

GCRA presentation at 6:45 p.m. by Martin Livingston.

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 21, 2011
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor Don Godbey, Council members Bob Cook, Gabe Hunter, Michael Reynolds, James Kennedy and Dale Black. Councilwoman Gettys was not present. City Administrator Trey Eubanks and City Attorney John Duggan were also present.

1. Call to order.- Mayor Godbey
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Hunter
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Cook
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Godbey
2. Proclamations and Presentations- GCRA resolution; George McLeer, Executive Director Mauldin Cultural Center; Pat Pomeroy, Mauldin Chamber; Curtis Ingram- Mentoring and Leadership Development Institute

Councilman Hunter made a motion to accept the GCRA resolution with a second by Councilman Cook. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

Glen Andrew from Boy Scout Troop 159 was present.

George McLeer mentioned that the auditorium plan is going well and so is the cultural center landscape plan. Concerts and classes for the summer are also booked. The next board meeting is Monday at 8:30 a.m.

Trey reported that the chamber board wants to continue to help with economic development and work on events with other chambers. Simpsonville, Mauldin and Fountain Inn's chambers are working on community seminars.

April 7th will be a town hall meeting at 6:00 p.m. for legislators.

Curtis Ingram presented his mentoring program for young men. There are twelve mentors in the program currently. Mr. Ingram and asked for any help the City could provide and the Mayor responded that the City needs specific requests from the board that the council could address in future meetings, but that we are willing to help.

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- January 24, 2011; February 1, 2011

Councilman Kennedy made a motion to accept the January 24th minutes with Councilman Hunter seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes from February 1, 2011 with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

4. Public Comment.- None
5. Report from City Administrator

Trey reported the first budget workshop is March 17th.

Economic development is being worked on. The City is at an advantage with our location, transportation and infrastructure, and has great schools, municipal services, etc. We are actively working to improve our economy. A group including John Gardner, Pete Nomikos, Councilman Cook, Mayor Pro Tempore Hunter, and Mayor Godbey are working on economic development tools. The façade improvement program on the agenda tonight is one thing the group worked on.

Councilman James Kennedy has graduated from the Elected Officials Institute at the MASC. He has taken many classes and participated in coursework to complete this.

6. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Director.

Pete Nomikos reported that new home construction is lagging. Existing home sales are increasing. The Valley at Tanner Estates had 8 permits issued. Councilman Cook asked if roofers had to have business licenses. Mr. Nomikos said yes, they do.

Councilman Reynolds asked the status of the new software the building department is running. Mr. Nomikos said it is working fairly well. The company has been responsive to the complaints on the software. Good progress is being made.

- b. Recreation (Chairwoman Gettys)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director

Van Brannon mentioned that there were 1500 participants at the senior center. The Zumba Gold class for the seniors is very popular. The AARP is coming in and doing taxes for people. The Valentine's Day lunch was attended by Councilman Hunter and Councilwoman Gettys.

The sports center has 3100 members now.

The Peacock Strides for Babies road race will be March 12th. They are looking for \$45,000 in donations.

c. Fire (Chairman Black)

- i. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief- The report is on file

d. Police (Chairman Cook)

- i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief. – The report is on file

Councilman Reynolds told Chief Turner that the department is doing a good job and he is glad the department is catching the meth labs.

- ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /

Administrative Judge- The report is on file

Mayor Godbey asked for a report of jury trials and what years they are from. He would like to know how many cases are from 2009, 2010, etc.

e. Public Works (Chairman Kennedy)

- i. Reports and Communications from PW Director

Greg Fincher reported that PW is busy, as usual. He thanked Charlie Kirksey, Jim Alford, Richard Upchurch, and Stanley Simpson for their help in the storm.

The department is getting the fields ready for baseball and softball.

Greg Fincher thanked Steve Fuller. He has been coordinating the recycling bin effort. He did a great job on that.

Greg reported on going to MASC to present our recycling program for their achievement award. Unfortunately, we were notified that our project did not win.

Councilman Reynolds asked if recycling has increased with the new bins. Greg said it has and people were even recycling during the storms we had when there was no trash pickup at all for several days.

f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Reynolds)

- i. Reports and Communication from Finance Director

Holly reported that the revenues are going pretty well. Property tax revenues will probably meet budget. Work is starting on the FY 2012 year. Chairman Reynolds said permit numbers and hospital and accommodation revenues are up from last year. Councilman Hunter asked about the increase over last year in property tax revenue. Holly answered that it was because of reassessment as well as the property tax increase.

Councilman Kennedy complimented Holly on the graphs that she is giving to council. They are easy to read.

Chairman Reynolds mentioned that there is a 4% variation between revenues and expenditures, which is fantastic. He thanked department heads and the administrator for watching expenditures.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Consideration and action on amendment to Article 10 ZORD – Rezoning Time Limit (PEDC)

Chairman Hunter made a motion to pass this ordinance on second reading. The ordinance allows reconsideration of zoning immediately if the zoning being asked for is more restrictive. Councilman Reynolds seconded and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on Façade Improvement Program (PEDC)

Chairman Hunter made a motion to adopt the façade improvement program to make CDBG available to local businesses. Councilman Reynolds seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0). There is \$20,000 in funding available this year. Councilman Reynolds said this would be a good thing for the business liaison officer to mention to the local businesses in the central business district.

- b. Consideration and action on Cultural center landscaping (Rec)

Tom Keith of Arbor Engineering was present to show the final drawing to council. This is a culmination of six month's work. He showed the drawings of the veteran's memorial, the walking trail, children's playgrounds, etc. Mayor Godbey asked about the retention pond in the front at Butler Road. Mr. Keith said that is a challenge and we will have to talk with the county about stormwater requirements.

Councilman Black asked about handicapped accessibility. Mr. Keith said everything is accessible, including the amphitheatre. Councilman Black then asked about feedback from the veterans on the memorial. Councilman Cook said he has gotten several good comments on the placement of the memorial. Mr. Keith answered that the city met with the Disabled American Veteran's Group and got some good feedback from them.

Councilman Cook said this work needs to be done in phases and asked that some cost figures be presented to the recreation committee. Mr. Keith said there would be a cafeteria list of prices and they can be pieced together. Councilman Cook also asked for hospitality funds to be shown at the committee meeting.

- c. Consideration and action on revocation of Hailee's Sports Bar's business license. (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Hunter made a motion to table this item pending discussion with the city attorney. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0) . This item will come back up next month.

- d. Consideration and action on Main Street construction bids. (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Hunter reported the job was bid again. There were two bidders and both of them were over budget. There is about a \$130,000 difference between the estimate by DOT and the bids. Two options were presented by John Gardner to bring the costs down. Councilman Hunter does not like either option and tabled this matter until next month. John Gardner is meeting with DOT on this matter tomorrow.

- e. Consideration and action on executive session for a personnel matter. (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Hunter made a motion to suspend the rules to add to the executive session for legal advice regarding the revocation of a business license. Councilman Reynolds seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous(6-0). Councilman Hunter made a motion to go into executive session with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

After council returned, it was reported out that no action had been taken.

9. Public Comment.

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment.- Mayor Godbey adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk