

Minutes of Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
5:30 PM

Present: Mike Fanning, Mayor
Bill Brandenburg, Council Member
Kim Gidron, Council Member
Chip Davis, Council Member
Shawn Murphree, Chief of Police
Earl Kinley, Assistant Chief of Police
Lt. Austin Arant
Freda Trupiano, Town Clerk
Leslie Furtick, Clerk of Court

I. Call to Order

Mayor Mike Fanning called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

II. Opening Prayer

Mayor Mike Fanning provided the invocation and lead all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

Council Member Bill Brandenburg made a motion to approve the minutes from January 14, 2019. Council Member Kim Gidron seconded the motion to approve the minutes, and all were in favor.

IV. Water Commission Report

Ms. Cole Dantzler presented the monthly report for the Ellore Water System.

There were 25 work orders in January and 644 water customers billed. Water loss was at 13% for the month. The water and wastewater facilities and bacti were in compliance with DHEC for the month.

The Ellore Water Commission will hold its next meeting on February 12, 2019, at 6:00 pm.

V. Public Comments, Concerns, Information or Recommendations to Council

Penny Garrett spoke to Council regarding the newly formed Ellore Revitalization Association. She stated it is not for just business owners but all citizens of the Town of Ellore. They will be meeting on the third Monday of each Month in the old Boland Pharmacy building. She wanted everyone to know that they are here to support the town in any way that they can. The Association are planning several different events for the residence of Ellore from arts & crafts to outdoor movies for the children. Ms. Garrett stated that the Association would like to help the Town with Trash to Treasures.

VI. Police Report

Chief Murphree presented the Police Report for January 2019.

During the month, the police department responded to 48 calls for service.

1. Breakdown of Tickets and Arrests:

- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 1 Burglary of Wolfe Street
- 6 Assist with other Agencies
- 18 Escorts
- 6 Alarms
- 1 Suspicious Activity
- 1 Traffic Accident resulting in Arrest
- 1 Warrant/Arrest for DVHAN
- 2 Loitering
- 3 Driving under Suspension
- 3 Giving False Information to Police
- 1 Simple Possession of Marijuana
- 1 Shoplifting
- 8 Thoughtless Operation
- 2 Seatbelt
- 1 Allowing Unauthorized Person to Drive
- 1 Open Container
- 1 No Vehicle License
- 1 Operating Uninsured Vehicle
- 1 Vehicle Accident
- 1 Stolen Vehicle

VII. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fanning stated that the hours of Town Hall have changed with the closing on Thursdays for Administrative Purposes. He also stated that we have added another term of court for each month.

Mayor Fanning also stated Kayla Risher was no longer working at town hall. She resigned to take a position with Orangeburg County.

Mayor Fanning met with a representative with the Lower Savannah Council on Governments. Mayor Fanning said they walked all over town and he was told that the Town of Ellore doesn't qualify for many grants because our area is not considered poverty level.

Mayor Fanning stated that he has a meeting with DOT and Orangeburg County concerning the Town's drainage issues on Thursday at 9:30 am.

Mayor Fanning advised Council he has been in contact with several companies regarding a new tractor for Streets and Parks under the state contract.

The town is working on a new updated website. Also, Mayor Fanning stated the town was able to make the yearly loan payment to South State Bank in the amount of \$25,000.00 which is repayment for the street scape project for downtown Ellore.

VIII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

Ms. Freda Trupiano presented the monthly clerk/treasurer report. The Police Fines Report for the month of January, showed the following totals:

- Total Fines Collected: \$2927.00
- Remitted to State Treasurer: \$1500.34
- Retained in Victims Assistance Fund: \$229.80
- Revenue Retained by Town: \$1196.86 (Placed in Savings)

Ms. Trupiano advised Council that she had been in contact with Murdaugh and Associates regarding the audit. She stated that they would be setting an appointment within the next two weeks to complete our audit.

Ms. Trupiano stated that the Trash to Treasures will be on April 6, 2019 from 8:00am-2:00pm. Planning for the event is on schedule.

Ms. Trupiano attended the Ellore Trials meeting and advised all in attendance the Trials will be held on March 23, 2019. The normal preparations for the town are underway. Thank you to Mayor Fanning for contacting SCDOT to sweep Hwy. 6 before the trials and also arranging to have the 2 dumpsters delivered to the training center for use during the event. He also arranged for a one-day litter pickup by the First Baptist Church Youth Group and Jim Bishop with Orangeburg County on Harlin Street and Tee Vee road for March 14-22. Ms. Trupiano stated the banners will be placed at each end of town once the new dates had been made for the signs. Streets and Parks put the Ellore Trials banners on Cleveland Street last week.

IX. Old Business

None

X. New Business

None

XI. Executive Session

Council Member Chip Davis made a motion for Council to go into Executive Session and it was seconded by Kim Gidron. All were in favor. Entered Executive session at 5:52pm.

Councilman Chip Davis made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:12 pm and it was seconded and approved. Council returned to the floor at 6:12 and resumed the February meeting where Council Member Bill Brandenburg made a motion to accept the Franchise Agreement with Dominion and Tri-County Electric Cooperative. Council Member Kim Gidron seconded the motion. All were in favor. Representing Dominion was Lee Michaels and James Burn and representing Tri-County Electric Coop was Frank Furtick.

XII. Adjournment

Council Member Bill Brandenburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Council Member Kim Gidron. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Freda Herron Trupiano
Town Clerk