

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
JULY 15, 2013
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor Dennis Raines, Council members Bob Cook, Patricia Gettys, Gabe Hunter, Scott Crosby, and Larry Goodson. Dale Black was out of town. City Attorney John Duggan and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilwoman Gettys
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilwoman Gettys
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mauldin Chamber; Mauldin Cultural Center; Scott Ogburn, Ferguson Benefits Group
Trey Eubanks reported that the chamber is busy now with several ribbon cuttings.
Scott Ogburn showed the new employee benefits website.
3. Reading and approval of minutes.- June 17, 2013- Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Crosby seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).
4. Public Comment.
 - a. James Kennedy: I live at 123 Meadowood Drive. I would like to say hello to council. My concern is that we had a flooding problem in my community. I know usually that when it rains this hard, other folks got flooded also. Mauldin is prone to flooding. If you can find someone somewhere to help us, maybe FEMA, and access some funds for us. Maybe the federal government can look at the flood zone and help the citizens of this community. Our drainage also needs to be checked for debris in the catch basins. Someone told me it hasn't rained like this in about twelve years, but it could happen again. I know you will do what you are supposed to do.
 - b. Linda Kirksey: My name is Linda Kirksey and I reside at 104 Libby Lane. I am a 32 year resident and I have never experienced the difficulties with flooding that I have experienced this time. I am not in the flood zone. My garage, den- I went to a conference this week and I came home to my pets

standing in water. My yard backs up to the trailer park and so I got flooding from both ends. I have a storage building with antiques and furniture and it too flooded. I am concerned about that. I am concerned about finding some resources for help. I looked at a couple of flyers this evening, and that is good, because I didn't know where to start. I am not eligible for flood insurance. I would like some advice also about what to do so this won't happen again.

I remember when this happened about 12 years ago. I have no carpet as a result in the den. We removed as much as we could. Considering the things that happened to other people, my problem is minute, but I am concerned. I just wanted to find some answers. What can we do? I saw the yellow papers on some homes and I was concerned to find out that those homes were condemned. I would appreciate some thoughts about what Mauldin will do to make sure this doesn't happen again.

- c. Malea Eiken: Good evening. I am here on behalf of 117 and 119 East Butler Road properties that have been flooded twice in the last five weeks with chest high water. This is my business, my rental property. Obviously there is a problem. I am asking you, you saw it on the news. I have had significant damage to my buildings. May I show you my pictures? The properties, my drain was improved two years ago, so it is not a personal issue. It is a City and State problem. I went down on Bon Air, and the pipes, I think I know what the problem is. I need you guys to do what you need to do to help me with my livelihood. I appreciate everyone with their homes flooding, I know that heartache too, but this is my livelihood.

The grocery store owner that rents from her was present as well with pictures on his phone.

Malea Eiken: This is the reason my property is flooding. Thank you.

Trey Eubanks gave a presentation. William Mueller, 9 years old, lost his life in Gilder Creek 38 years ago. This helps illustrate how dangerous the storm waters can be. Slides were shown regarding the city's response as well as contact information for agencies that can help with relief.

- d. Elisa Gambrell: I reside at 210 Libby Lane. This is my first experience with the flood situation. I lost everything. Two cars. The structure and brick is off my home. I have flood insurance and homeowners insurance. When I purchased my flood insurance, I didn't realize it didn't cover everything. I have a niece I am having to stay with. My daughter had to be rescued. I hear you saying that when the building starts again, you are trying to get the structure raised. I live on one level. Someone said six months to a year, I will be out of my home. It is the creek that is the problem. It can't be guaranteed this won't happen again. There are not a lot of resources for help. I have nothing. I lost everything in my home. The agencies contact me and they said they could put me up for thirty days, but what do I do after that? I have two sick kids with chronic illnesses. Stress flares their illness up. I am really enduring.

- e. Larry Culbertson: I appreciate what you have done for us. My name is Larry Culbertson and I live at 204 Libby Lane. My family and I moved in the house in September 1978. We have been flooded seven times. this is the worst. Josh measured 47 inches in my house. I do have two levels. When I bought in 1978 I was told I could not have flood insurance. I said I will and they said you don't qualify, you can't have it. I went to the County and got the flood maps that were available. I can't show you the maps, they were destroyed in the flood. The 100 year flood plain came through my backyard but did not encroach on my house. I had my surveyor write that my lower level was subject to flooding and I had my lawyer force that into flood insurance. I have flood insurance and have had it since I moved in. I have used it seven times. We are still in the house and I thank the Lord for that. How long will we let this go on? I am not trying to ask you to do anything that is unreasonable, but we all know that houses have been bought and razed in this County. Del Norte. We want our houses bought. I am ready

to get out. My wife and I cringe when it rains. I need someone's email address. I have some photographs that will scare you to death. I know you weren't on Libby when this happened, but the water was flowing through my front yard between 18 and 20 mph and was this deep. I am amazed that my brick veneer wasn't torn off. We are living in the house and will get back on our feet.

How much longer will we let this run? I appreciate what you have done, and don't take offense to this, but this is not enough. The houses need to be torn down and a park put up so no one has to live in the fear that we live in. Ladies and gentlemen, we are begging for your help. I know funding for buying houses that are potentially flooded is available. I know Mauldin tried to do this 15 years ago and failed. We never were told why, but it is time to try again. 15 or 16 families' houses are damaged. That is absurd. I appreciate what you have done so far. I have met you, you have been in my house, but we have to do more. You have to get us out of danger. I want you to know I didn't make a foolish decision. I made a decision that the government wasn't going to let me buy flood insurance because I was in a safe place. I am not anymore. I am asking for help. I don't want verbiage. Let's get this done.

- f. Deborah Arnold: I live at 114 Libby Lane. My husband and I are retired NY Police Officers. We bought our house in 1991. We checked Mauldin before we moved here. In 1991, we couldn't move into our house without flood insurance. People told us we had to have it. The creek is behind my house. We came to the city before because it has a concrete sewer but there is no pipe. It is a ditch that runs to the creek. We have experienced flooding under our home before. We have come to the City and asked about the problem because my property is being eaten away. You can see the roots of my trees. If we get another heavy rain, those trees will come down. I love my trees and I love Mauldin.

The creek used to be filled with fish. I could feed the catfish and the little guppies. Just beautiful. The last couple of years, the ditch has been lousy.

Things have been flowing up and down. Maybe the snakes can survive, but the fish and the other wildlife, it is dead. It is dead. This week, during the flood, the front and back flooded. It took down fences, wooden playsets, but, thank God the inside of my house was protected. My house was inspected by the Corps of Engineers in 1991 and was ok. But after the storm a few years ago, that cul-de-sac was supposed to be condemned. I don't know why it wasn't, but it was supposed to be. Maybe money was allocated, it was supposed to be turned into a park.

I appreciate the members from the City who came around. I spoke to Josh, very nice. The creek was beautiful. It is a natural wonder. If you can, please, fix it and keep it. It is a natural wonder. It is beautiful. I am hoping something can be done to fix it. This is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Mauldin and we would like to stay there, if possible. If it is not possible with the water and the sewage, then most of us are going to have to go. Most of the people have been there longer than I have and there aren't too many neighborhoods like this around anymore. We have a bird sanctuary here. It is beautiful. People on Libby Lane above me who didn't have flood insurance, everyone should have it. Real Estate people should keep people informed so they can be ready for this.

- g. Sylvia Houston- 3 Cameo Court. I am Sylvia Houston. Some of you may know me. I want to give my name, address, and phone numbers. I am not up here to tell what happened, we know this is going to happen again. It has happened to me as many times as it has everyone else. Who in this circle can I give my name to? You can contact me on a regular basis with updates. My niece stays there.

Niece: She is the owner. I recently applied. I have lived there 9 years and I applied to be the owner two weeks ago. Thank the Lord. I would rather this happen now than later. I would rather it not happen at all.

Sylvia Houston: I am not here to tell anyone what happened. City officials have been there on a regular. It is going to flood. I have a tree, it flooded

Monday and I had a tree hit my house on Friday. Everything they had is gone. I want someone to do something about this. When I initially formed a group years ago and we came to city hall, they tried to buy the homes. If you don't have the staff, I suggest you hire someone to set forward the efforts to make it better. If you don't have a staff person or project manager to work on this, it is never going to happen. Cindy has a job she does. Does she have enough time within her daily activities to contact FEMA? Someone needs to be an appointed person within city hall to make sure that this gets done. I want to make sure my name is in it. I want an update on the regular.

I have another question. I had to pay an electrician \$250 to turn my power back on. When the tree fell, they switched it off again. I guess I need to pay someone to do it again. That is \$500. I mean, insurance, flood ain't moving and they ain't saying they are going to give me money today. It may be 3-4 weeks. I have to maintain my lifestyle. You don't want to keep paying out \$500 a week and the rain don't seem to be letting up. I am going to say it one more time. I want to know there is a contact person for me that I can call and they can tell us the progress of this to take effect immediately. We don't need anyone to come down and walk around and say this is bad. It might not happen again for ten more years, but then someone else will walk around and say it's bad. Like I said, this is my niece. I don't have the accommodations to let her stay at my house. I can't pay for a hotel for her.

Niece: Part two. We are double teaming you. I have a different background. I used to be a 911 operator for the City of Greenville. I understand emergency. Think about having dinner with your spouse and you hear a steady rain. Not a downpour, not anything that sounds threatening. We had no idea the rain was as heavy as it was except that our phones started going off with the emergency alert. Our initial thought was we will ride it out, it is not that bad. Fortunately my husband got up to fix himself another hot dog and saw someone's bench floating through our back yard. Water was splashing on our deck. I am standing with my heels

on, but I am going to demonstrate this for you. I am not that tall, probably not much taller than the 9 year old who lost his life years ago. The water was high in the back, I went in the front, and the water was above his tires. We couldn't go out the front door because the cars were shifting. It was flowing like a raging river, not gentle meandering. My husband and I grabbed our id, because he said if we don't make it, they need to identify our bodies. We put on shoes and went out the back door. We prayed and quoted scripture and I said I shall live and declare the works of the Lord. I am going through here. When we got halfway up our driveway, Ms. Mayes was on her porch as nervous as can be with water around her ankles. She was having a good evening and happened to look out her window and said my god. My husband got me to safety and then he went and got Ms. Mayes. Then he got our neighbors to the left of us. No emergency, no fire trucks, were there. Just us.

I am five foot one and a half. I thought I was five foot two, til Monday when I had to go to the doctor. When the appraiser came out and there is a waterline, it was 52 ½ inches. I had tennis shoes and a dress. I work from home as a real estate agent. All my files, furniture, I could save my desk, whooptido, my electronics are gone. I have relatives fortunately who have allowed us to stay with them and given us a car to drive. My husband has continued to go to work. We like to eat. We want to eat three times a day every day.

Not much assistance. I don't know what you have been told. But I am on it, I am good with the phones. That is how I make my living. I called different agencies including the Red Cross. They are providing resources, but no real help. I don't need resources. I have them already I the phone book. I want the Red Cross to come out with a helping hand. We can't leave the water like that. We live in a humid environment and mold is growing like crazy. I had a combination of black mold and I had spurs that looked like dandelions. The smell was awful. I have health issues and cannot afford to go in there myself. They are not as much help as you think they are. I would ask Mauldin, we already know what areas flood, the first

thing the City needs to do is get the fire department and other agencies to those areas. I believe my neighbor's daughter almost lost her life. It doesn't make any sense for my husband and I, and we don't mind because that was God, but we don't get paid for that. We already have people in place for that. They need to come see about everybody. My uncle was told several years ago that he could raise the house about two feet, but the 52 ½ inches I got last week, that wouldn't have done a bit of good. For the gentleman that said buy us out and let us go, I feel like release our people and let us go. It is a scary situation to be in. I appreciate what you all have done and appreciate that you want to be proactive going forward, but I would hate for someone else to lose their lives because of all that rain.

Sylvia Houston: I didn't get up here to tell you all that, but I want a person in place because it requires works. A person needs to be in place to dot the I's and cross the t's to get something done. It is going to flood again. It is not necessary for us to tell you these stories.

Niece: 8:30, the water was here and 10:00 p.m. the water was down here so that I could walk through it safely. That doesn't feel like a flood to me. I don't know what weight that holds, but the water ran off fast.

Sylvia Houston: The bugs are really bad and some people are having to stay there. Can you get someone to spray on a regular? It is hard to work in that type of environment when bugs are biting all over you. Whatever you can do to get rid of some of the insects, that would probably relieve some of the pressure off the people who are trying to stay in their homes and continue to work.

Trey: We sprayed in that area Friday and we can try to hit it again.

Sylvia Houston: I can go down there and roll down my windows and when I leave, I am ate up with bugs.

Trey: Sylvia, we can try to go down there and spray again. We will spend time there and in other flood problem areas.

Sylvia Houston: Keep me posted of everything that takes place immediately because I need to know.

Trey: And you know how to reach me too.

- h. Akendrea Gambrell: I am a resident of 210 Libby Lane. Our house is the worst. I am the one that had to be rescued, and yes, the firemen did help me, but my dad was more help. You are doing what you can but you are not in the situation that we are in, so it seems like you aren't helping. I am a severe Lupus patient. One of my medicines alone costs \$1500 a month. My momma had to buy that again and she just bought in on the first. And what my momma said about help, there is no help. I could have lost my life over something that should have been controlled when the nine year old lost his life. I feel like this is pure BS. I feel like you don't care because you are not in the situation. People are coming by taking pictures every day. What is that going to do? People took pictures when this happened last time. Something should be done and done immediately. That is all I have to say.
- i. Shawna McMann: I live a 2 Cameo Court. I am a RN and like you serve my community. I wanted to share my story. I got off work and taken my son who was sick at the time to the doctor to get some medicine. His throat was swollen and he hadn't been able to eat for a few days and was week. We went home and I fixed dinner. My husband had taken our two daughters to a shindig they were having downtown. It was just me and my son at the house. It had been raining all summer, and I wasn't paying attention. I was snoozing. It didn't sound like a hard rain, it just sounded like it was raining. My son turned and looked outside and saw the house was surrounded by water. He said, Mom, it is happening again, and I said, Oh, my God, you have got to be kidding. We have a two story house that was built before floodplain regulations. It has a finished basement with a

den, master bedroom, master bathroom , laundry room and garage. The garage takes on water before the rest.

In June, we experienced a little bit of flooding. Little did we know it could be worse. I texted my husband and said it is happening again, you need to come home immediately. I was trying to take stuff from downstairs upstairs to save what I could. We started doing that and I thought about our cars. My son's car, my new car, my old car which I was going to sell for a couple of thousand dollars. It is a nice Audi and our Blazer. I went out and the Audi and Blazer were already up towards the street where we left them so they would be safe. I moved mine and my son's car up to the street since it is higher up there. The house is elevated a little. By the time I got back from that, it was almost knee deep downstairs.

At some point, I went upstairs with a load, and I heard a big crash that scared the life out of me. I went back down and the door between the house and garage, frame and all, had crashed. I thought it was the weight of the water, but I learned the refrigerator was lifted up and hit it. I didn't know that at the time and I thought the house was falling down around me. I was terrified. My son got his medicines which were expensive also. I got my laptop which has my life on it and the ways for me to pay all my bills. We headed outside. By the time we got back it was neck deep. My son is taller than me, he is about six feet tall. He made it through with some assistance from the man at 3 Cameo Court. I couldn't make it because the force of the current was so strong. I wasn't making any forward progress. I tried to hold my belongings and swim with my arm and if it wasn't for that man coming back to get me, I wouldn't have made it.

When I got back to my truck, it was high enough to flood a few inches into my truck. All told, it was four feet five and a half inches inside my house, inside my bedroom. It was dirty silty water and four feet 8 inches in the garage. We barely made it out. I shudder to think what would have happened if he had taken my son instead of one of my daughters. I couldn't get myself across, I sure couldn't have gotten one of my daughters to safety. That is very scary to think of. We have lost three cars and the people have come out and said our loss is more than 50% of the house's value. We have 1400 square feet upstairs and our family won't all fit up there. Compliance coverage, that is not enough to elevate my house. My house is a two story, beautiful, but dangerous house. I called FEMA, and they are not recognizing this as a disaster, or so the website told me. They won't do anything for us. The rain, over the years is washing dirt and filling up the creek bed. There is not enough space for the water. We want a buyout so we can get our family somewhere safer so we don't have to go through this terrifying event again.

Chris McMann: I was fortunate enough to have my daughters away from the home. We like Mauldin. It is a beautiful city. I have always been proud to say that I am from Mauldin. I like what the area is doing, we like that it is close to Greenville. We like going downtown and being in the area. We would like information faster. Obviously this is a slow going process, going through to the right people and getting stuff done. I would like to know as far as the civil engineering aspect if there are any plans for that area. The creek needs to be dredged out. Also, maybe better drainage. We are from California. Flooding happened, but it wasn't this bad. When we bought our house, we were told it is in a flood plain, and we asked what is that, and were told we have to buy flood insurance and that is all we were told. It is just, I guess I would like an answer on the engineering part. I am a mechanic, I do things through spatial recognition, so I would like more information on that.

Sylvia: If the City condemns the homes, what happens to our mortgage? Does anybody know? It would be the City that does this, right?

Trey: We are working. There was an effort in the past, and we are going to look into this again. This is a long process, but we want to work to be in a position to do that. I don't know the details, Sylvia, but it would be a buyout. I will have to defer the particulars. The plans could also include storm water mitigation and drainage, stuff like that.

Sylvia Houston: If you condemn our property, I can't go and tell someone to do it, the City does that? The City makes the decision on this? Do you know?

Trey: If your property has more than 50% damage, you have to address that. Kim Hamel is our contact person. She is at the first two numbers. There will be some funding available. There are different avenues and different sources for this. Whatever applies to each individual case. We will take the sources we can identify and pursue what we can. Make sure you get a brochure.

- j. Rodney Duck: My name is Rodney Duck and I live at 110 Libby Lane. I have been where a lot of these people are. Me and my family lost everything in 1975. Starting over is really hard. The young lady, Shawn, we picked them up and all they had was what they had on. Our house didn't do as bad as theirs. I will be praying for them and if I can help them, I will. On 110 Libby, I have a road called Lanceway that is in front. I have water coming at the back and front of me and I am like this, so. The back of my yard got wide with water. The water got at least 3-4 feet in my backyard. My son has asthma, and the water is going to cause mold. This causes sickness. My wife has asthma as well. We have a lot of things going on. Thank God none of my furniture or anything is destroyed. Since Tuesday, I have called someone almost every day and I got a different number every day. I have talked to so many people. The only two that I can remember is yours Mr. Eubanks and I think I talked to Joey one time. That's about it.

Mayor Raines: You didn't call me back.

Rodney Duck: I know. That is my bad phone. I am sorry about that. It took me four days to get in touch with someone. I was trying to get someone to come by the house and see about the older people beside me. I never saw anyone. It took me about four days before I got to even talk to anyone. That was Friday and that was the lady at Public Works. She didn't care if anyone helped me or not. She said it was her last day. I didn't know what to say. She said I wish you the best. I told her to have a blessed day and we went about our business. So... She said she didn't care what happened.

Bob Cook: That is probably why it was her last day.

Rodney Duck: I hated it. But we still needed help. The water didn't go away from my basement til Friday. I had about a foot and a half under my house. The water had nowhere to go, so it came to me and that is where it sat.

Dennis Raines: We got your name and number now.

Rodney Duck: Thank you. I still want to pray for all those people who lost their houses.

- k. McMann: I have a question. What stopped you from taking down the homes and putting up a park all those years ago?

Dennis Raines: We have to do it correctly. A lot of different people have to be involved with that. We have to get FEMA and the County involved. We are going to have a separate meeting to get everyone together just about the storm water issues.

- l. Larry Culbertson: Can I have a do over? I just want to say that when I got up here the first time, I thanked the City for what they have done and they have been a big encouragement to me after the event. I want to be clear.

Someone else said it. It was kind of late, and it was, really bad. The rain had stopped and the water was receding before the fire department got there.

Bob Cook: Sir, Sir. Wait a minute. I don't want to get myself in trouble. I had my scanner on and all I heard was the fire department was over at Libby Lane. That was right after the flood started. The police department was blocking Corn Road, they were responding. I hate to disagree with you, but our public works and public safety were responding. Someone complained to me about flooding over in Knollwood, and I said did you call and they didn't call. Nobody called. If you don't call us, we can't come. There were so many things going on. I take offense when you say we weren't there, because we did come.

Larry Culbertson: I am sorry. I didn't say you weren't there.

Bob Cook: You said we were late coming.

Larry Culbertson: To my house. The fire department was there, but not at my house. It is my experience. I was on my front step barely with rain when the fire department came to my house. That is all I can tell you.

Bob Cook: But how many houses to go through before they get to you?

Larry Culbertson: I am sort of in the middle.

Dennis Raines: Do you know when the first 911 call came in?

Bob Cook: Get me the time when the first 911 call came in.

Larry Culbertson: I have no criticism of you and your men. They did a great job. They offered to take me out and I said, no, I am fine because I was. The danger was over.

Bob Cook: Will you get the call and the response time and when we were at Libby Lane. Would you relate that? I am just taking up for the department and what I heard on the radio.

Larry Culbertson: I am glad we are having this conversation. You are not offending me. I hope I am not offending you.

Chief Sapp: I know where they were at.

Larry Culbertson: By the time they got there, I had already driven one of my cars through more water than I should have. I am amazed it still runs. I had water beside my glass while I was driving it to higher ground. By the time I got to the other one, I couldn't move it because the water had come up even more.

Bob Cook: We were having problems at the trailer park. One of the firemen on the radio said I am going to get truck 5 I believe it was. They said we can't get there on account of the flood, but they got there eventually.

Larry Culbertson : I appreciate that. By the time I was contacted, the roads between my house were impassable.

Dennis Raines: They were impassable for us too.

Larry Culbertson: I know. They were on foot.

Bob Cook: Don't be offended at me. I am just taking up for the department.

Larry Culbertson: I am not. I think I have offended him. I would like to get together with you and offer my assistance in any way I can. I am an engineer. Not a civil engineer, but I can think my way through this and I want to help. Call me, get in touch with me and I will do anything I can. I

want this kind of dialogue. I have offended you and for that I apologize. I am telling it the way I saw it. I don't want to be offensive. I want to establish communication between Larry Culbertson and the City of Mauldin. I want to help you, I want to offer my assistance, I want you to see the pictures I have, and for those of you who have not, I want you to come to my home. I want you to see what is happening. I wanted a do over, not to complain, but to offer help.

m. Tim Sherkloff: I live at 213 Hickory Lane. My problem wasn't as bad as some of these people. I have limbs in my yard. I have been here since 2008. The creek has risen. You wouldn't believe what comes down the creek. Wheelbarrows, lumber, tires, plywood, concrete , etc. The creek is getting higher and higher. The water is getting higher and higher. The past two storms, I have had water to my foundation. I have never had that. I have had trees come down in the creek. The creek is rising because of the sediment. The Army Corps of Engineers is in charge of the creek I was told. I tried to call a Mrs. King down in Charleston to talk to her about it. She called back but I couldn't talk to her. The reception was bad. They are supposedly in charge of the creeks. I need the creek dredged. I have plastic bags and all sorts of debris there. I talked to Larry Friday or Saturday, he came to the house and I explained the situation to him. I had all sorts of debris a few weeks ago that I cleaned out and they refused to take it. Larry said that he straightened that out, but I cleaned it out trying to help the situation and they won't pick it up? You know? As far as that goes, there should be a vehicle to pick up the debris. Not called flood, but storm debris. Let's get it off the streets. I appreciate everything you have done. Mr. Cook, I would like to talk to you. I think you live near me. Golden Strip Drive?

Bob Cook: No, that's not me. Here is my card. Call me and I will come talk to you.

5. Report from City Administrator- Trey reported on an update from CoTransCo on the main intersection and the utility pole conflict. Duke is underway with the paperwork to get this issue resolved.

We should have some EMP savings to report at a later date. The balance for the HVAC system should be done at city hall soon. Cultural Center insulation will be installed in a few weeks.

6. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director- The interim audit work was done last week. They will be back on Friday. Preliminary budget number including the accruals should be available by August's council meeting.

- b. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services Director.- Kim reported that she did not have a presentation for tonight because of the flood response. She will send council a report after things settle down.

Councilman Goodson thanked Kim for her work on the sign ordinance.

- c. Recreation (Chairwoman Gettys)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director- Van reported that the Seniors had a busy month and that things are going well with the department.
 - d. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief
The boys' youth academy starts next week. National Night Out is August 6th here at city hall. The department will be helping Clemson University with some of their events and a mutual aid agreement will be signed.

- ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /
Administrative Judge- The department report is on file. Chairman Cook asked if Mauldin goes to the prosecutor to get warrants. Angela said no, the officers come to her if a warrant is needed.

- iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.- June's response time is 2.8 minutes. 226 calls were run. Since the 911 dispatch system has changed somewhat and is going through a nurse with EMS if there is no emergency, this has cut down on the calls the department has run by about 25%.

Councilman Goodson asked if we could pass out a card at the public meeting regarding flooding asking people to call 911 if there is an emergency. Chief Sapp said he did a news report last Tuesday advising people to call 911. Chief Sapp said the first actual call from Libby Lane came in at 8:00 p.m. He went out at 6:30 p.m. to that area, and the department was there already. The fire department knows what areas of town are prone to flooding. Chief Sapp said the department had ropes and personal flotation devices to help people with the swift water.

Trey said we will coordinate a public meeting for the residents affected by flooding and ask the State Emergency Management Division to run the meeting and invite the County, the legislative delegation, and others. Chairman Cook asked how to get an area designated as a disaster. Trey said there are certain criteria that have to be met. We will lump all the damages into one number to determine a threshold. The State also has to designate some FEMA money and there is a \$6.3 million threshold for that funding. Councilman Goodson asked if we could total the two different dates. Trey said he thinks it is per event, but everything that can be listed will be.

- e. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)
 - i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer- Trey reported that permit activity looks good. QT is scheduled to open next month. A couple of fast food restaurants are interested in Mauldin. The wetlands delineation for the certified site is at the Corps of Engineers and we will keep our certification. The wetlands delineation lasts for ten years. There is interest in this site. The City may participate in a spec building being built on the site.
 - ii. Office of Cultural Affairs report- George McLeer reported that the center has a large number of showers going on. We should have about 28,000 participants at the center by the end of the year. The cultural center roof is complete with no leaks. The new drainage is working very well. The BBQ festival will be held September 20th and 21st. A strategic plan for the Office is being developed presently.

The City of Union is starting a cultural center and George and Van Broad from Fountain Inn are going to help them with the development of that project.

Councilman Crosby asked about the BBQ festival. This will be Mauldin's signature event and will be held Friday night and Saturday all day September 20th and 21st. Chairman Hunter said two meats will be served on Saturday- butts and ribs. Friday is anything but butts. ABC childcare, DSS and DHEC are helping with the event. Some food trucks have also been contacted, not to compete, but to supplement the bbq.

- f. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)
 - i. Reports and Communications from the PW Director- Mike reported mosquito spraying started last weekend. The contractor is beginning the last part of the paving projects for this year.

Trey received a letter from Greenville County regarding another opportunity to participate in the road resurfacing program at \$.50 on the dollar.

Councilman Goodson asked if Libby Lane could be sprayed more often for mosquitos. Mike Lambert said it was not a problem to spray all the flooded areas, not just Libby Lane.

7. Unfinished Business- None

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on auditing firm RFP (Finance)- Seven bids were submitted for this item. The staff recommendation is Greene, Finney and Horton for \$17,400. This is a renewal of up to three years. Councilman Cook made a motion to accept this auditing firm. The Finance Committee will meet with Greene, Finney and Horton regarding the services they will provide. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (6-0).
- b. Consideration and action on building and regulatory code adoption (Building Codes)- Chairman Crosby made a motion to adopt this code to keep our municipal code up to date when the State code changes. This is for first reading. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).
- c. Consideration and action on cultural center improvements (Recreation)- Chairwoman Gettys made a motion to spend \$58,250 out of the hospitality and accommodations fund for improvements to the cultural center such as swings, benches, awnings, replacement of the covered walkways, doors, and grounds improvements. Councilman Goodson said he was concerned about the two swings costing \$9000. Trey said that when the design was being developed, this is the design that was chosen after a tour of parks around the area. These swings are the same swings that are at the park at Verdae. They are more expensive, but are a long-term investment. Councilman Goodson said the swings at Lake Conestee are nice, wooden swings and cost about \$500. Olivia said these swings are able to be pressure washed so they will last.

The Mayor asked how much money was in the hospitality fund. Trey said it is over seven figures. Councilman Goodson asked if we needed to bid the project out. Trey answered there are different vendors and the components are under the threshold of our purchasing policy and do not require bids. We did get several quotes for each component of the plan. Councilman Cook agreed that the swings do sound expensive. Councilman Crosby asked what the life of the swing was. He was answered it is heavy and durable and should last at least ten years. Councilman Goodson said he would like council to see the swings at Lake Conestee. Councilman Cook asked if we could break the swings out of this motion and vote on the other items. Chairwoman Gettys said she is ok with doing that. Chairwoman Gettys amended the motion to remove the swings from the vote. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion.

Councilman Goodson asked if the doors and awnings quotes included installation and was answered yes. Councilman Goodson asked if the \$40,000 remaining needed to be bid out. This is not necessary under our purchasing policy since the components were quoted separately. Councilman Crosby said when the items are broken out separately, it doesn't make sense to bid it out. Councilman Goodson disagreed.

Councilman Cook called to question. The vote for procuring everything except for the swings was 5-1 with Councilman Goodson dissenting.

- d. Resolution to participate in the Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Committee of the Whole)- No action is needed tonight. The County is working on a hazard mitigation plan and this will be done in the future to be considered for funds. We are currently a part of the County's emergency management plan and are eligible for some funds as part of that plan.

9. Public Comment- None

10. Council requests.- Councilman Goodson asked council to touch base with their churches and make contact with the residents affected by the flood. Resources such as gift cards or appliances are needed.

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk