

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
JULY 21, 2014
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor Dennis Raines, Council members Bob Cook, Gabe Hunter, Taft Matney, Scott Crosby, Dale Black and Larry Goodson. Trey Eubanks, City Administrator and Daniel Hughes, City Attorney were also present.

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Cook
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Cook
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mauldin Chamber; Swim proclamation
James Stewart was present from the chamber. He said there is a couple of ribbon cuttings scheduled for the next month and the chamber continues to stay busy.
Mayor Raines and Councilman Taft Matney presented Conner Clayton with a plaque for his achievements in swimming.
3. Reading and approval of minutes. - June 16, 2014- Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Matney seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).
4. Public Comment.- None
5. Report from City Administrator- Trey reported on efforts for Esurance in getting some phone lines installed for them. The City is continuing to service our businesses better. Council actions on revising the landscaping ordinance have provided more flexibility for retailers. The business license ordinance provides an incentive for new businesses as well as a reward for businesses that pay their fees on time.
6. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director- The Finance Department is still accruing for last year's budget, but revenues and expenditures look

good. Chairman Black asked about the sewer budget. There is some salary money left. Trey said that is because of some vacancies that are in that department. There is an overage in professional services because of the evaluation of the sewer system that Frazier Engineering did with smoke testing and manhole evaluation. Trey referred to the project manager report on signage, bus shelters and the Veterans Walk.

b. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)

i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services

Director.- There have been 32 commercial permits issued in June. Chick-fil-A and Bojangle's are continuing their race to get open. Residential permits are lower because of people going on vacation. Councilman Cook said he has noticed that some business parking lots are being upgraded and they look really nice. Councilman Goodson asked that asphalt guidelines be brought up for committee consideration.

c. Recreation (Chairman Matney)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director- Van reported on Senior Center activity. There will be a play and cookout on Thursday at the Senior Center. The summer program is going well. Cheerleading has started practice and football is starting tryouts. A community meeting was held regarding our football program and some good comments were given.

d. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief- Swearing in of police officers Chief Turner highlighted that the Girls' Academy is completed and the Boys' Camp is going on now. Our calls for service are 25% less than where we were last year.

Several officers were sworn in.

ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /

Administrative Judge- Judge Martin reported that Toby Smith was hired and is in Judge's school for the next two weeks. Angela, Trey and the

Youth Camp boys raced last week and will have a rematch next week.

iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.- The response time is 3 minutes. The department ran 222 calls for the month of June. The Boys' camp will learn CPR and do the firefighter's agility test this week.

e. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer- John Gardner was not present, but Trey reported we are on a short list for our certified site. Several annexations are in the works as well. John Gardner is working on the comprehensive plan update. Councilman Goodson thanked staff for their help on getting DOT to finish the project at the high school and remove the rumble strips. Trey said the landscaping would begin there in October and 18 street lights will be installed.

ii. Office of Cultural Affairs report – George reported on the Relay for Life and BBQ events that the office is helping to coordinate. Almost 10,000 people have participated in events at the center.

f. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)

i. Reports and Communications from the PW Director- Mike showed a power point with the different divisions' activity and some pictures of right-of-way clearing. Councilman Black said he has had people ask him about having someone follow the limb and leaf truck to pick up what the boom truck cannot get. Mike said he would look into that. Councilman Matney said the inmates need to be reminded that the trash and recycling containers should be taken to the driveways after emptied instead of being left in the street. Councilman Matney also complimented the paving job that was done in Forrester Woods.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration and action on flood ordinance revisions (Building Codes)- Chairman Crosby made a motion to adopt the flood ordinance revision ordinance on second reading. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- b. Consideration and action on Zoning Board of Appeals appointments (Building Codes)- All applicants to both boards were accepted. Elizabeth Wiygul was appointed to the Zoning Board, and James Wiygul, Ray Atchison, and Jonathan Paulsen were appointed to the Planning Commission.
- c. Consideration and action on rezoning of 325 Neely Ferry Road (Committee of the Whole)- Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept this ordinance on second reading with Councilman Hunter seconding. This will rezone the property to S-1. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on MHS Booster Club alcohol request (Recreation)- This request is for September. Chairman Matney made a motion to approve the request to serve alcohol at the cultural center for this event. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).
- b. Consideration and action on city hall up fit bids (PW)- This will be for work and furnishings in the amount of \$190,000. Marsh Bell will be the contractor. Chairman Goodson made the motion to accept this. The contract will have a not to exceed clause. The stamped plans are upstairs at city hall that state the building can carry the load of new offices. References for Marsh Bell were also attached. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion. Councilman Goodson asked if this was the appropriate time to talk about replacing the carpeting in the courtroom. Trey said we can make this a phase two of the project for city hall improvements. Councilman Crosby asked if we could look at carpet squares for easy repair. The vote was 6-1 with Councilman Black opposing.
- c. Consideration and action on way finding sign bids (PEDC)- Chairman Hunter made a motion to approve the bid from Gimme A Sign. We will proceed with

the purchase of way finding signs. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- d. Consideration and action on sewer revenue bond ordinance (Committee of the Whole)- Councilman Cook made a motion to accept these ordinances on first reading. We will issue debt to pay for improvements to our sewer. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was 5-2 with Councilmen Goodson and Black dissenting.
- e. Consideration and action on participation in GCLD Transportation Committee municipal road paving match (Committee of the Whole)- This will get us a million dollars' worth of paving for \$500,000. \$250,000 will come out of this budget and \$250,000 will come out of next year's budget. The \$250,000 for this fiscal year will need a budget amendment. Chairman Goodson made a motion to accept this with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).
- f. Consideration and action on 899 North Main Street rezoning (Committee of the Whole)- This action will rezone the property to S1 from OD. This is first reading of the ordinance. Councilman Crosby made a motion to approve this on first reading with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment

- a. James Stewart presented Mayor Raines with the Boy Scouts of America Joseph Beck Award for his work with children through the founding of the Mauldin Miracle League.
- b. Dean Kirkland: Your honors and staff. It has been a long time since I have been here. The only people I recognize are Bob Cook and Dale Black. I have been a resident of Mauldin for 32 years. Tommy Shaleuly is a friend and my next door neighbor. I had to humble myself and come in here tonight without my dentures. They were sent off on Thursday for repair. I may slur. I am a Christian and if someone wants to hear the gospel, I have been a Sunday School teacher and a Deacon. I am saved by the grace of God. At the age of 48, I was diagnosed bipolar. I am 68 now, so I have been fighting it for 20 years. Medication has never worked for me. I have been in Carolina Center for Behavioral Health three times. The second trip, Mayor Godbey came in and talked to me and made me feel better. He came the last trip too and he does a great job.

I retired from Pitney Bowes after 32 years, a Fortune 500 company. I graduated from Augusta Tech in 1972, I believe. I worked for Pitney Bowes, Fortune 500 for 32 years before the bipolar surfaced.

I am a landscape architect by the grace of God. I want to help the City and Trey said it would be a good idea to come. That presentation that you did from Greenville into Mauldin on 276 along with Mayor Jones is among the prettiest entrances to any city around. If one of the shrubs dies, you would just replace it, but I am talking about something different. Before I do, I also entertain, and one of the songs I do is by Trace Adkins, you can look it up. It is called Arlington. There isn't a service the City could have that this wouldn't work for. Pop in Arlington, Trace Adkins. I can do it and I am very successful, I have that voice range. I can also do Johnny Cash.

Here is what I have come to talk about. The City invested in a palm tree and it looked great. It was a tropical palm tree. This is not a tropical climate. As a landscape architect, I knew it would not stand. Some palm trees can stand 20 below, but that is a needle palm. Some others can go to 0 degrees and those are windmill palms. The palmetto, I don't know how low it will go. These are planted up to Fayetteville, NC. There is a place on Hwy 14 that I want to tell you about. When it got to be 5 degrees at my house, they had them on the lot and they didn't die. They weren't even in the ground. I told Trey we want to be politically correct. When people saw it, they said this is the state tree, no it wasn't, it was a tropical. This guy sells Palmetto trees. He has them from 10 to thirteen feet without the fronds. They are impressive. They have been harvested and cultured and when you plant them, they look like they have been there for years. One year no charge replacement, but I don't know of any dying. He has planted all the way to Fayetteville, NC. His name is Steve Gwinn. He has a huge piece of equipment that makes a hole in the earth, puts in organic soil. If you want to, you don't have to, but he can come out up to two times a year at \$100 each time to prune it, or cut it back, or whatever.

The Palmetto installed is \$650. I am asking the City to invest in this and be politically correct with the state tree. He has two that are thirteen feet, seventeen with the fronds. That is taller than this ceiling. It will be so impressive. Do you have any questions for me to ask about what I am thinking?

I called and confirmed with him. I can go over there with your staff, or myself, or you can tell me Dean we have it.

Councilman Cook: I think we can go through the committee system.

Dean Kirkland: What does this mean?

Trey Eubanks: We can look at the budget and run this through the PW committee and then back to council.

Dean Kirkland: The only other thing I might suggest is that, we have the place where the other one was at, a sand garden might look good and wouldn't cost that much more. This is from me as a landscape architect. Thank you for your time.

- c. Tommy Shaleuly: I live at 961 Fargo Street. I want some clarification on an earlier statement. I heard \$125,000 for smoke testing. I thought we did that kind of work. Did we bid this out? Can we do this and why didn't we? Third, who won the bid. I would like some clarification on this.

Trey Eubanks: It was \$105,000. We were evaluating the priority one needs. This was some of the oldest areas in the City and about 1/3 of our system. Smoke testing was part of it. Mr. Lawson could probably elaborate. It involved smoke testing and we have 2300 manholes. This work included checking over 800 manholes. Your second question, our procurement policy allows us to piggy back on other bids. We also did comparison for unit pricing to make sure we were getting a good price.

Tommy Shaleuly: What is piggy back?

Trey Eubanks: It means if a bid has followed the procurement process, we can accept that bid without having to go out for our own bids. Like if another government has bought 6 trash trucks and we only need one, we can piggy back and get the same deal. It is a common practice and one we have used before.

Tommy Shaleuly: I got you.

Trey Eubanks: In addition, we also evaluated other bids and unit costs for this particular bid to know we were getting good bids.

Tommy Shaleuly: Can we not do smoke testing?

Trey Eubanks: We can and we do. Our staff had the opportunity to watch a professional crew do smoke testing and that is all they do. Our sewer staff does a lot of different work. This specialized crew is efficient and our staff watched them and learned tips. We will be doing that in house as part of our routine maintenance.

- d. Pat Taylor: I live a 311 Poplar Lane. The gentleman that does the trash. Three weeks ago we had limbs in the street. I worry about the kids playing and the limbs being out there. A truck came by and I told them the limbs needed to be picked up. The guy down the street did it and he didn't cut them the right size. I went down there and told him it was not right, but he wouldn't listen. He is one of them hard headed people that knows everything. They did clean most of it. There is still some there. I wanted to bring it to your attention. I am still fussing about this. This nice man and I were talking and you can't hear a word anyone is saying. It sounds like mumbo jumbo.

Dean Kirkland: What you say is so important, I would like to have it a little loud than too soft.

Pat Taylor: Greenville County is going to have a sign that is something with God.

Mayor Raines: In God we Trust.

Pat Taylor: Anyway, I would like to see us get one.

10. Council requests.

11. Executive Sessions- Executive Sessions- Personnel matter pertaining to citizen response, personnel matter pertaining to rezoning, and receiving legal advice on acquisition of property. (Committee of the Whole)- Councilman Goodson made a motion to suspend the rules to add one more issue to the executive session. Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-1). With the rules suspended, Councilman Goodson asked that a PW personnel matter be added to the session.

Councilman Goodson made a motion to go into executive session. Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Matney reported that no action was taken in executive session. The time was 10:20 p.m.

12. Adjournment. – Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk