

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009
7:00 PM**

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

1. Call to order.- Mayor Godbey
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Black
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Cook
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Godbey
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Representative from CCFB; Pat Pomeroy, Mauldin Chamber; Garden Club presentation

Greg Campbell reported on the art classes that Furman University is holding at the cultural center.

Pat Pomeroy was not present at the meeting.

Raydee Wyatt and Dave Chesson were present from the Garden Club. The club will start selling two mixes of daffodils at the log cabin on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The goal is to have 500,000 bulbs planted in the City. The club asked the council to designate the first weekend in November of each year as city-wide planting day.

Philip Holdess from Lindsey Graham's office was in attendance at the council meeting.
3. Reading and approval of minutes.- August 17, 2009

Councilman Black made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).
4. Public Comment.

Bobby Muston: I live at 107 Gail Drive. I am here for a storm drain in Knollwood that comes under the ground at an easement beside my property. I have tried to get the city to do something about this. It undermines the trees and is a safety hazard. I have tried the state, county and the city to take care of this. I have had no response in getting people to take care of this problem. I don't care if they put a pipe in it, it is not my responsibility to maintain the storm drain. It is a hazard. I live in fear of one of the trees falling down.

Mayor Godbey: PW committee can have it on the agenda in October.

Bobby Muston: The more you delay, is another day that one of those trees could fall on my house and kill me and my wife. I am telling you, it needs to be inspected by an engineer. I have tried my best through all the governmental agencies to have this done. You have not gone anywhere with this and my life is in jeopardy.

Mayor Godbey: Are you willing to answer some questions from the attorney?

Bobby Muston: What do you need?

John Duggan: We do have ordinances that give guidance on what we can and can't do on private property.

Bobby Muston: I don't need to discuss this. We will discuss this in court. I am tired of it. This is your responsibility. The drain is ripping out the top. The trees have already fallen on my property. The city will bear the consequences. It is a safety issue and if you don't take care of it, it is on you.

John Duggan: Mr. Muston, we need some information.

Bobby Muston: It is on the state owned easement. It doesn't say it is a city-owned easement, no. But by state law, the first five feet is an easement. It is draining. I will not sit here and listen to you wiggle out of this.

John Duggan: I am trying to understand the problem.

Bobby Muston: You have my life in danger. We have been around this for two years already. I am through.

5. Report from City Administrator

Trey Eubanks: There was a public meeting on August 24th. It was very well attended and it was the final meeting on the update of the master plan for the cultural center. We also had a small part of the meeting on the auditorium renovations. The two plans have been forwarded to the foundation board and they will have this on their agenda at their October 5th meeting. Back in June, council endorsed the concept of the memorandum of understanding. There have been a lot of meetings and the attorney is working on a draft now. Mr. Reynolds and I will review this and disseminate it to city council. Please offer us any feedback you have and then by the end of next week, I would like to convey the document to the foundation board for their meeting on October 5th. The final thing pertaining to the cultural center, the foundation board is asking the city to remove the covered walkways on the western side of the facility. I will turn that over to council if you would like to consider that request from the board.

We have heard a lot about swine flu. Our employees have been provided information to prevent this and what they need to do if they do get this, and I want to convey that the city will again provide the benefit of flu shots at our October 20th health fair. I expect a lot of participation at that fair. We are monitoring the CDC and DHEC to stay on top of this.

Mayor Godbey: There are 600,000 people eligible between the ages of 6-24 for the shot. This is a very real concern for the city. 8,000 students are in Mauldin schools and this can have an impact on our workforce and school system. Please keep us posted on this.

Trey Eubanks: The senior center will have flu shots available also as they are vulnerable to this. Health insurance- we will go through the process this year of evaluating our options. Our department heads will serve on an evaluation committee. I ask you to consider a council representative also. We are reviewing claims activities. The second quarter claims were a lot more in line with what I wanted as compared to the first quarter claims. I will keep you posted on this.

We need the rain, but we are probably looking at another month to complete the Holland Road project. So far what has been done is working well. I want to thank John Gardner for staying on top of the project for us.

Many of our council members, planning commission members and staff took a trip to Suwanee, Georgia in an effort to get ideas about how to implement a city center plan. The feedback I have received has been very positive. We saw some things that we can apply here. Suwanee started with a significant amount of planning and they are about six years ahead of us.

We are having a United Way luncheon on Friday. They served over 2500 residents of our community last year. We stepped up and increased our contribution and I challenge us to do that again this year.

Councilman Cook asked about Fieldgate Court and how long it would take to do the study.

Trey Eubanks: There have been a lot of communications between Chief Turner and some residents on Fieldgate Court. These considerations are initiated by the police department per our traffic calming policy. We did have a good meeting with a handful of folks from this area in August. The game plan was the city will do some engineering studies to ensure that anything the city may do would improve the situation and not create a worse condition. We did get three bids on a traffic study and they were all pretty high. We negotiated with the low bidder to have our staff do some of the work. Captain Tripp will do a vehicle count. John Gardner will do some of the line of sight studies. We completed the negotiation last week and this week we will compile the report. Our aim is to find a way to possibly put in a four way stop.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Fire (Chairwoman Gettys)

i. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief

Chief Sapp reported on the fire response totals. The time was 2.6 minutes. The pumper bids are back in and are being reviewed at this time. Because of NFPA guidelines, a black box has to be placed on the pumper and that will be an additional cost.

b. Police (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief.

A. Grant report

Chief Turner reported on the 5th quarter event. This event had over 300 participants and was a great success. There will be another one after the homecoming game.

The Edward Burns Justice grant was received. It is based off of crime stats and is not stimulus money. The funding amount is a little over \$10,000 and two new video recording systems will be bought with the money.

Councilwoman Gettys mentioned that she had heard good things about the 5th quarter event.

Councilman Cook asked Nate Carey if Gwinn could take a picture of the fire truck with the MHS sticker and the police car with the mustang on it.

ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /

Administrative Judge- the report is on file

c. Recreation (Chairman Reynolds)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director.

Van Brannon reported that the senior program had 2300 participants last month. Flu shots will be given Wednesday. There are 3500 members at the sports center. The new Moms in Motion program will start next week. There was a meeting with the Greater Greenville Parks Association. It is a 501c3 advocate for parks in Greenville County. They will provide some service to municipalities. Mauldin will be a part of their website and people can donate money for park equipment.

Councilman Black asked about upstate cross fit. Van Brannon said we are not affiliated with that and it is not part of our recreational program.

Chairman Reynolds asked to suspend the rules to add the covered walkways at the cultural center to the council business.

- d. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Director.

Peter Nomikos reported on the two items on the council agenda for tonight.

Councilman Reynolds asked about the door to door solicitation ordinance that was in council packets. Mr. Nomikos said no action was taken, but the city attorney did advise that if a private resident had a sign up like the example given to council and someone still tried to solicit, then the police could be called and the person would be trespassing.

- e. Public Works (Chairman Kennedy)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Public Works Director

Greg had some pictures to show of the mulch the public works department has put in and the renovations of the football field at Springfield park.

- f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)
 - i. Reports and Communication from Finance Director.

Holly Abercrombie reported that data entry from the computer backup problem was going well. She is interviewing for the Senior Accountant position.

7. Unfinished Business- None

8. New Business

- a. Travel tournament guidelines. (Recreation)

Chairman Reynolds introduced the final draft of the tournament guidelines and made a motion to accept them. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion.

Councilman Black asked about the city employees being paid by the city or by the tournament. Trey Eubanks answered that city employees would be paid by the tournament director.

Councilman Black: Where does that put the city legally? Are they still city employees during the tournament?

Trey Eubanks: The travel ball tournament is responsible.

Councilman Black: What about an injury for insurance purposes?

Trey Eubanks: Travel ball.

Councilman Black: It is in the contract? What if someone twists their ankle, who is liable? They aren't working for the city at that time.

John Duggan: If they aren't on payroll, if they get hurt, it is not a worker's comp claim for the city. They will be working for someone else. They are not fulfilling duties for the city. This is not within the scope of their employment. If our employee is negligent and injures someone, we need to be sure we have a hold harmless in the agreement which I think we do. This provides that while they are using our fields, they will hold the city harmless from any injury, which includes our moonlighting employees.

Councilman Black: I just want to make sure where the liability lies.

Mayor Godbey: I provided the city administrator with some information on dual employment. We may need to consider that down the line so there is documentation in writing.

Councilman Black: The contract says that there will be a 14 day notice that the tournament is coming and a three day notice for field requirements. Is this enough time?

Trey Eubanks: 14 days is enough time to get it on the PW and Recreation calendars. The 3 day notice provided by the travel ball league- they will know how many teams will participate and how many fields they are going to need. We will know precisely what we will need as far as maintenance and support. These guidelines have been reviewed by recreation and public works and I think both department heads are satisfied with them.

Councilman Black: The last paragraph says security is recommended for the safety of participants. Do you think that needs to be required?

Mayor Godbey: It also says may be required. Is that at the discretion of the department head?

Chief Turner: If it is a long tournament, we will be there anyway. We are subject to call. It is really easy for us to get there really quick. If you have a rival team playing another rival team and you know there are going to have problems, then we need to be out there the whole time. I think you will get to the point that if you require it for everything, you will have to require it for the little kids that come out and play, too. It will get expensive for them to do it here and then you might have people go somewhere else and not want to play here. If we see there is a problem, we can tell them that we are going to have to be here.

John Duggan: There is no requirement if we put on a tournament that we have security there. It does not raise a liability problem for the city. If we require security or not, that would not matter if a fight broke out and someone is injured. We are not liable for that in a civil lawsuit because we did not require security. We do not have liability. Our police department is out 24 hours a day, they will respond if a fight or something happens. The real issue to me is do we have to have someone there to protect our fields and equipment from abuse. That is a different question.

The policy passed 5-1 with Councilman Black dissenting. He said he would support changing the policy at a later date.

Chairman Reynolds told Councilman Black that his concerns could be addressed in committee if the policy is sent back for more consideration.

Covered walkways:

Chairman Reynolds made a motion to approve the removal of the covered walkways from the western side of the cultural center. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion.

Councilman Black: Is this just the covers, not the walkways themselves.

Trey Eubanks: This is the entire walkway. Frame and cover. Not the sidewalk. We are taking the steel frames and roofs off.

Councilman Black: Elderly people go over there for different events. I don't know what the master plan says. I agree it is unsightly.

Mayor Godbey: The master plan does not have them in there.

Trey Eubanks: I think that is a good point. We actually added a rail to the ramp on the western side this spring in response to some requests from seniors. There is one walkway there that is covered that does come down toward the parking lot. There is another area that is toward the auditorium side. The covered walkway closest to the auditorium, we can remove that. It would be worth considering leaving the walkway near the ramp so people can walk up into the Rotary Community Room. I have in my report a diagram of this. We could defer this. I definitely think we can come back with a more definitive plan.

Mayor Godbey: Are you comfortable amending your motion to just remove the walkway near the auditorium?

Chairman Reynolds: Yes.

Trey Eubanks: We will look at retaining the walkway closest to the parking lot. Everything else we can remove.

Mayor Godbey: Let's send this to the Recreation committee.

Councilman Cook: We are recommending removal of one. The cultural center has asked to remove two. Are we going to let them know what we are doing? I would also like- this is not a part of public works, this is not a priority. They can do it when they can. The cultural center need not to expect that it is going to be done tomorrow. I would like us to let Trey and Greg come up with something that will look neat. If it won't be neat, we need to take it down.

Mayor Godbey: We have amended the motion to have one covering removed. Let's vote on that.

The vote was unanimous (6-0).

The vote was unanimous (6-0) on the motion as amended.

- b. Consideration and action on text Amendment to section 6:17 of ZORD.
(PEDC)

Councilwoman Gettys: This will change an ordinance to allow for additional tree credits for preserving existing trees to create an incentive for developers to work around valuable specimens, provide a method of administrative and judicial review of requests to remove historic trees as provided by section 9:4 of the Mauldin Zoning Ordinance. I would like to make a motion to approve this on first reading.

Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- c. Consideration and action on business license penalty refund request
(PEDC)

Councilwoman Gettys: This is a business requesting a refund. We are not in favor of granting the request. I make a motion to deny the request.

Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- d. Consideration and action on substance abuse policy and ordinance first reading. (Finance)

Councilman Black: We have a policy in place, but the language is not really clear. Everyone has the new information and the wording of it. This will cover random drug testing for prescription drugs and illegal drugs.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all employees that the City maintain high standards of conduct in order to (1) protect the safety and health of all employees and the general public whom it serves; and (2) maintain the general effectiveness of City operations; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Mauldin Substance Abuse Policy is intended to ensure a drug-free work environment for its employees and the public whom it serves; and,

WHEREAS, it has become necessary to amend various sections of the Substance Abuse Policy to clarify the circumstances and terms under which employees may be subject to either random or periodic drug testing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Mauldin, that the Mauldin City Personnel Policy Article I, Section XIII be amended and enacted as set forth in the attached document entitled “**Article XIII Substance Abuse Policy (Amended September, 2009)**” which is incorporated herein by reference.

I make a motion that we accept this ordinance on first reading.

Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

John Duggan: There was concern about employees that are taking a medication prescribed to them. I wanted to comment on that briefly. If an employee is given a medication by a physician and it will affect their abilities, the policy puts the responsibility on the employee to know this and to report it so they don't operate equipment or drive a vehicle. I would call this to your attention. Be sure to remind your employees that they have a responsibility to tell you of the side effects. It does cover prescribed medications if it alters them in any way that causes a safety concern.

Mayor Godbey: We aren't going rapid fire into this. We will have training on this.

Councilman Cook: My suggestion is that each employee sign something saying they understand the new policy and the changes.

Mayor Godbey: If there are any modifications, we have between now and second reading.

Trey Eubanks: We are going through formal training with every employee and they will sign saying they have been through training. We will make sure we do that.

- e. Consideration and action on capital lease resolution (Committee of the Whole)

Chairman Black: Last month, council approved the capital lease financing award to BB&T with an interest rate of 3.23%. BB&T has requested that we pass the attached resolution to finalize the lease paperwork. No terms have been changed since council's action last month. Last year, the City did not have to pass a resolution for financing, but we did two years ago. The attached resolution is very similar to the one passed two years ago. This is a recommendation from BB&T. I move we adopt this resolution.

Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- f. Consideration and action on Main Street design. (Committee of the Whole)

John Gardner: When we submitted our application for this project, SCDOT was being audited on the Transportation Enhancement Program. The program is much stricter now. They reviewed our application to be a local public agency and found a couple of minor issues. We have to certify that we will follow all state and federal procurement requirements. We have three options. One is to pursue LPA through DOT. There are eleven places DOT has to review and they have to 30 days to review. That adds about a year to the project. Second option is to turn the project to DOT to design. The third option is to do it ourselves with city funds. That has financial implications of about \$125,000. We do have a contract with Land Design. We would negotiate the fee. The initial estimate is \$125,000. We do have fund matching in the budget of \$145,000, but if we use those in option 3, those would not count as matching funds on the project. The first two options have no financial impact. Our recommendation is to pursue option 3 because of the importance of the project.

Councilman Cook: \$125,000 to match and then you come on option 3, it is an additional \$115,000, could you explain the difference?

John Gardner: We budgeted in this year's budget \$145,000 in city cash match.

Councilman Cook: I saw that. You are speaking of \$125,000 and then it is \$115,000. Don't throw me a curve.

John Gardner: We pay 20% of the total cost. By pulling the design cost out, the project cost goes down and therefore our matching cost goes down.

Councilman Cook: We are going to pay \$125,000. What is the additional matching funds of \$115,000 going for?

John Gardner: We still have to match the grant.

Trey Eubanks: This is a good point. If we go with option 3, then we would use the money in the current budget and the city will fund the total cost of the design. It will leave us with a requirement to still come up with 20% match for construction. Do we want to use the current budget amount to pay for the design or do we want to let DOT do it?

Councilman Cook: Are we going to get \$115,000 with just because we want to do it one year quicker? I have a problem with that.

Mayor Godbey: Let's ask more questions. You have your answers.

Councilman Cook: No, I don't have my answer. Thank you. Are you cutting me off? He hasn't explained to me why we pay \$115,00 for a year's work which will probably be delayed anyhow. I have a problem with the \$115,000.

John Gardner: A year sooner and we spend the entire federal grant on implementation and construction rather than spending \$125,000 of it on the design. We would be putting more money into the project and getting more bang in the construction.

Councilwoman Gettys: In both option one and two, we lose the design?

John Gardner: No. Option one will stretch it out. It will take probably until June to get them to certify us under their LPA program. At that point, we would go through another phase of getting a funding agreement and notice to proceed. The City of Greenville is working through that process now. It is a cumbersome process. We would retain management of the project.

Councilman Cook: The project total cost is \$803,000 plus \$115,000. That is close to a million.

John Gardner: No. The total cost is \$803,750.

Councilman Cook: \$125,000, \$678,000 what does that add up to?

John Gardner: \$803,000.

Councilman Cook: Where is the \$115,000 at?

John Gardner: That is the additional matching fund.

Councilman Cook: That is what I am saying. The total cost is going to be \$900,000.

John Gardner: The matching funds are part of the construction costs. I was pulling it out to clarify. It is \$115,000 more in landscaping.

Councilman Cook: What you are telling me is the \$803,000 includes \$115,000. Is that what you are saying?

John Gardner: Yes, sir. I did make that confusing.

Councilman Cook: Are we going to expend any extra money?

Trey Eubanks: If council approves option 3, we will need to be prepared next year to budget that amount to draw down our match. That is a good point. If we make the decision to advance the project now and fund the engineering, we will fund \$120,000 towards this project. That was already in the long-range plan to do and we have the option to draw down matching money for certain components including burying utility lines.

Mayor Godbey: We haven't had a motion yet.

Councilman Cook: I can't vote on the options if I don't know. What if we can't find \$115,000 next year?

Trey Eubanks: The ability for us to budget for this project is we come up with 20% match. If we want to draw down all of the transportation funds, we will have to come up with 20%.

Councilman Cook: We are obligating future councils to \$115,000.

Trey Eubanks: If we want to advance the project, we will need to budget that amount, so yes. One final comment, the additional \$115,000, the overall budget is over a million dollars over time. We will get \$115,750 into the project. We will apply that towards other aspects of it. The difference is instead of us using our match for the design, we will pay for the design 100% and budget for a match next year for construction. I know we planned an amount on our five year plan. Maybe Holly can get this. We do have plans to do some next year for this.

Councilman Black: If we ok option three, if we pay for design work it will put us one year ahead, at that time do we have the money available to start the project or will we have to wait? Is it necessary to make it a year shorter or is it worth it or do we wait another year and know what we need.

John Gardner: That's correct. I guess I would say there is some benefit on getting this implemented more quickly, but that is your decision on whether it is important enough. I encourage you to think hard on this.

Councilman Black: We are dealing with governmental entities and everyone know unless you have the money, you can't spend it. We need documentation that says we have money available, with all the projects we have going on, I don't know if it's worth spending the money to get it done a year quicker.

Mayor Godbey: We are in a position to get something done at a cost now and we don't know what the cost will be in a year. That is a factor to bring forward. That is why we bring home the big bucks, though they are not really big.

Councilman Reynolds: What is your estimated time difference between option 1 and two?

John Gardner: The table is correct. There is a typo in the memo. Option 1 says 2012, it should be 2011. Option 3 says 2011 and that should be 2010. The project should be completed in fourteen months. I talked to the program manager at DOT and he thinks if we get him the design in February, they can get it started.

Mayor Godbey: Plan and plan, but you get to that point in the scale of people wanting to see something happen. I don't want to rush, but we have been talking about 276 for about three years now. It is an important and worthwhile project for the city. I am open to this. This is some good discussion. We still don't have a motion. We can put this back to PEDC to consider at the committee meeting.

Councilman Cook: One reading?

Trey Eubanks: This just takes a motion of council. I do have some numbers if I could. The estimate of \$125,000 is a safe number. That is high. I would like to get some other cost estimates for design work. Either a bid or getting some numbers. It might be we negotiate with Wilbur Smith and also talk with other firms. We will follow the procurement process. I think we can see that number possibly coming down. The other thing to mention, Mr. Cook made a good point. If we want to proceed, we need to make that investment next year. The five year budget includes an investment of \$480,000 next year and that represents \$29,170 of city funds. The rest is the grant. 2012 we have forecasted a city commitment of \$332,000 to go along with \$450,000 in grant revenues. We have forecasted this expense.

Mayor Godbey: This is shovel ready with GPATS. Stimulus money is going to start coming in 2010. We have been moving prudently. The concerns mentioned by council have brought out the option to possibly table.

Councilman Reynolds: How much would the design work be affected if we had complete control as opposed to sharing with DOT?

John Gardner: That is hard for me to say. I haven't gone through this kind of design process. I can tell you that there is not a lot of flexibility at SCDOT and I am concerned about our ability to get what we want. It will have an effect on the project. DOT is not that sensitive to what will fit with a neighborhood. It takes work to design a road well.

Councilman Kennedy: You are not explicitly clear on the cost and what it encompasses?

John Gardner: That's right. We think we can do better on the cost.

Councilman Kennedy: Design costs will be escalated within year. You have to really put that into your equation. What I am trying to say is the quicker you start this thing... we have been talking about this too long. We need to do something. If we keep debating, we are not going to get anything done.

Councilwoman Gettys made a motion to table this issue and send it to committee.

Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

Councilman Reynolds: Let's let Mr. Eubanks get a firmed up number.

Mayor Godbey: I have some problems with tabling this. John has looked at the numbers, and he knows his work. He is competent and his work has been thorough. He doesn't make recommendations lightly. I also want council fully on board with where we are going.

Councilman Cook: I don't want John to think I question his hard work. I am questioning the \$115,000. I don't think we have enough information.

John Gardner: I would be disappointed if you didn't have those questions.

The item was tabled to committee.

9. Public Comment.

a. Danny Day: I am Danny Day and I live at 912 Fargo Street. I wanted to follow up with an issue that I have talked about before concerning grass clippings. You have a good ordinance, and PW has done a great job communicating that grass clippings have to be bagged. My neighbor has had some on the street and there is a citation on it. That has been since May. Our neighbors have been careful going around it. To make a long story short, I have had enough, so I bagged it. There were 11 55 gallon bags out in the street. I had to shovel the compost and it was good compost at the base, but it was in the street for 3-4 months. The citation was bleached white when I took it off. I said this is stupid, I will get it up. I got it up one afternoon and the next day I called PW and asked them to come get it. This resident is unusual the way he handles things and I was afraid he would dump it back out. PW was there within one hour. I explained the situation to them and they came and got it.

What I asked you for in July, and in preparation for next year, I would ask you do something similar. You should put a financial fine on those who don't follow this rule. It was a hazard. It is the crest of the hill. It was very noticeable. We had some rain and one person slid through it. I feel you need to put some financial bearing on this issue. There are other neighbors that are composting grass in their front yard and they haven't bothered getting it up all summer. It wasn't bagged so it is not PW's fault, maybe you need an ordinance that you can't compost in the front yard. Each council meeting I come to that I watch Greg's pictures, it is unusual that your city property is maintained better than private, residential and commercial. We have that problem in Mauldin. We are talking about spending a million dollars on main street. It is kind of like cleaning your tires, but not washing the whole car. If you don't keep the whole city beautified, it is not a complete investment in the community. I am asking you to take a look at the grass clipping issue and do something similar to grass cutting. I want to be sure you understand, my compliments to Public Works on their response.

I have heard about the Main Street project for some time, and not wanting to degrade the value of commercial property, as a taxpayer, the main thing I want to look at is we are talking about a million dollars for main street, but if you look at the loss of business on 276, the lighting place, True Fitness, all there is on main street is old strip malls and check cashing places. You need to attract the type of businesses you would like to have. That is not to say you don't want it, but you need to figure out how to attract business that will help pay for this. Maybe if you build it they will come. Your challenge is how you bring along commercial and residential. You need to pay attention to 30 and 40 year old neighborhoods.

Last issue, do you cite homes that have ordinance violations? I know you changed about putting inspectors out on the weekends. In these same neighborhoods, there are three homes that I know of that have ordinance violations. One has a 2x4 carport with a tin roof. There is another house where a garage is being added to for three months. I don't know how the house beside it sold. Do we have an ordinance for violations in front yards? This might be a revenue generator, who knows?

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Godbey adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk