

Public Hearing on Comprehensive Plan at 6:30 p.m. Members present for the public hearing were Mayor Don Godbey, Council members Patricia Gettys, Bob Cook, Gabe Hunter, Dale Black and James Kennedy. Council member Michael Reynolds was not present.

The opportunity for public comment was given, but there was no comment. The hearing closed at 6:45 p.m.

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 16, 2009
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor Don Godbey, Council members Bob Cook, Patricia Gettys, Gabe Hunter, James Kennedy, Dale Black and Michael Reynolds. City Attorney John Duggan and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order.- Mayor Godbey
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Cook
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Hunter
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Godbey
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Representative from CCFB; Pat Pomeroy, Mauldin Chamber; Patricia Gettys proclamation; Introduction of Miss Greater Mauldin Teen 2010- Allie Thompson and Miss Greater Mauldin 2010- Kristin Smith.

Allie Thompson and Kristin Smith were present and spoke about their platforms.

Pat Pomeroy mentioned the chamber banquet on Thursday and the Christmas festivities that the chamber sponsors. Councilman Reynolds asked about Mauldin's membership in comparison with other area chambers. Mrs. Pomeroy answered that Mauldin has the largest chamber membership of the area chambers.

Greg Campbell mentioned that Furman University would be holding night classes again for the January through March semester.

The Mayor read the Gettys proclamation.

Councilman Cook made a motion to suspend the rules to move the DOT resolution to the front of the agenda. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- October 19, 2009

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

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

Trey Eubanks: We had a lot more participation this year on the health benefit fair. 126 total attendees this year compared with 90 attendees last year. 89 flu shots were given compared to 60 last year.

The City of Mauldin raised \$3382 for United Way last year. This year we raised \$4345 to support the campaign. This demonstrates a commitment of our employees to their community.

Hopefully the final layer of asphalt will be put down Wednesday on Holland Road if the rain holds off. If not, it will be when we can do that. John has been talking to the contractor about putting it down early Wednesday. Some landscaping needs to be done. 11 oak trees will be installed and we are wanting to do a nice job around the retention pond at Bloom. Again, a reminder, we leveraged 3 funding sources for this project- utility tax credit funds, department of commerce funds, and CTC funds. We were able to pull \$450,000 as a result of Samsung's moving to this community. Also I want to thank Mr. Black, Mr. Hunter, Ms. Gettys, Mr. Fincher, and John Gardner for serving on a committee for 276 design. Freeland Kauffman was selected to do the 276 design. A survey has already started. We will be in a position by probably May to hand this project over to DOT with our hope for a quick turnaround.

Mayor Godbey: We should have had Mr. Elrod stay longer. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the incumbents on a clean campaign. This is the first time in 8 years that the same council has come back to serve.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. Fire (Chairwoman Gettys)

- i. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief

Chief Sapp reported that response time is 2.7 minutes and there were 210 calls for the month. Last week, the county approved for the City to continue with the special exception for the fire station at Bethel and Holland Roads. Public hearings will be held at the Miller Road fire station so that they can see how the fire department meshes with the community that surrounds it. We are going to start cleaning the property itself off so we can see what we do have out there.

Councilman Cook: It is important that we do the public hearings. I know we are going to do them. There are a lot of concerned people up there and I think we can overcome some of that with the public meetings.

Councilman Black: What is the status of the Knox box?

Chief Sapp: That is on hold. I have the ordinance written, but I need to bring it to committee.

b. Police (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief.

Chief Turner: I hope you got to look at the layout of the new SRO car. This helps us be a part of the community. The students need positive role models. They are texting about the car and taking pictures of it to put on their facebook.

Councilman Kennedy: On your report for narcotics violations. What does that encompass?

Chief Turner: That could be buys... anything specific?

Councilman Kennedy: Minor violations?

Chief Turner: Someone selling marijuana, ecstasy, to traffic stops where we encounter methamphetamines. Our numbers are high.

Councilman Kennedy: Is this becoming a problem?

Chief Turner: It is no greater than it used to be. We just have more time to work these types of crimes. It is in all cities. Greenville has their share and so do we.

Mayor Godbey: Can you speak on the meth lab?

Chief Turner: Very little. The county got a call to Crime Stoppers on a meth lab. The county contacted me Monday and let me know that a search warrant would be served and they asked for assistance. Two officers stayed for the majority of the day. This had probably been operating for some time. They were making drugs. Two people were arrested. The Sheriff's Office handled the majority of the media since it was their case.

Mayor Godbey: Is the house going to be razed? It is toxic.

Chief Turner: It is a rental house and it has been cordoned off. It is not an immediate threat.

Councilman Black: I want to commend Officer Rose and his counterparts on the fine jobs the SROs do.

Chief Turner: We have the best SROs in the county and state. I couldn't ask for more.

Chairman Cook: Our police, fire, and other departments are the best in the state. I don't think anyone comes up to it. If they want to argue that, tell them to call me.

ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /

Administrative Judge

Judge Martin stated her report was on file.

Mayor Godbey asked about jury trial backlog.

Judge Martin said she didn't have any numbers, but they are working on it and are getting caught up. People ask for jury trials all the time.

c. Recreation (Chairman Reynolds)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director.

Chairman Reynolds mentioned the daffodil planting day and said the Garden club did a great job.

Van Brannon reported that the senior program was growing. Several Christmas trips are scheduled. Football is finished. Adult volleyball will be starting soon.

d. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Director.

Peter Nomikos reported that construction activity is slightly increasing in the commercial sector. Home sales increased 8.6% so hopefully new construction will start back up after the winter months.

The meth lab property was condemned by the building department. The owner has been contacted.

Mayor Godbey: We have had legal complications with this type of issue. What is the legal status of rental property and illegal activity?

John Duggan: It is a health issue for the public. It will have to be torn down if it cannot be cleaned up. The method in which they make this stuff is very poisonous. It is problematic to clean up.

Mayor Godbey asked the city attorney to keep up with this issue and look into what can be done to expedite this process.

e. Public Works (Chairman Kennedy)

i. Reports and Communications from Public Works Director

Greg Fincher reported that he has gone to some football games and they were special. Officer Tench knows almost all of the students by name and does a great job as SRO.

The holidays are coming. Christmas lights are being put up now by the department.

This year 860 tons of leaves have been picked up. 17,600 pounds of leaves. That is from 10 days. The department is on a two and a half week cycle going through the entire city. The department will work this weekend and be off for Thanksgiving.

There was a storm last week. The department was ready to respond and did a good job.

Councilman Black thanked Greg for his dedication to the city. He spent two nights at public works during the storm so he would be able to respond to any problems that might occur.

Chairman Kennedy agreed with Councilman Black's comments and thanked Mr. Fincher.

Councilman Black asked if something could be put on the website about leaves.

f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and Communication from Finance Director.

Holly Abercrombie reported that the auditor is here and is going through our financials and things seem to be going well.

Chairman Black thanked Ms. Abercrombie for the condensed report on the financials that the department has worked on.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration and action on cultural center memorandum of understanding. (Rec)

Chairman Reynolds made a motion to accept the MOU. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Black asked about the Garden Club still being able to plant flowers and taking care of the grounds since the cultural center board is going to be over the cultural center now. It was answered that the Garden Club would still maintain the grounds and that if anything drastic was to change, those changes would have to go through the city administrator.

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on Tree Board Appointments. (Rec)

Chairman Reynolds made a motion to appoint Cynthia Atchison, Mike Guarino, and Michael Lee to the three vacant positions on the board. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- b. Consideration and action on Mauldinfest council appointments. (Rec)

Mayor Godbey appointed Councilman Reynolds, Councilwoman Gettys, and Councilman Hunter to the Mauldinfest committee. Mayor Godbey mentioned that it would be a good idea to have the cultural center board represented on the Mauldinfest committee also.

- c. Consideration and action on adoption of comprehensive plan. (PEDC)

Chairman Hunter made a motion to adopt the comp plan on first reading with Councilman Reynolds seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- d. Consideration and action on 2010 health insurance. (Committee of the Whole)

Chairman Hunter: Unanimous consensus of the committee is to go with the Blue Choice 1500 Alternate B plan. This will result in a 10% premium increase. Furthermore, the committee unanimously supports a plan design that will decrease the percentage of the cost for dependant coverage paid by the city. This will provide for the city funding 5% of our premium increase and our employees who choose to cover dependents funding 5% of the premium increase.

Chairman Hunter made a motion to approve Blue Choice health insurance as the city's provider. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

- e. Consideration and action on DOT 385 resolution. (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the 385 resolution. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Tommy Elrod from DOT was present. A 5 mile section of 385 from exit 30 up to near Woodruff Road will be widened. One lane will be added.

- f. Executive session to receive legal counsel on property lease. (Committee of the Whole)

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn into executive session with Councilman Reynolds seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Council reconvened and the motion was made to allow the Mayor and Administrator to enter into a contract pertaining to property on Jenkins Street. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment.- None

10. Council requests.- None

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Godbey adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk