

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 16, 2015
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor Dennis Raines, Council members Bob Cook, Taft Matney, Terry Merritt, Scott Crosby, Dale Black and Larry Goodson. City Attorney John Duggan and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Goodson
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Goodson
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Ernie Baughman, East Butler Corridor Plan; David Phillips, FY 2015 Audit; Aaron Frazier, Sewer Bond Project Report; Kelly Jamerson, American Cancer Society; Mauldin Chamber

Ernie Baughman presented the East Butler Corridor plan with drawings. A lot of the plan will be centered on Murray Drive and East Butler Road because of the traffic congestion.

David Phillips presented the FY 2015 audit and gave the City an unmodified opinion, which is the best. We have a strong fund balance. The City of Mauldin has more flexibility than a lot of the clients Green, Finney and Horton have.

Kelly Jamerson from the American Cancer Society spoke about the Relay for Life, which will be held in Fountain Inn in 2016.

Pat Pomeroy spoke about upcoming Christmas events. The chamber banquet is Thursday at the Ryan Nicholas Inn. December 4th – Tree Lighting, Breakfast with Santa is December 5th and the parade is the afternoon of the 5th. Councilman Goodson asked about a rain date. Pat said the parade would go on unless there is lightning.

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- Council minutes October 19, 2015-
Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Cook seconding. Councilman Merritt made one correction. The word sop should have been stop. With that correction, the vote was unanimous (7-0).
4. Public Comment.
 - a. Judy McKinley: I live at 308 Cherry Hill Road and have lived there for 39 years. I have attended Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church for those

years. I am here for the culturally significant landmark ordinance. If passed, this will allow us to restore our entranceway and this is very important to our church. Several years ago, we were required to remove the letters. This picture is what it used to look like and this is what it looks like today. These are the letters that came off of it. Picture those together. It will look better and be as it was. If allowed to replace these letters, it will help out our church and the entire City. The ordinance will allow landmarks to be identified and preserved. A good many of our church are here tonight. Will everyone from the church please stand up? That is a pretty good representation. No one is against replacing the letters. We appreciate Kim Hamel and her department, and the City Administrator Trey Eubanks, for coming up with an ordinance that will make this happen for us.

- b. Darron Ison: I am here in case anyone had rebuttal for the Murray Drive rezoning.
- c. Eleanor Dunlap: I am here tonight to express support for the Community Development Department and for the recruitment of leadership to support the social, cultural and economic growth of Mauldin. I reviewed the job description and I feel that this position is essential to the development of a vibrant business community, the growth of the cultural center, and the support of private resources for Mauldin. I have heard dynamic presentations from city leaders and others and I have been impressed by the depth and breadth of the enhancement of economic development in the City of Mauldin. From arts and music programs to festivals and a wide variety of restaurants, to build on what we have. The economic return by other communities is great and Mauldin could certainly benefit from similar returns and community vibrancy.

I am a resident of Mauldin, actually a transplant from downtown Greenville. My husband grew up in Mauldin and he has made me a Mauldin Mav. My daughter was the upper state golf tournament champion. I am a proud parent and member of the booster club. I do spend most of my money outside the city limits, though. I love Moonstruck, I love Chicora Alley, I love

Moretti's and I love Chick fil A. I have attended many events at the cultural center, but I more often go to neighboring cities for food and retail. I do want to spend my money in Mauldin even though I have roots in downtown Greenville.

I feel a sense of community there that I don't quite feel here yet. I do feel we have momentum. This is a key step. We need to have someone who wakes up thinking about recruiting businesses here and I feel care and diligence to get the right leader for this role will yield positive results and repay the taxpayers in the end through economic development. More importantly this will improve the quality of life and put Mauldin on the map. Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you will approve this ordinance on final reading.

5. Report from City Administrator- Trey reported that the Christmas tree is up at the Cultural Center and public works is installing Christmas decorations. Our Christmas dinner is December 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Ryan Nicholas Inn.

Councilman Goodson asked Trey to contact the council member that he needs to clear up some items with to have a meeting before the December committee meetings.

6. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Matney)
 - i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer- John reported the Hollingsworth annexation is up for second reading. Next month we will have a report on the Swamp Rabbit trail. Some people have some liability concerns. There is one new restaurant, the Lowcountry Shrimper, that opened on East Butler Road. There are no available spaces for restaurants. Most people want buildings that already exist. A restaurant will be going into the old Arby's.

There is a serious prospect for 1400 Old Stage Road. We are waiting to find out about sewer capacity from ReWa. 150 jobs would be brought to Mauldin with this project. Mayor Raines asked on a scale of 1 to 10, how close are we to getting this business. John said probably a 9. Councilman Goodson asked about the certification and the water capacity. John said 100,000 gallons are available in our line. The 8 inch line may be upgraded to handle more flow. The line goes under 385 and is in a sleeve so it will be easy to upgrade. John said the pipe is 10 inches wide under 385 and then 12, and 20 and so on as you get near larger neighborhoods.

- ii. Office of Cultural Affairs report- George reported 26,000 have come through the cultural center. About 700 people came to the Edwin McCain concert. The final design was presented for the mural on the side of the cultural center. It is a take on Van Gogh's Starry Night.

A Partnership will be held with NEXT High School, it will be a 12 hour class in which the students will be working on some marketing for us including videos. The art installation will happen in December, but no date has been nailed down as of yet. The floor will be finished by Friday.

The new Strategic Plan for the Office of Cultural Affairs will come out in December.

b. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)

- i. Reports and Communications from the PW Director- Mike Lambert was not present. Trey presented the power point. Servefest from Brookwood Church will help us with some maintenance at the intersection of Corn Road and Butler. Councilman Black asked if the PW Director job has been advertised. Trey said it was advertised this afternoon.

Councilman Goodson thanked Janice Holcombe for all of her work on the Veteran's Day service. A former Mayor was recognized for his service as well as the other veterans.

- c. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director- Holly reported the expenditures are holding steady. There are not a lot of revenues coming in now. Property taxes come in starting in December, but most of it comes in January. Councilman Goodson would like to have a Finance Committee meeting to discuss what is left over in the sewer account and what to do with the capital fund. Trey said the goals session will be in February, and that is a major driver of the budget going forward.

- d. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services- Trey presented Kim's PowerPoint. She was out sick. Councilman Goodson asked about the lateral shift of Steven Woods. He asked if more inspections would be done by the building official. Trey said he doubted it. RCI will still be used. Our staff deals with the more complex issues. RCI does the routine inspections. Councilman Goodson said he would like to see him doing some inspections and be out in the public. Councilman Goodson asked if he would be the building official. Steven is working towards becoming a building official. He still has some certifications to get. He is certified as a combination inspector. Councilman Goodson asked if RCI was our building official. Trey said yes.

Councilman Merritt asked where the combination inspector position was advertised. Trey said it was posted internally and placed on the website. Councilman Merritt asked where internally. Trey said throughout the City. He will check and get the exact answer to Mr. Merritt at a later time.

Chairman Crosby said he remembered it was advertised, but doesn't know when.

- e. Recreation (Chairman Merritt)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director.- Van reported 2871 Seniors participated in programs last month.

The Senior Center is being decorated for the holidays. The Recreation surveys are steadily coming in. Two of the football all-star teams are playing tomorrow night. Basketball is officially underway.

Councilman Black thanked Van for the new outside Sports Center lighting. He asked about putting a timer on the lights to turn them off at night and on in the morning. Van said he is talking to public works about that. Chairman Merritt asked if any surveys are being mailed out. Van said he could look at mailing some to people who have not renewed in the last three or four months.

f. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)

- i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief- Chief Turner called council's attention to calls for service. Numbers have increased by 3-4% over last year for this time. Public Information will be sent out for the holidays regarding leaving items in your car and things such as that.

Hill Lane has some traffic issues. The department did a traffic count. Hill Lane goes into Hill Place and is one way in and one way out. There are 25 mph signs posted. Notices were sent to the community regarding the issues. The goal is compliance. The traffic volume will stay the same, but hopefully the speed will be lowered.

There was also an issue at Pine Gate subdivision. The police department took the traffic counter out there. Speeding is really not the issue, but there were some other issues. Warnings were issued. Chief Turner said he talked to the homeowner who brought the complaint and he is happy with the effort of the department.

The City received a grant from the Department of Public Safety for \$118,577. It is a 100% grant. This will provide an officer who concentrates on traffic safety as well as equipment and uniforms. We are also receiving a grant for salary and benefits only.

Councilman Merritt asked about the signs for the new parking ordinance. Chief Turner said they are being fabricated. The ordinance and locations are being listed on there. The signs should be ready in two to three weeks. 6 signs are being made. Councilman Merritt said he would like them before the return from Christmas break. Chief Turner said yes, the people get selective amnesia when they have been out of school.

Councilman Black asked about the entrance triangle to Holly Springs. Chief Turner said he spoke to Mike about signage for the triangle. There will be signage and reflectors. Chief said he would check on the status of that. Trey said the sign has been ordered and the reflectors are in.

Councilman Black then asked about the traffic issues for Butler Station regarding the Christmas lights. Chief said from past experience, he thinks they will be fine. There was a lot of publicity on it last year. Some things may need to be changed. Homeowners were being emailed on this issue this afternoon. Councilman Black said he thinks it is a great thing for Mauldin but he doesn't live there. He knows it is inconvenient for the homeowners. Chief said he has met several times with the HOA and everyone seems to be on the same page.

Councilman Crosby asked if we are required to keep the position after the grant is over. Chief Turner said the officer has to be kept on for a certain period, but he or she does not have to hold the same position. Holly said the officer has to stay for one year after the grant.

Councilman Matney said we have made a significant expenditure in signage and branding and if we would maintain consistency with the new no parking signs that will be put in the parks. He does not want things to look piecemeal. Trey said there are six signs that will be installed for the ordinance which are white background with blue lettering. Van Brannon is working on other signage for the parks to incorporate the logo. These are signs for park rules and operating hours. They will be two

separate issues. Councilman Matney asked if the sign on the bent pole on Corn Road will be replaced. Trey Eubanks answered yes.

- ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court / Administrative Judge- Trey reported for Angela Martin, who was out with her son. December 12-16th will be the next jury trial term.
- iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief. – Chief Stewart reported on 272 calls for service and property that was saved by intervention from the fire department. Public Education reached almost 1900 children in the month of October with Fire Prevention month and other activities.

Greenville County Fire Chief's Association received a grant. The City of Mauldin Fire Department will be receiving a portion. This is one of the first times in Greenville County history that all emergency services will be on the same radio. We will have those in the apparatus.

Chief Stewart thanked the City for the support of Tommy Nicholson on the passing away of his wife, Bobbie.

Councilman Cook asked that the culturally significant landmark item be moved to the front of the agenda since the church members have been at the meeting for a long time. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Consideration and action on ADA issues (Building Codes)- On October 19, 2015, City Council approved a motion to pursue an accessibility report on all city facilities to determine the projected costs associated with bringing them into compliance with the Department of Justice, Title II ADA requirements.

Staff has received proposals from three (3) companies who are qualified to perform site evaluations of this nature, two of which are non-profit (touch the future, and ableSC).

Of the three (3) bids provided, staffs recommendation would be to award the bid to the non-profit company, touch the future, Ms. Sandy Hanebrink. Ms. Hanebrink is a Mauldin native resident, and has proposed a discounted rate of \$115.00/hour. Her quote also provides four (4) options for providing the assessment. She has proposed a start date of December 1st with an estimated completion date of mid to late January (8-10 weeks).

Following review of the options outlined in the quote, staff is of the opinion that Option 2 best suites the City's desire to obtain a comprehensive report of the improvements needed in our facilities in order to prioritize set timelines for completion.

Option 2 provides a turn- key assessment not to exceed \$18,000. Ms. Hanebrink has also provided a number of recommendation letters from multiple institutions where touch the future has provided services.

A copy of all three (3) quotes is included with this report along with a sample copy of an ADA report prepared by "touch the future." On November 9, 2015, the Building Codes Committee voted to send staffs' recommendation to award the bid to the non-profit company "touch the future", Option 2, to City Council for consideration. Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept the proposal from Touch the Future for a not to exceed \$18,000 expenditure. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion.

Councilman Matney asked where this money was coming from. Some of the money could be taken from the hospitality and accommodations fund since there will be studies on our recreation facilities. They said it will all come out of the contracts and service line in building maintenance. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- b. Consideration and action on Hollingsworth Property Annexation (PEDC)- This was approved on first reading at the special called meeting on November 9th. This property is at Bridges Road and 385. This tract is zoned S-1 and was used for construction staging for the I-385 widening three years

ago and had a temporary concrete plant on the site during that time. It will bring about \$65,000 in property tax revenue. Chairman Matney made a motion to approve this on final reading. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion. Councilman Black asked if this followed our land use plan. John Gardner said yes it is consistent. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- c. Consideration and action on Community Development ordinance (PEDC)- Chairman Matney said this would establish the Community Development department and add a department head. He made a motion to pass this on second reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion.

Councilman Merritt proposed an objection to the question for the following reasons, if we refer back to the October 19th minutes that were just approved prior to new business on page 8, it states “ Councilman Matney said he would like to amend the motion to include prior to second reading, we have revisions to standing committee rules.” That has not been done.

John Duggan said this is unusual and is a negative vote. Mr. Merritt asked him to check with Robert’s Rules of Order. An objection can be made and only when it is first introduced. Will the assembly consider the motion before it which is second reading on the ordinance to create the department? When such a motion is made, it cannot be amended, debated or have any other subsidiary motions filed. If you vote no, you are not going to consider this issue. If you vote yes, the body will consider the motion. Will you consider this question? A no vote requires a super majority, which in this case is 5 votes. Councilman Matney asked five votes to support Mr. Merritt’s objection. John said that was correct. Three or more yes votes says council will consider the item.

The vote: Councilman Matney- yes, Councilman Cook- yes, Councilman Merritt- no, Councilman Crosby- yes, Mayor Raines- yes, Councilman Black- no, Councilman Goodson- no. The council will consider the agenda item by a vote of 4-3.

Councilman Merritt made a motion to postpone this item indefinitely. This proposed second reading violates our standing committee rules by assigning authority to a committee that does not have this authority. He is all for this body to follow the rules we require citizens to follow. Councilman Merritt said is not trying to stop this item. Get it done correctly and we won't have to listen to it for four years. Councilman Black seconded the motion. Councilman Matney- no, Councilman Cook- no, Councilman Merritt- yes, Councilman Crosby- no, Mayor Raines- no, Councilman Black- yes, Councilman Goodson- yes. The motion was defeated by a vote of 3-4.

Councilman Matney said while Mr. Merritt was working on his next motion to defeat this, he wanted to mention something. He made the amendment last month in deference to Mr. Merritt to address the concerns Mr. Merritt had about the standing committee rules. The committee rules were ready to go until the last meeting, and then they were tabled. Every amount of good faith was made. Councilman Matney said he has a problem with how this is going. He doesn't want to invite everyone to watch the family argument, but the fact is we have a city that needs to move into the future. The election said the people want to move into the future. This position will allow that to happen.

Councilman Merritt said he is not against this position. He is against council violating its own rules. It is ok if Councilman Matney wants to violate the rules and then look a citizen in the face and say you follow the letter of the law. Councilman Merritt said he voted against this to be passed without the appropriate committee. They have made some progress, the rules are just not out of committee yet. Councilman Merritt said you can look your citizens in the eye and tell them you violated your own rules to get it your own way. We allowed a meeting to be announced last Friday selecting a director when this body had not even had second reading. He finds this presumptuous and disrespectful to this body. We just had an election with less than 10% and the majority was like 6% to carry it forward. He said he is not trying to stop this department. We have an excellent staff to move this forward. It is cited that we are the 17th largest city in the state, top of everything. He

wants to do this legally, lawfully, and respectfully. Councilman Merritt said he didn't visit a bunch of people and hand pick who he wanted to sit on it. When did we get applications? Where was it advertised? This is being rushed through by next Wednesday. Councilman Merritt said you have a director you want. That is wrong. That is good old boy politics and he is not part of it.

Councilman Matney said he takes offense to that. He hasn't met with anyone off the record or tried to push anything forward. This position was advertised publicly and received a number of applications in anticipation of creating the position. No offers have been made. Absolutely none. And to say otherwise, Councilman Matney challenges Councilman Merritt to give any proof. As far as using the rules to get what you want, we allowed the discussion on the change of the rules to go to Finance and Policy, but if you read the council rules, Finance and Policy does not just relate to policy, but legal, financial and personnel matters. Not council rules. Councilman Matney said he kept his mouth shut. This should have been discussed in committee of the whole and then we wouldn't be dealing with these issues now. Council rules should be decided by the council. As far as looking a citizen in the eye and tell them they have to abide by the letter of the law and we don't, that is ridiculous. We are talking about rules of operation, not rules of law, which has punishment and punitive actions. The two are completely different. We are looking at an operations manual of how council operates as a body. That is a decision that should be made by the body itself, not a group of three.

Councilman Goodson said what bothers him is the procedure that was followed for hiring the Fire Chief has not been followed for the Community Development Director position. He thought that is the direction we were going. He said he doesn't know what committee met, who was interview, none of that. He just saw the meeting for Wednesday night.

Councilman Black said this did go back to Finance. The Mayor brought up some concerns and there was additional information requested. That is why the rules were tabled, until everything could get answered and satisfied. Councilman Black said he had another question on where the money is coming from for the position. Council had talked at one time about eliminating a position and then creating this one, but he hasn't heard anything else about it. He has not seen any documentation other than the memorandum from Mr. Eubanks on how much it will cost. Councilman Black said he is not against the position, only against the way it is coming about.

Councilman Merritt read from the minutes that Councilman Matney made an amendment that prior to second reading the committee rules be amended. Seconded by Councilman Cook.

Councilman Matney said there were revisions to the standing committee rules- they were tabled.

The vote now is to approve on second reading the ordinance to create the community development ordinance. The vote was Councilman Matney- yes, Councilman Cook- yes, Councilman Merritt- no, Councilman Crosby- yes, Mayor Raines- yes, Councilman Black- no, Councilman Goodson- no. The motion carried 4-3.

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on Take Heart Church rental (Rec)- Chairman Merritt said Take Heart Church would like to rent the auditorium and two classrooms at the cultural center beginning in February 2016 for 12 months. A similar agreement has been done for two churches at the Ray Hopkins Senior Center. The recommendation here is to allow the church to use the cultural center auditorium. This auditorium has not been used for a church before. Chairman Merritt made a motion to approve the rental agreement. Councilman Matney seconded the motion. Councilman Goodson said he wants to make sure that people who rent from us are safe in the facility. He has seen people pour oil on

the floor and sweep it with sawdust to clean the floor. He is afraid it could be a fire hazard. He said we need to bring our facilities to the safest level possible.

Councilman Matney said if it is not safe enough for a church, but we are renting it out to other groups, then are they in harm's way? He asked if we had not made sure the facility was safe to gather in. Councilman Merritt said he had the fire inspection reports. This came from the Business and Development Services Department and is a review of the most recent information dated July 2007 that shows the area as an A-3 assembly which has an occupancy of 2056 floor and 41 on the stage. The tenant must stay within the occupancy areas. The last fire maintenance inspection was 3-3-2015. No code violations were reported. The occupancy was updated to include a business and educational classification. The sketches for Sunday School and classrooms are attached. Councilman Matney asked if Mr. McLeer feels safe in his office. Mr. McLeer said it is not his determination.

Councilman Black asked since there is a rental fee structure for other entities, should we have one for churches? He said he is not against the church. He said he is not trying to hold this up but we could look at this going forward. Trey said this is consistent with what we just did for the church renting the Senior Center. Councilman Black said he understood that. He said the fee structure does not state churches.

John Duggan said you could have a separate fee structure for non-profits. Councilman Merritt said if this is a one shot deal then a set fee is fine, but this is a longer contract and staff should have some wiggle room on the fees. Trey said that was true and would accommodate a 6-12 month period of time.

Councilman Black said his point is would we go by the same rate for a long period of time or a one-time deal. He wants to make sure we are protected from liability. Councilman Goodson asked the fire department to do an additional inspection because there will be a daycare in the church. The vote was 6-1 with Councilman Goodson opposing.

- b. Consideration and action on Springfield Park improvements
Bid Award – Civil Engineering (Rec)- Chairman Merritt made a motion to accept the bid from American Engineering. This is the award for a company to perform civil engineering work. This will instruct us on how to get bids for other components of the project. The bid amount is \$11,600 and this will be funded from hospitality and accommodation funds. Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- c. Consideration and action on 2016 resurfacing list (PW) - \$129,391.58 is the matching fund amount. Trey said we have not received a participation agreement yet and we will not expend any money until then. Council is only approving the paving list tonight. This matter will come back before council. Councilman Goodson made a motion to approve the \$129,391.58 and to approve the paving list as distributed. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. Councilman Merritt asked if this was for resurfacing roads only. Trey said the list only has roads. Councilman Merritt said if we have money left over, we can do more roads. Mayor Raines asked if this list had roads on it from last year. Trey said yes, the list moves forward as roads are completed or not completed. Councilman Black said council had discussed originally parking lots, but this list is only roads. Parking lots can be done later with H&A money. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- d. Consideration and action on SC Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (PW)- Chairman Goodson made a motion to participate in the SCWARN program. It is basically a mutual aid agreement for public works. It will help response to major disasters. We will have utility entities to help us if something happens or we can help other entities. Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- e. Consideration and action on culturally significant landmarks (Building Codes)- In June of this year, staff was approached by a group of citizens to determine if an ordinance could be drafted to establish a procedure by which older structures in the community could be designated as a landmark due to its

cultural and sentimental value in the community.

Given the absence of any “true” historical structures in Mauldin, staff acknowledges the community’s desire to commemorate and recognize objects of cultural and sentimental value. In order to properly identify those objects, staff has drafted an ordinance that sets forth a process by which a designation can be awarded upon meeting certain criteria.

In order to avoid from having to establish an official “design review board”, the ordinance proposes a staff evaluation of the following criteria and issuance of a designation once the findings have been satisfied.

- 1) Consideration for designation shall commence upon submittal of written statement from the applicant stating why and how the object for designation is culturally significant.
- 2) Supporting documentation shall be provided that confirms that the object(s) for designation is at least fifty (50) years of age.
- 3) Review of a graphic image or picture of the object(s) for designation shall be submitted that illustrates a visual and distinctive prominence in the community due to its location, contrasts of setting, age and/or scale.
- 4) A signed petition shall be submitted by the applicant containing at least twenty-five (25) signatures from area Mauldin residents supporting the designation of the object(s) for having a social, cultural, or sentimental connection or value in the community.
- 5) The Mauldin Cultural Council shall have the opportunity to review and forward a recommendation to staff for consideration before a final decision is made.

Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept this ordinance on first reading with Councilman Black seconding. Councilman Merritt said he was glad to see these church members step up since their lettering was unjustly removed. Councilman Merritt has been here all his life and has seen many culturally significant landmarks that were not saved. He asked if the church was at least 50 years old. The sign that is being talked about, has it been here at

least 50 years? Judy McKinley answered no. Councilman Merritt said because the sign is not 50 years old, the working in the ordinance precludes the sign and he does not believe that is the intent of council. He said he thinks we should reconsider the 50 years and make it less because otherwise the church thinks they are getting something that they are not.

The church Pastor said the church was formed in 1963. The building was started in 1965. The sign itself is 10 years old. It is the gateway to the church and that is what they are asking for is the sign on 276. Councilman Merritt said he knows what the intent is, but we need to change the letter of the statement.

Councilman Cook said what irritates him is that council has to go through all of this rigmarole to put the letters back up. This 50 years or 10 years is ridiculous. He said what we ought to do is tell them to put the doggone letters back up.

Councilman Matney said we have to be careful that the letters are in violation of the ordinance. Speaking to Mr. Merritt's point, the church has been there for 50 years, the object of designation is 50. The object for designation is the church, not the sign. The sign recognizes the object. If we change the significance ordinance to 25 years, we may be allowing other things that are not culturally significant. The way this reads, it fits with what they want to do.

Councilman Black said it is part of the church even though it hasn't been there 50 years. Councilman Matney said if you want to micromanage it and say that every part of the building has to be 50 years old, then you start getting into wiring and everything else and there is a whole litany of ways we could get into trouble.

John Duggan referred council to one section of the proposed ordinance. An object(s) that has been deemed as a Culturally Significant Landmark and also consisting of lettering or identification of the object(s) shall not be considered as signage under the Mauldin Zoning Code Section 6:4, Signs. Said lettering

and/or identification shall remain consistent in size, and scale as was approved upon the object's designation. He said he thinks this should take care of the question because the lettering is not considered signage under the zoning code. Councilman Merritt just wants to make sure that future staff and future councils understand the intent. John Duggan said that can be taken care of by giving direction of the city administrator.

Councilman Merritt said the instructions are that the lettering will be put back on the sign out front. City Administrator Eubanks said that is the way the ordinance will be interpreted. Councilman Merritt said he will trust the administrator to have this done. Councilman Black asked that the Planning Commission be made aware of council's intent. Mr. Eubanks said that would be communicated to the planning commission.

Mayor Raines said item 5 mentions the Cultural Council. Will they have meeting before second reading? Trey said we are working through some of that. The provision might need to be revised. Councilman Cook asked if it has to go to the cultural center board to review. Why? Trey said that could be eliminated from the criteria. Councilman Merritt proposed an amendment to include the appropriate council committee be included in the review process to keep the council on the hook to make sure this goes as intended. John Duggan said a committee cannot bind council. Councilman Merritt said he just wants the committee to review the items to make sure they are culturally significant. The committee would review and forward to full council. John Duggan said that would alter the wording saying staff would make the decision. The ordinance would have to be rewritten to take out the staff review. The intent of having the cultural council review this is because it would be culturally significant. This will change where the buck stops. Right now the ordinance states the cultural council would work with staff to designate. Councilman Merritt asked Chairman of PEDC Matney what he thought.

Councilman Matney said this is a policy making body and council does not need to micromanage letters on signs. Council can pass the ordinance and

allow the review process mentioned in the ordinance now to designate the landmarks. Council does not have to be involved in each designation. Trey suggested passage on first reading and let him and Kim work on a report for the committee meetings in December. The nuances could be dialed in before second and final reading. Councilman Cook asked how letters on a sign was cultural. He would like an explanation at a later date.

Councilman Merritt withdrew his amendment. He said council has to come back and micromanage sign issues, but he would defer to Chairman Matney.

Councilman Black said there is a 20 day requirement for review. Has an application been submitted? Mrs. McKinley said no application has been submitted, but the church will work on one. Trey said there is time before second reading to meet the 20 day provision.

The vote on the original motion was unanimous (7-0).

- f. Consideration and action on rezoning on Murray Drive (Committee of the Whole)- Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept this rezoning on first reading with Councilman Merritt seconding. Currently this is zoned as OD and the petitioner is asking for multifamily residential. Staff is of the opinion that this is consistent with the surrounding properties and consistent with the future land use map. The Planning Commission passed this unanimously. The property was originally RM before it was zoned OD, so it is going back to the original zoning. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- g. Consideration and action on Public Relations (PEDC)- We have a need to market the city. We have discussed this at length. Preliminary discussions have been held with MPA Strategies. This opportunity will help George with his marketing workload as well, and the company will also pursue grants. January 1, 2016 is when the work will start. An expenditure of \$10,800 will be made with this contract. Chairman Matney made a motion to approve this contract. Councilman Crosby seconded the motion. Councilman Goodson

asked if this was put out to bid. Chairman Matney answered that the company solicited us and said here is what we can do for you, and no bids are required. We have talked with other cities they have worked for. Councilman Goodson said council just voted on the ADA item with a bid. Councilman Merritt said Recreation did solicit marketing. The Sports Center membership needs to be increased as well as the revenue. Right now, revenue is being lost.

Mr. Eubanks met this lady at one of his conferences and it seemed like a good fit. The item went to PEDC instead Recreation. Councilman Merritt said he wants to make sure we don't lose focus on the Sports Center. Marketing the Sports Center is what started this discussion. Councilman Crosby agreed. Trey said this does not require a bid with our procurement code. The cultural center campaign firm did not go to bid. This is the same type of thing. Trey stated the Sports Center would be a priority. The vote was 6-1 with Councilman Goodson opposing.

- h. Consideration and action on health insurance 2016 (Finance)- Chairman Black made a motion to accept the health insurance for 2016. It is the same plan and there is no increase in premiums. The rates did not increase because our claims have not been as high this year. Councilman Merritt said he was disappointed that there was no discussion on charging city staff to join the Sports Center. You have more skin in the game and will show up more if you are paying even a small amount.

Councilman Merritt said he is definitely for this insurance item other than that and is a very glad there is no increase. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- i. Consideration and action on open door policy (Finance)- Chairman Black made a motion to adopt this policy. It will be inserted in to Article 1, Section 5 of the personnel policy. Each employee will sign a statement that they have read and understand the new policy and return it for their file. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment

- a. Joel Ann Chandler: We have so much to be thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving. I would like to see the plans for East Butler Road near my place. I need more information and specifics. I believe the business owners on Butler Road should be more involved in the plan.

Mayor Raines said the last he saw, there were no plans to do anything near her business.

Joel Ann Chandler: I heard there might be something and just wanted to know more specifics. I would appreciate a copy of the plan.

10. Council requests.

Councilman Goodson asked for an executive session before the special called council meeting on Wednesday.

Councilman Crosby asked why council's rules went to committee and asked if they could be brought back to full council.

Councilman Merritt said he had a problem with how the special called council meeting for Wednesday was brought up. There was no polling of council as to whether each member could meet on that day at that time. In the past, staff reaches out to council on this. The department was not even set up at the time the meeting was announced. There was no information provided to council on when or where the position was advertised. No information to full council about the selection committee which we just used for fire chief, which went wonderfully. Is this position not as important as our fire chief was? Was there something I missed?

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk