

Minutes of Town Council Meeting
Monday, August 12, 2019
5:30 PM

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

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 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

Council Member Chip Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2019 Town Council Meeting. Council Member Bill Brandenburg seconded the motion to approve the minutes and all were in favor.

IV. Water Commission Report

Cole Dantzler presented the monthly report for the Elloree Water System.

There were 59 work orders in July and 649 water customers billed. Estimated water loss was at 10% for the month. The water and wastewater facilities and bacti were in compliance with DHEC for the month.

A 2% rate increase was passed for the 2019-2020 Budget. This was effective on July consumption to reflect on August 1st bill.

The Elloree Water Commission will hold its next meeting on August 13, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

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

Mr. John Rutter- animal droppings on sidewalks

(Council Member Sarah Ann Parler also commented that there was also a problem with this at the Joe Miller Park Walking Trail)

Mr. George Gates-restrooms closed at Joe Miller Park

(Daisy Pauling and Phil Moore, Town Employees, commented that both have seen the results of recent vandalism)

Ms. Nichelle Cole-town buildings available for dance studio- NOT PRESENT

VI. Police Report

Chief Shawn Murphree presented the Police Report for July 2019.

The Department responded to 57 calls for service and 60 traffic tickets were issued.

There were nine (9) arrests and one (1) recovery of stolen property.

Chief Shawn Murphree commended Asst. Chief Kinley on his hard work to Recover stolen property recently.

VII. Mayor's Report and Old Business

Mayor Fanning announced that we have received a utility vehicle from Dominion Energy (formerly SCE&G) that has already been put into service.

A new part time police officer will be joining the department soon. He is a fully certified former member of the Orangeburg County Sheriff's Department and will help to expand the current coverage of the Town during late nights and weekends.

The Town has purchased two dog dropping collection devices that will be placed downtown to help encourage dog owners to clean up after their dogs. Approximate cost to the town \$600

VIII. Clerk/ Treasurer Report

Ms. Freda Trupiano presented the monthly clerk/treasurer report. Council accepted the reports as presented and if there are any questions or concerns, they will let her know.

Labor Day in the Park - She invited everyone to attend the Labor Day Celebration in the Park on Monday, September 2, 2019 at 6 pm with a picnic, music by DJ Don, and fireworks among the fun planned for the evening.

Filings for Election- Ms. Trupiano read aloud the Official Election Notice that was published in The Times and Democrat on two dates, July 25, 2019 and August 8, 2019. The Notice was also posted outside Town Hall and at the front window counter.

The Police Fines Report for the month of July, showed the following totals:

- Total Fines Collected: \$2058.00
- Remitted to State Treasurer: \$1141.48

- Retained in Victims Assistance Fund: \$129.42
- Revenue Retained by Town: \$787.10 (Placed in Savings)

IX. Old Business

Mayor Fanning reminded Council to continue the review of Rules of Order for Council Meetings and Enactment of Ordinances. The Town Clerk has submitted a comment concerning the procedures and this will be brought back up at next meeting.

X. New Business

At this time, Mayor Fanning gave Council the opportunity to discuss tonight's public comments to Council, and also Council member Sarah Ann Parler's concern about animal waste at the JMP walking trail.

Council Member Bill Brandenburg commented that it may be the time for Council to consider an ordinance requiring dog owners to pick up their pet's waste.

Mayor Fanning suggested we look into what other towns in our area have done concerning this issue.

Mayor Fanning explained that the town currently has three public restrooms. The one at Loyns Park is not ADA compliant. All have been vandalized in the past. Drifters have slept in the restrooms. He stated we are more concerned about what is going on in town and with speeders on the roadways to ask the police department to go and check restrooms during the day. If the restrooms are open daily this also requires daily cleanings. He asked Council if there was anything else we could do at this point or continue to think about a solution. The restrooms at Holman Parking Lot and Joe Miller Park are unlocked when the town has public events. The restrooms at Joe Miller Park are opened when the shelter and/or gazebo is rented.

Council Member Brandenburg recognizes that while each concern is valid, there is a problem. He further stated the reality of the issue is that there are people who are abusive and both issues are going to have to be addressed.

Mayor Fanning recommended to Council to consider listing the building next to town hall with a realtor to show and sell. The town has nothing planned for the building. It was once thought we needed a stand-alone Police Department which turned out to be in error. After that, the building was considered for a Welcome Center, which would have cost per bid received \$465,000 to bring to code. This would put the building back on the tax rolls for the town. Council was in full agreement.

It is also noted that the town clock is repaired.

XI. Executive Session

None

XII. Adjournment

Council Member Sarah Ann Parler made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Council Member Chip Davis. All were in favor. Mayor Fanning adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Freda Herron Trupiano, Town Clerk

