

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public was 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

DECEMBER 11, 2017

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 DeLoach, Gambrell, Cain, Simpkins, S. Mitchell, J. Mitchell, Prouse and Hallman.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Council Member Simpkins.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was held.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member J. Mitchell to approve the agenda. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member DeLoach with a second by Council Member Gambrell to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2017 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Prouse to approve the minutes from the December 4, 2017 Special Council Meeting/Work Session. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied - Council Member Cain

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Regular Council Meeting would be January 8, 2018.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS - Ted Luckadoo, Town Manager

Manager Luckadoo reported there was no meeting in November.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ADVISORY COMMITTEE (E. P. A. C.) Bob Penick

Bob Penick reported there was no meeting.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION - Bob Penick

Reported their December meeting was November 30 which was a non-business meeting, it was their Christmas Party.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - Mike Taylor, President

- Reported the Economic Development Committee has not met yet, the meeting is scheduled for Thursday.
- The Community Thanksgiving Service was held at St. Matthew CME Church on S. Lee Street November 19th. The congregation of St. Matthew CME and the B-L Ministerial Alliance were most gracious hosts to those in attendance.
- The Christmas Parade and community tree lighting was last night.
- The Dream Catchers continue to be very active in the community. They participated in Christmas in Leesville this past weekend and plan to help the BBA hang Christmas lights in the Batesburg District. They have a planned educational series set up with self defense provided by the B-L Police Department, sign language course, and automotive mechanical classes at Herlong's Chevrolet. They hope to team up with a bank to learn individual banking skills.
- Arts on the Ridge participated with a float in the parade and contributed the backdrop for Mr. & Mrs. Claus. They are planning an event in the spring and

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE CONT'D.

- will have another play, "Little Red Riding Hood" in June.
- The Chamber will conduct a ribbon cutting tomorrow from 4:00 - 6:00 for the Goodwill Industries of the Upstate/Midlands SC, no purchases can be made. They will be open for business on December 13th. They have a new job connection opportunity at the Goodwill Store that will help people with resumes, they will have a computer and printer, they can help you find a job, improve your job, and give you advice on these things.

Mr. Taylor thanked the Town, Police Department, Fire Department and all the employees and everyone that was involved in setting up the events in the park.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Mayor Shull read the Resolution Recognizing the B-L Bantam Youth Football Championship. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Simpkins to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.
VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

B. Mayor Shull read the Resolution Recognizing the Retirement of Diann Holley from the B-L Library. A motion was made by Council Member DeLoach with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.
VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

C. Mayor Shull read the Resolution Recognizing the B-L Middle School Football Team. A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.
VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

D. Mayor Shull read the Proclamation to Adopt the Municipal Association 2018 Advocacy Initiatives. A motion was made by Council Member J. Mitchell with a second by Council Member Simpkins to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

E. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Financial Audit by Dooley & Company was presented by Amy Ely. Ms. Ely stated she is reporting on the financial condition of the Town of Batesburg-Leesville for the year ending June 30, 2017.

- The Town received an unqualified opinion, which is the best opinion that a Town can receive. This means that in our opinion the financial statements of the Town are fairly presented in all material respects.
- During the audit year ending June 30, 2017 the Town did not issue any new bonds or become obligated for any new leases; however, payments did begin on the capital equipment lease from 2016 and continue on the 2015 bonds.
- Page 11: Statement of Activities - General revenues of the Town, which includes property taxes, state revenue and licenses and permits, account for around \$3.4 million in revenue. This is about 48% of the revenue of the Town. Program revenues, which includes grants and payment for services, account for around \$3.64 million in revenue. This is about 52% of the revenue of the Town. The total revenue of the Town and Utility Department was approximately \$7.1 million. The Town and Utility had total expenses of approximately \$6.6 million; therefore, revenues were adequate to cover expenses.
- Page 10: Statement of Net Position - As of June 30, 2017, the Town had assets of \$19 million and liabilities of \$7.6 million. Included in the total liabilities is something fairly new that is required by governmental accounting standards...net pension liability, which accounts for \$4.9 million of the Town's liabilities. The net pension liability is basically the Town's proportionate share of the State and Police Retirement System's pension liability.
- The net position of the Town was approximately \$11 million. The net position is, over time, a useful indicator of a government's financial

PRESENTATION OF 2016/2017 AUDIT CONT'D.

position. The Town's financial position is the product of several financial transactions, including revenue and expenses, issuance and payment of debt and acquisition and disposal of capital assets. The net position of the Town and Utility Department increased by \$508,000, which is about a 4% increase from fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2017. That is a clear indicator that financially the Town is in a much better position as of June 30, 2017 than it was at that time the previous year.

- Since the Town is continually looking for ways to improve its financial position, we would like to recommend that the Town consider implementing a cash reserve policy. Good financial management dictates that both the Town and Utility Department each maintain a certain level of cash reserves in the case of an emergency. We recommend that Council consider implementing a policy to establish a cash reserve of around 25% or 3 months of average expenses.
- You are encouraged to review all the various financial reports included in the audit report and to review the notes as they provide valuable information concerning the numbers included in the statements.
- She congratulated the past Mayor and Town Council on improving the overall net financial position of the Town and look forward to seeing great things to come from the new Mayor and Council and the Town of Batesburg-Leesville.

A motion was made by Council Member Hallman with a second by Council Member DeLoach to accept the 2016/2017 Audit as presented. Council Member Simpkins stated more time is needed to review the audit since we just received it this evening. This can be done during the January Work Session. Council Member Hallman withdrew her motion and Council Member DeLoach withdrew her second. No action was taken at this time.

F. Approval of the Regular Council Meeting Dates for 2018. A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by S. Mitchell to approve the dates for 2018. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Regular Council Meeting

December 11, 2017

Page 6

G. Mayor Shull read an *Ordinance Amending the FY 17/18 Budget Ordinance to Remove Section 6 Regarding Council Training and Travel*. A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member S. Mitchell to approve first reading. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

H. Approval to Accept Ownership of a Brush Truck Purchased by the B-L Fire Department from Gilbert-Summit Fire Department Utilizing Fund Raising Money

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Cain to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

I. Council Election of Mayor Pro Tem

At this time the election of Mayor Pro Tem was held. A motion was made by Council Member S. Mitchell with a second by Council Member Cain to nominate Council Member Cain. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 2 Approved, Council Member Cain, S. Mitchell 7 Denied

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member J. Mitchell to re-elect Council Member Simpkins. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 2 Denied, Council Member Cain S. Mitchell

J. Council Appointments

a. Town Attorney

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member DeLoach to retain the services of the current attorney. Council Member Simpkins stated he believed that legal services should be bid out with a RFP. Council Member Gambrell stated that under Section 10.1.5, legal services does not come under bid process. After further discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 3 Denied, Council Member Cain, Simpkins, S. Mitchell

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS CONT'D.

b. Town Judge

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member J. Mitchell to retain Robert Cook as Town Judge. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

c. Central Midlands Council of Governments

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member S. Mitchell to appoint Council Member Cain as representative to the COG. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 3 Approved 6 Denied
Council Member Cain, Simpkins, S. Mitchell

Motion failed, therefore another motion was made by Council Member DeLoach with a second by Council Member Hallman to appoint Council Member Gambrell as representative to the COG. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 3 Denied, Council Member Cain,
Simpkins, S. Mitchell

d. Environmental Planning Advisory Committee (E. P. A. C.)

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Hallman to appoint Council Member Prouse to the E. P. A. C. Board. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied - no vote - Council Member
S. Mitchell

e. Joint Municipal Water & Sewer Commission

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Gambrell to appoint Mayor Shull to the Commission. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 3 Denied - Council Member Cain,
S. Mitchell, J. Mitchell

MANAGER'S REPORT - Ted Luckadoo

Manager Luckadoo reported the following:

- Town Hall will be closed for the Christmas holiday on December 22nd, December 25th and December 26th, and New Year's Day on January 1st. Council Member Simpkins asked which holidays the Town observes. Manager Luckadoo stated he would get that information for him by the end of his presentation.
- The Town has submitted an application for CDBG assistance for the 2018 funding cycle to upgrade the chemical storage and feed facility at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The project construction estimate is \$439,592 and if awarded, CDBG would pay 90% and the Town 10%.
- The Town was awarded a CDBG grant from Lexington County in 2017 that will be used to upgrade 4 of our largest wastewater pump stations, which have aged and need some significant overhauls. The upgrades will consist of new motor control centers, control instrumentation, remote monitoring, and the installation of emergency backup generators for North Lee and Brodie Road pump stations. At the time of application, the construction estimate was \$513,217 and we have been awarded \$403,095 towards the project. The RFP will be in late January. The project is shovel ready and approved by SCDHEC for construction. Once all bids are received, staff will present Council a white paper for appropriate funding approval and selection of the contractor to perform the work
- The Town has been awarded \$130,515 by the SC Rural Infrastructure Authority to remediate the Ridgell Street Water tank, which is listed in the Town's Consent Order as needing remediation. This is the first time the Town has applied and been awarded a grant by RIA. The estimated project cost in the application submitted was \$190,520, but for this grant, they only fund 75% of the project construction, so the Town must pay 25% plus all the engineering costs. Advertising will occur this month, bids will be received, reviewed and presented to Council in January 2018. Council will be presented a Project White Paper defining the project, the local fund match requirement, the bid review and contractor recommendation for approval and project award. This project is time sensitive due to water storage/demand requirements in warmer months. The project construction

MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

period is 90 days and must be advertised as quickly as possible for the work to be completed.

- The 2018 Hometown Legislative Action Day registration is now open and will be held Tuesday, February 6th starting at 8 A. M.

Panel discussion topics will include the Retirement System Reform, Local Government Fund, and Infrastructure. Lunch will be provided and the guest speaker will be Hugh Weathers, Commissioner, SC Department of Agriculture. After lunch the attendees are invited to walk over to the State House to visit with their elected officials. Following the State House visit attendees can learn more about opioids and their impact on public safety and policy. The day will be capped off by a Taste of South Carolina - Legislative Reception. If anyone is interested in attending, please get in touch with me because the early-bird registration ends January 23rd. All new Council Members are encouraged to attend and complete the Municipal Elected Officials Institute. The kick-off session will be held on Wednesday, February 7, 2018. In order to graduate, officials must complete Session A, B, and 5 additional courses. If you are interested in attending Session A on February 7th, please let me know because the deadline to apply for Session A is January 23rd.

- Lexington County Community Development Department has notified us that County Council approved the purchase of 402 and 404 Camelot Court. Under the county's Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), they have purchased the apartments and have entered into an agreement with Community Assistance Provider, Inc. (CAP), which is a non-profit organization that helps the low and moderate low income families with decent affordable rental housing. CAP is currently renovating the two apartments from their current dilapidated state into quality condition. At the completion of the renovation, they will vet from a pool of potential tenants to find suitable low to moderate low income tenants to rent the apartments.
- Stated the Town observes 13 holidays - New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, Confederate Memorial Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the day after Christmas. Council Member Simpkins stated the Confederate Memorial

MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

Holiday is a holiday that is very offensive to our African-American community. As the representative of District 4, many conversations have been received about the Town adopting that day as a paid holiday for Town employees. Council Member Simpkins recommended that the Manager take another look at that day and reconsider. Manager Luckadoo stated that the holidays are adopted through the Employee Policy and Procedure Manual, which Council has the authority to amend that portion of the Manual. Last time we went with what the State observed but that doesn't mean we have to observe the same ones. Council Member Simpkins recommended this subject be placed on the next Council Work Session for discussion.

Discussion was held on a leaf machine and bulk collection.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Gambrell to go into Executive Session at 8:11 P. M.

A. Receipt of legal advice to discuss contractual matters relating to indigent defense

B. Receipt of legal advice to discuss contractual matters relating to possible Police Department Leesville substation lease agreement. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Return to Regular Council Meeting

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Prouse to return to the Regular Council Meeting at 8:57 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY COUNCIL IN FOLLOW UP TO EXECUTIVE SESSION-None

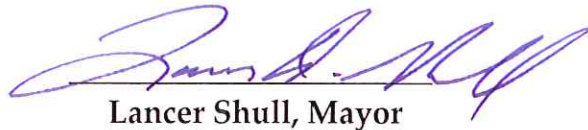
Regular Council Meeting
December 11, 2017
Page 11

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING - January 8, 2018


ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adjourn at 8:58 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied


Lancer Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk