

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 19, 2012
7:00 PM**

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

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Black
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Black
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mauldin Chamber; Mauldin Cultural Center; Tennis team proclamation; Ansley Speaks proclamation; Audit presentation

Trey Eubanks reported on the Christmas tree lighting, which will be held on November 30th, the Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Parade held on December 1st.

George McLeer said the fundraiser was a success, with about 80 attendees. Almost 30,000 people attended events at the center this year.

The proclamations were given to the tennis team as well as Ansley Speaks. Certificates were given to each player on the state champions Lady Mavs.

Michael Slapnik of Scott and Company was presented to report on the annual audit. We received a very positive report and an unqualified opinion, which is the highest opinion given. The general fund reported general revenues of over \$11,000,000 and expenditures of over \$8,000,000. \$300,000 was returned to the fund balance. The enterprise fund had a good year with new tenants in the Taco Bell building. A new actuary was hired, so the post-retirement benefits have been calculated and posted.

The general fund had a \$300,000 increase to net assets. The fund balance is very important and is healthy. We have a 41% fund balance. The debt ratio is 8% and the City's debt margin is 3.8%.

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- October 15, 2012

Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

4. Public Comment.

a. Leo Joyce: I live at 114 Old Bridges Road. I have one question. What percentage of the City of Mauldin is covered by the Greenlink bus route?

Trey Eubanks: I will get a map.

Leo Joyce: Don't need a map.

Trey Eubanks: Well, that is what I have.

Leo Joyce: I have seen where the route goes and where it doesn't go. There are a lot of businesses on Butler that don't get covered.

Trey Eubanks: We had a lot of public meetings to help facilitate the development of the route. We met with apartment complexes, businesses and industries and these routes can be updated and improved and it already has been. We were hoping the route could go downtown to Greenville and now it does. So your comments are important.

Leo Joyce: I think it is very important that citizens of Mauldin get to go shopping in downtown Greenville.

5. Report from City Administrator

Trey reported on the courtroom renovations and upgrades. A new monitor has been installed; new speakers and microphones are also in, we have hearing accessible equipment and the courtroom door has new hardware that is not quite as disruptive to the meetings.

The energy management plan lighting is almost complete and will be finished this week. The cultural center roof is being looked at for leaks. We anticipate \$54-55,000 a year savings in utilities.

110 winners have been given BI-LO gift cards for recycling. The recycling numbers are up, so the program has been doing what it was designed to do.

The downtown master plan is continuing. Staff had a meeting last week with a developer. There is some interest in what we are doing.

Our fire department is going to be taking donations at any fire station for victims of Sandy. We will help to promote this program.

Councilman Goodson asked if the recycling car could be moved to locations throughout the City to get some more exposure for it. They said that would be something we will do.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer

John Gardner reported on the progress of the new Dairy Queen, the Arby's building has had some interest, and the old Pizza Hut has been sold.

b. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)

i. Reports and Communications

Charlie Kirksey said the department is still picking up leaves and working on Christmas decorations. Councilman Black asked why the flags were not put out for Veteran's Day. Charlie answered that some rodents had gotten into the flags and are currently being replaced.

c. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director

Holly reported the audit went really well this year. Not many revenues are coming in at the moment. Councilman Cook asked Michael Slapnik to tell council about the extra Excel workbook work Holly had to do. Holly was very helpful in getting those workbooks done.

d. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)

i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services Director.

Kim Hamel reported that 16 business licenses were issued this month and

\$51,000 in hospitality revenues were received. There is a townhome development going on now in Crescentwood Village. Councilman Goodson asked Kim to put a 276/Butler Road sign ordinance on an upcoming agenda.

e. Recreation (Chairwoman Gettys)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director

Van advised council that the Senior participation is still growing- they had just under 2500 participants for October. The Sports Center has a lot of activities around the holidays. The Center is also doing an Angel Tree again this year. The Sports Center employees are also going to be helping with Meals on Wheels.

f. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief

Chief Turner reported that calls for service have increased in the last six months. Warnings issued have also increased.

ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /

Administrative Judge

Angela Martin reported on an incident that happened this weekend in her neighborhood. Her neighborhood is not in the City, but the City police responded to help. She was very grateful that they were willing to come out and help and locate a lost child. Councilman Crosby asked if the neighborhood would like to annex into the City.

iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.

Chief Sapp reported that the response time was 2.8 and 234 calls for October.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration and action on interstate sign ordinance amendment (Building Codes)

Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept this ordinance on second reading. Councilman Cook seconded and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- b. Consideration and action on ordinance regarding Insurance Brokers and Tax Collection Program (Committee of the Whole)

Chairman Black made a motion to accept this ordinance on second reading. This amends the business license ordinance and has no financial impact on the city. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on road resurfacing list and related budget amendment (PW)

Chairman Goodson made a motion to spend the \$250,000 in matching funds for paving, approve the list, approve the participation agreement with Greenville County, and to also pass the budget amendment on first reading. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0). Councilman Cook asked that the budget amendment item come back for second reading through the Finance Committee.

- b. Consideration and action on insurance renewal (Finance)

Chairman Black thanked Councilman Hunter and staff for their work on the insurance committee. There is no premium increase for health and a very small increase in dental and vision. There will be an increase in what is paid out for long term disability. An employee can receive up to \$5000 a month. This number is 60% of the employee's salary. He made a motion to renew our health insurance as presented. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- c. Consideration and action on text amendment to remove junk yards as a permitted use in I1. (Building Codes)

This is a text amendment to make our standards more clear and to provide for a public hearing. The special exception hearing will be held by the Board of Zoning Appeals. Councilman Cook said council has no control over the Board of Zoning Appeals. Trey Eubanks pointed out that if junk yards are allowed by special exception, the BZA could apply restrictions such as limiting noise. Staff cannot do that, the board of zoning appeals would have to do that. Kim and Trey will send out an email addressing the concerns that were raised. Chairman Crosby made a motion to table and then withdrew it. Chairman Crosby made a motion to pass this on first reading and make any changes that may be necessary before final reading. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

d. Consideration and action on Destiny church request. (Rec)

Chairwoman Gettys made a motion to allow Destiny Church to rent the Senior Center on Sundays and Wednesdays for six months. We will add to the contract that city staff will be responsible for closing and opening the facility. With that change, Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

e. Commit fund balance for contingency (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Black made a motion to commit this money to contingency. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

f. Marketing and branding (Committee of the Whole)

Olivia Vassey showed some signage and branding examples and asked for an appropriation of \$6500 from the hospitality and accommodation tax fund to get started on this project. Councilman Hunter made a motion to designate the money for the project. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

g. Executive session on a legal matter pertaining to K&S foods (Committee of the Whole)- Councilman Cook made a motion to go into executive session with Councilman Hunter seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0). Council returned from executive session and reported no action was taken.

9. Public Comment

Joel Ann Chandler: You were talking about efforts for Hurricane Sandy. We were involved with Katrina. We sent 14 tractor trailer loads to Mississippi and Louisiana. Hearts with Hands are based in Asheville, NC, and our church is connected with them. They will make sure that the goods get to where they need to go. I am glad to volunteer my trailers to get the supplies up to Asheville. I am willing to volunteer my services. You can drop it off there and they make sure it gets to where the people need it. We are glad to transport that. I hope everyone has a nice Thanksgiving.

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment.- Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk