

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public were notified of the time, date, and place along with a copy of the agenda of this meeting and a notice was posted on the outdoor bulletin board at the Batesburg-Leesville Town Hall and the Town's website no later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2021

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex, was called to order by Mayor Shull at 7:00 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Etheredge, Gambrell, Cain, Lemon, Mitchell, Wise, Prouse, and Hall. Mayor Shull welcomed all in attendance.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Pastor Kent Suits.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by veteran Council Member Gambrell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Etheredge to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt the minutes from the January 11, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the next Regular Council Meeting will be February 8, 2021.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS COG – Council Member Hall

Council Member Hall reported there has not been a meeting since the last Council Meeting but one is scheduled for next week.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported the next meeting is scheduled for January 20th.

The Comet Advisory Committee – Council Member Cain

Council Member Cain reported there was a fatality on the bus last week, a lady went into cardiac arrest. Reported there was vandalism to several of the shelters. Stated that no decisions are made without first checking with the Board. Stated their meetings are about three hours long and they meet several times a month. Stated that Council needs to give some consideration to paying their share for continued bus service for the Town once the Pilot Route has ended. Stated he would try to give Council a written report on the Committee like Council Member Hall does.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the Commission did not meet in December but has a report from the General Manager. The Commission is continuing to make significant progress on the Capital Improvement Plan projects, most notably the plant transmission main installation is nearly completed (25,000 linear feet of 30" and 36" ductile iron pipe that some of you may have seen along 378 west of Lexington).

- The financial outlook remains strong.
- Will be hearing from the auditor this week when the CAFR is presented.
Unofficially, it appears the Commission has experienced another record year financially in terms of operating revenue. This is due to a combination of solid rate structure (minor increase last year), growth, as well as steady residential usage during the initial "quarantine" months of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Water growth – 3.81%
- Sewer growth – 5.85%
- The Commission's total assets are now over \$185M.

PROCLAMATION CONT'D.

After the vote Mayor Shull presented the Proclamation to Dr. Dunbar, member of the Board.

B. Discussion Regarding a Request by Council Member Cain to Utilize Council Training and Travel Funds Toward the Purchase of New Books for Children

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Gambrell that Council allow Council District 3 to use funds from training/travel for books since there is no traveling and most training is on line. Manager Luckadoo stated the allotment for these funds is approximately \$1,500. Council Member Gambrell stated he would like to donate his training and travel funds also. After discussion, Council Member Cain withdrew his motion and Council Member Gambrell withdrew his second until further discussion is held.

C. First Reading – Ordinance Establishing “No Through Trucks” Designation for a Portion of North Peachtree Street was held. After Mayor Shull read the Ordinance, a motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

D. Approval of Engineering Firm to Perform GIS Locating Services of the Town’s Sewer Collection System. Manager Luckadoo stated Utility Staff requested \$60,000 be allocated to the first phase of the Town’s GIS project during the 2020-2021 budget period. Council approved the request with the approval of the Town 2020-2021 Annual Budget. The project will enable the Town to have a comprehensive water and sewer utility map for use by management, billing, and maintenance staff. The GIS system will contain submeter locational data on all attributes included in the data base. RFQ’s were requested publicly by Town Staff and the request period allowed interested firms to submit electronic RFQ’s consisting of 25 pages or less. Ten qualification packages were reviewed and assessed by the Town Manager, Asst. Manager and Utility Director and after reviewing the information provided by the Consultants, the Utility staff requests permission to enter a contract with Thomas and Hutton Engineers to develop phase one scope of services and proceed with the B-L GIS Project. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Prouse to approve the Town enter

D. Cont'd.

into a contract with Thomas and Hutton Engineers. Council Member Hall called for a vote to end discussion. VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Cain

A vote was taken to approve Thomas and Hutton Engineers as presented by Staff in Council packet.

VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Cain

E. Approval of Architect/Engineers to Engineer & Design Town Park Improvements and Town Entrance Signs

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Prouse to approve The Landplan Group South for engineering as presented by Staff in Council packet. Discussion was held and Council Member Cain called for the vote to end discussion. VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

After voting to end discussion, a vote was taken to approve The Landplan Group South.

VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Hall

MANAGER'S REPORT – Ted Luckadoo

Audit Update

- The actuary valuation of the Town's OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits), relating specifically to our medical liability for current and retired employees has been completed.
- Now that this is completed, the auditors will be putting the finishing touches on the Town's audit and they will present to Council at next months meeting.

2021 SC Ethics Commission Statement of Economic Interest

- This past Friday, I sent Council an email regarding the 2021 SC Ethics Commission SEI.
- Each Councilmember is required by law to file the SEI by March 30, 2021 or it will result in a penalty starting at \$100 if the report is not filed within five (5) days. SEI's must be filed using the Commission's electronic filing system, available at <http://ethics.sc.gov>. I will be sending out in a separate email the instructions sent by mail this week.

Regular Council Meeting

January 11, 2021

Page 6

Manager's Report Cont'd.

Upcoming Town Holiday and Council Work Session

- Monday, January 18th is a Town holiday for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Offices will be closed that day.
- We will be having a Council Work Session on the following Monday, January 25th for our Engineers who performed FOG ordinance updates and program changes to present their recommendations.

Project Updates

- Brodie Pump Station – Most of the electrical control panels have been delivered, however, there are a couple more pieces and parts they are waiting on. They should arrive in the next week or two. Once the contractor gets those and is on-site, they expect work to be finalized within 3 weeks. This will complete this project.
- Infiltration/Inflow Study – Over the past couple weeks, we have had significant rain that is allowing our engineers to receive their initial sets of data from the 12 flow monitors they installed. Once a couple more quality rains occur, they will evaluate the data and may reposition some of the monitors based on areas that show more infiltration and inflow, to better pinpoint possible areas where infiltration is occurring.
- We are still awaiting our final permit from SCDHEC related to the floating aeration project. Once we receive this, will can and will proceed forward with bidding of this project and the RIA funded headworks project.

TOWN FINANCIAL/BUDGET UPDATE
Account Balances for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

	Dec-20	Nov-20	Oct-20	Sep-20	Aug-20	Jul-20
General Fund Checking	\$ 374,897.00	\$ 936,076.96	\$ 1,222,560.33	\$ 1,464,391.88	\$ 1,587,048.12	\$ 1,773,743.00
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Police Donations	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 4,655.06
Fire Department 1%	\$ 25,385.07	\$ 26,135.07	\$ 26,629.34	\$ 26,629.34	\$ 17,581.74	\$ 14,740.23
Municipal Court	\$ 29,942.02	\$ 31,247.14	\$ 35,178.40	\$ 31,459.27	\$ 32,906.28	\$ 32,584.93
Victims Assistance	\$ 349.79	\$ 1,240.47	\$ 812.96	\$ 1,359.56	\$ 1,073.76	\$ 714.00
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 935,728.94	\$ 999,854.70	\$ 1,290,336.09	\$ 1,528,995.11	\$ 1,643,764.96	\$ 1,826,437.22
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 408,886.93	\$ 338,021.79	\$ 282,177.69	\$ 240,621.22	\$ 149,392.83	\$ 92,722.75
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,827.12	\$ 767,814.76	\$ 767,789.54	\$ 767,756.97	\$ 767,725.47	\$ 767,683.46
Capital Improvement Project/Impact	\$ 1,512,696.79	\$ 1,544,929.45	\$ 1,551,894.04	\$ 1,517,168.04	\$ 1,520,775.86	\$ 1,483,730.95
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,806.43	\$ 564,797.36	\$ 564,778.85	\$ 564,754.97	\$ 564,731.85	\$ 564,700.97
USDA Depreciation	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00
Senior Assistance	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,254,224.27	\$ 3,215,568.36	\$ 3,166,645.12	\$ 3,090,306.20	\$ 3,002,631.01	\$ 2,908,843.13
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 890,031.96	\$ 850,525.68	\$ 850,064.91	\$ 806,007.87	\$ 761,699.34	\$ 731,740.64
Total All Funds	\$ 5,079,985.17	\$ 5,065,948.74	\$ 5,307,046.12	\$ 5,425,309.18	\$ 5,408,095.31	\$ 5,467,020.99

Monthly Account Balances for December Since 2014

	Dec-20	Dec-19	Dec-18	Dec-17	Dec-16	Dec-15	Dec-14
General Fund Checking	\$ 874,897.00	\$ 563,841.61	\$ 634,357.84	\$ 785,086.49	\$ 735,895.08	\$ 575,748.24	\$ 565,567.25
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 158,645.07
Police Donations	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 11,594.21	\$ 11,080.07	\$ 11,280.68	\$ 10,331.96	\$ 11,010.89	\$ 10,045.49
Fire Department 1%	\$ 25,385.07	\$ 15,585.40	\$ 16,091.20	\$ 12,856.95	\$ 13,758.68	\$ 19,183.63	\$ 16,501.49
Municipal Court	\$ 29,942.02	\$ 35,935.29	\$ 30,817.79	\$ 30,799.02	\$ 27,518.46	\$ 30,038.31	\$ 29,790.70
Victims Assistance	\$ 349.79	\$ 465.85	\$ 77.63	\$ 235.22	\$ 288.81	\$ 175.40	\$ 146.19
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 935,728.94	\$ 664,773.91	\$ 729,776.08	\$ 877,609.91	\$ 831,194.54	\$ 679,558.02	\$ 780,696.19
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 408,886.93	\$ 261,399.12	\$ 427,768.26	\$ 403,910.28	\$ 578,474.79	\$ 208,741.46	\$ 68,998.40
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,827.12	\$ 765,715.74	\$ 759,615.11	\$ 755,096.42	\$ 845,920.41	\$ 567,798.29	\$ 608,761.02
Capital Improvement Project/Impact	\$ 1,512,698.79	\$ 1,467,856.57	\$ 1,096,787.25	\$ 484,527.85	\$ 35,961.72	\$ 13,049.72	\$ 7,188.72
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,806.43	\$ 563,253.60	\$ 558,766.26	\$ 555,700.00	\$ 231,081.00	\$ 231,080.00	\$ 231,080.00
USDA Depreciation	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ -
Senior Assistance	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 551.27	\$ 1,323.08	\$ 2,437.81	\$ 722.34	\$ 2,428.63
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,254,224.27	\$ 3,058,230.03	\$ 2,843,491.15	\$ 2,200,558.63	\$ 1,693,876.73	\$ 1,021,391.81	\$ 918,456.77
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 890,031.96	\$ 474,264.48					
Total All Funds	\$ 5,079,985.17	\$ 4,197,268.42	\$ 3,573,267.23	\$ 3,078,168.54	\$ 2,525,071.27	\$ 1,700,949.83	\$ 1,699,152.96

General Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru December 2020	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,570,573.20	\$ 4,334,551.00	36%
Operating Expenses	\$ 2,198,913.56	\$ 4,334,551.00	51%

Utility Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru December 2020	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,816,682.92	\$ 3,315,031.00	55%
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,399,195.81	\$ 3,315,031.00	42%

Victim's Assistance Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru December 2020	Actual	Budget	% Budg
Operating Revenues	\$ 3,380.99	\$ 7,500.00	45%
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,696.42	\$ 7,500.00	49%

Hospitality Tax Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru December 2020	Actual	Budget	% Budg
Operating Revenues	\$ 287,661.48	\$ 452,000.00	64%
Operating Expenses	\$ 87,641.78	\$ 452,000.00	19%

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to go into Executive Session at 7:59 P. M. to discuss the following items.

- A. Discussion of Negotiation Incident to Proposed Contractual Arrangements for Possible Purchase of Property**
- B. Discussion of Contractual Matters Relating to Indigent Defense Services**
- C. Discussion Regarding the Selection of Council Members to Serve on Town Manager's Evaluation Committee**

With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Wise to return to Regular Council Meeting at 8:22 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Possible Actions By Council In Follow-Up To Executive Session

A. Possible Action Relating to Proposed Contractual Arrangements for Possible Purchase of Property

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Etheredge to enter into a contract to purchase 115 North Pine Street, Batesburg-Leesville, as presented in Executive Session to be funded from H-Tax Funds. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

A second motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to expend up to \$2,000 for closing costs on 115 North Pine Street purchase; up to \$11,500 for asbestos abatement on 115 North Pine Street; up to \$10,000 for demolition on 115 North Pine Street; up to \$27,200 for engineering costs for 115 North Pine Street, all costs to be expended from H-Tax funds. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

B. Possible Action Regarding Contractual Matters Relating to Indigent Defense Services

No action was taken.

C. Possible Action Regarding the Selection of Council Members to Serve on Town Manager's Evaluation Committee

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Cain to have Council Member Etheredge and Council Member Lemon serve on the Town Manager's Evaluation Committee. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Potential Agenda Items For Next Month's Meeting, February 8, 2021

A motion was made by Council Member Etheredge with a second by Council Member Hall to add to February 8th meeting agenda discussion on paving Oak Street. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Regular Council Meeting
January 11, 2021
Page 10

Potential Items for Next Month's Meeting Cont'd.

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Gambrell to include on February 8th meeting agenda the discussion on the purchase of books for children with Council Member Cain's training/travel funds. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

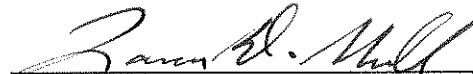
VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

ADJOURNMENT

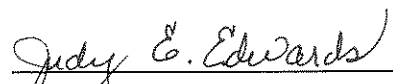
A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adjourn at 8:29 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Approved this 8th day of February 2021.


Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk