The Ellore Business Association will be hosting the Christmas parade on Saturday, December 8 at 6:00pm as part of the Town's Small Town Christmas event. There will be division awards presented.

V. Water Commission Report

There was no water commission report presented. The September and October reports will be presented jointly at the November council meeting.

Ellore Water Commission will hold their next monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 6:00pm at the Ellore Water System building.

VI. Police Report

A report for September was presented at the meeting by Officer Lin Shirer, with the following information for action taken:

- **2 Arrests for Driving Under Suspension**
- **1 Arrest for Involuntary Manslaughter**
- **1 Arrest for Shoplifting**
- **1 Arrest for a Business License Violation**

Other reportable and non-reportable incidents:

- **4 calls to assist SCB&T**
- **6 requests for assistance by other agencies**
- **9 Uniform Traffic Tickets**

Mayor Van Stickles presented the Police Fines Report for the month of September, showing the following totals:

- **Total Fines Collected:** \$2950.300
- **Remitted to State Treasurer:** \$1686.07
- **Retained in Victims Assistance Fund:** \$199.99
- **Revenue Retained by Town:** *\$1063.94 (Placed in Savings)

VII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

Chasity Avinger referred Council members to the September 2012 financial reports for the Town in their binders, along with copies of the Revenue and Expense reports from that month.

Avinger commented briefly on upcoming events, noting that Trunk or Treat is the next event coming up and will be on October 31, 2012. The town will be sending out flyers and letters asking for participants to come set up in the park and hand out candy to the children. The tentative 2013 event schedule was also presented to the mayor and council.

Avinger noted that the mayor and town employees met with the Town Auditor Chip Summers and the audit is progressing on target for the November 30 deadline.

Avinger presented an updated 2013 council schedule and court schedule.

VIII. Old Business

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 10-08-12.001: Yard Trash Collection. Councilman Milt Felder seconded and all were in favor. A public hearing was held on September 10 and the second reading will be held at the November council meeting.

Councilman Mike Fanning asked about liability for yard trash dumpster use. Avinger noted that a request form for dumpster use will include a liability waiver.

IX. **New Business**

Chasity Avinger presented the mayor and council with proposed updates to the town's business license ordinance. Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to approve the updated business license ordinance by title only and was seconded by Councilman Barbara Butler. All were in favor. A public hearing will be held at 5:00pm on Monday, November 12.

The mayor presented a request from the Town of Holly Hill to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement between the two town's respective police departments. Councilman Mike Fanning made a motion to approve the agreement and was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor, and the agreement was approved.

Chasity Avinger informed the Mayor and council that the death of Michelle Felkel left a vacancy on the town's Election Commission and recommended that they begin thinking about a new person to appoint to that position.

The next Town Council meeting is Monday, November 12, 2012.

X. **Executive Session*****

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. Councilman Mike Fanning seconded. All were in favor, and they entered into executive session at 6:15pm.

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to leave executive session and was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor, and they ended executive session at 6:24pm.

No action was taken after executive session.

XI. Adjournment

Councilman Barbara Butler made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilman Milt Felder. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Winingham, Town Clerk