Minutes
Mauldin City Council
Informal Session
October 15, 2007
7:00 PM

Members present were Mayor RC Jones, Council members Don Godbey, Bob Cook, Gabe Hunter, James Kennedy, Dale Black, and Jerry Smith. City Administrator Trey Eubanks and City attorney John Duggan were also present.

1. Call to order.- Mayor Jones
   a. Invocation- Councilman Smith
   b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Godbey
   c. Welcome- Mayor Jones
   d. Proclamations and Presentations- Dennis Raines- Mauldin Miracle League; Pat Pomeroy- Mauldin Chamber

   Dennis Raines presented a Miracle League poster he had received on a trip to Cooperstown to the City. Pat Pomeroy came and thanked the City for all of the help with Mauldinfest.

   Boy Scout troop 715 was present to work on their citizenship badges.

2. Report from the City Administrator:

   Trey Eubanks: Earlier this month we spoke with Standard and Poor's, a national rating agency, about our debt and our finances. They will begin evaluating our financial condition annually to provide a bond rating. Our Finance Director and I were informed during the recent discussion that Lisa’s response to their request for information was one of the best they have received. Lisa is commended for her efforts and we look forward to our evaluation. We look forward to our assessment and I anticipate a positive evaluation of our finances.

   I have some good news in regards to our insurance. We belong to the Municipal Association's pool for both Workers Compensation and General Liability insurance. By meeting safety guidelines and having good claims experience, we can become eligible for rate discounts. I am pleased to inform you that we have met the safety guideline requirements and we are on pace to met the claims experience criteria to achieve a rate discount. Presently, we anticipate an annual savings of $21,383. Our Municipal Clerk, Cindy Miller, coordinated our efforts to achieve this savings. Furthermore, our department heads and our staff are also to be commended for their efforts towards meeting these safety guidelines and achieving positive claims experience.
A title opinion for the Pine Forest Park property has been done. This opinion indicates past due storm water fees for 2005 and 2006 totaling $526.50 and that fees for years 2007 and subsequent years are a lien, but not yet due and payable. I spoke with Mr. Gene Smith, Executive Director of the Greenville County Recreation District, about relief from the fees. Mr. Smith stated that they are a special purpose district and are therefore unable to provide relief. I am working with the county to gain relief. I would like to go ahead and transfer the property tonight so we can get our name on the deed.

Progress continues on the Cultural Center. The Rotary Community Room was dedicated on September 25th. Renovations to the space for our Chamber Offices will be completed very soon and we have received bids just today for the HVAC work and signage for the next phase of this project. If council chooses to do so, you can bring that up in the meeting, Mayor. I will be glad to answer any questions at the appropriate time.

3. Reports from Standing Committees
   a. Fire (Chairman Godbey)
      i. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief

      Chief Sapp: The response time was 2.97 average overall. The total calls for September is 226. I was asked by Mr. Godbey to bring forward false alarm information to you. On the sheet of paper I passed to you, founded calls have a reason to go off whether steam from a shower, cooking, whatever. That alarm has done what it was supposed to. We don’t count those as false. Unfounded is no reason whatsoever for the fire alarm to go off. We have rolled equipment to the scene and there is nothing there. If there is no reason, we add those to the false alarm calls.

      Chairman Godbey: I do want to comment with our annexations, that having a response time under five minutes and consistently around three minutes is a real good feel for people who are thinking about annexing into the city. I appreciate all the department is doing.

   b. Police (Chairman Cook)
      i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief.

      Chief Turner: I want to hit a couple of highlights. I call to your attention the information from the high school and middle school. The stats and numbers are collated with the news and media attention we have received. On your traffic stats page, there is a category of speeding less than 10. The increase is due to an error on the Lawtrack system. The state has a fine amount for less than 9 miles. Lawtrack has 10 miles and under. I am going to talk with Brian at Nicholson Business Systems to see if we can fix that.
Chairman Cook: We would like to go ahead and discuss the grant and then we will get the Judge. We applied and received a grant for traffic safety. This is the first grant we have gotten since 2000. This is an 80/20 match. We are going to fund two officers in the department. We are going to use money from existing funds in the department.

Mayor Jones: A $152,000 grant is not easy to come by and I want to congratulate you. Thank you.

Councilman Godbey: I appreciate all the efforts on the gang issue and how you have handled it. I am seeing a lot of articles with Al’s picture. I want to formally express my support and council’s support on that.

Chief Turner: It will start. We are not the first to recognize the problem but those who have said they don’t have a problem are now saying, maybe we do have something going on. I am going to do what I think is in the best interest of Mauldin and we will handle it our way. We are going to develop a group of individuals to help us. A state Latino newspaper is doing an article on this and I think this is going to be a good thing for us.

Councilman Smith: What happens to the two officers when the grant money runs out?

Chief Turner: If we do what we need to do, chart what we need to, I have gotten with Lisa on some stuff, if we are following the guidelines, we are eligible for funding next year also. Next year we will only be paying salary. This year we are paying salary, vehicles, equipment, and traffic cones. Next year our match will be lower. The third year will be salary again. After the third year, we are not obligated to do anything. I talked to the state and they would like for us to keep our people, but after the third year, that is it. We are not obligated to carry those persons forward.

Councilman Smith: If they prove themselves to be good officers, you will put forward an effort to keep them?

Chief Turner: Right. We are going to promote from within. We will hire two additional officers to supplement patrol because two will go into this division. We are going to have to take someone who is already familiar with Mauldin.

Councilman Hunter: I, too, would like to commend you on leading the informational charge on the problems we have. Apparently now, one of your slides showed a guy with his head stuck in the sand. Now, they are starting to pull their heads out. That is because of your leadership and efforts with the media.

Chairman Cook sent this to the formal session.
Chief Turner recognized Laura Eggleton for her mentoring efforts with school kids.

ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court / Administrative Judge

Angela Cooper: Good evening. For the month of September, there were 582 cases filed. We have 1557 cases pending and we disposed of 686 cases. As you know, we conducted our last jury trial September 24th. We have another term scheduled for 2008 and are looking to dispose 30-40. Chief Turner came up with the idea of having a night court. We will do that on November 13th between 5:30pm-8:30 pm. Chief Turner, Andrew Culbreath and I are going to meet and see if we can't dispose of another 30-40 cases. October 1st, the court converted to Lawtrack. We are on board with the police department. We do have a few minor complications, but we are looking forward to sharing information.

Mayor Jones: Would you elaborate on PPS?

Angela Cooper: That is an outside agency that monitors our community service. Sometimes people are ordered to do some community service or attend some type of drug counseling. That agency would monitor these people for us and make sure people sign up for their classes and complete everything.

Chairman Cook: We have a contract with some other party?

Angela Cooper: We have a contract with another agency. Mr. Duggan is looking at it now.

Chairman Cook: It is appropriate to move this to full council now?

Mr. Duggan: No. I have reviewed the contract and we have one issue remaining before I can answer that. We can’t enter a contract with anyone else at this point. This contract we currently have is from June 1st and it automatically renews if not terminated by either party within 30 days. I am reviewing it now. I am not prepared to give you an answer at this time.

Chairman Cook: Would you put this on next month’s agenda?

Mr. Duggan: We have talked in the past that we did have a pretty substantial backlog of cases. We have worked on it and have made some progress. I am real pleased. Everyone is on the same page and we are communicating well. We think between night court and the two terms of court, we are going to dispose of about 120 cases, which should cut the backlog about in half, which is dramatic. If we push it next year, we may not have a backlog anymore.
iii. Discussion on highway safety grant.- done during police report

iv. Discussion on PPS contract.- will be put on next month’s agenda


Chairman Cook: On August 20th, council decided to give Jessica Salvini some experience. She is taking over for Kevin Romosca. She has been doing it for the last couple of weeks. From all indications, she is doing a great job. We are giving her a chance to be in the courtroom. We are observing both of them. That is just for information.

Chief Sapp: I have one more issue. In the fire committee meeting, we discussed the addition of an office in the fire department for myself. I am going to be where the Deputy Fire Marshal was. Mr. Cook is going to get me. The funds for this office were found in an administrative line item we have that we are not going to use. We asked committee to let us use up to $6000. Our personnel is doing it themselves which has saved us about $1800. This summer we had to put a garden hose at the air conditioning units to keep the room cool. We found whenever we took the ceiling tiles that the duct work was not hooked up. We were cooling the area above the ceiling and into the floor above. The heating unit was changed to gas seven years ago. The returns were just open. Where the ductwork has been taped, it was blowing into the air space above. We have retaped the ductwork and have a new system in order to drop the air into the training room and into my office. Returns will be hooked up and utilized the way they are supposed to be. We are going to take down what ceiling tile we can and see if we have any more problems with the air conditioning.

Councilman Godbey: It is appropriate now after three months that Mr. Sapp separate from Mr. Eubanks physically and let him go on his own.

Mayor Jones: I am pleased there was nothing wrong with the air conditioning.

Councilman Smith: Who is going to do the surgery on the Siamese twins?

c. Recreation (Chairman Smith)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director.

Van Brannon: Just a quick update. We had over 2000 participants at the Senior Center this month. Friday they are doing their annual Oktoberfest. Fall sports are getting ready to finish up and then we are looking into our winter sign-ups. The Sports Center has over 2900 members and I am not going to say that again until we hit 3000. Our Fall Frenzy will be in November for the members and the entire
community. We will have a pancake breakfast and a lot of things going on.

The Pine Forest Park- I would like to recognize Mr. Bob Settle who has done a lot of things in the community to get that organized. We are looking forward to getting that deed. We have also been working with the gentleman at the Lazy Chicken where the large tree is at Tanner and Verdin. He has gotten up with all the tenants in that shopping center up there and we are going to prune the tree. He is talking about adding some lights and hopefully that will be a focal point when you come into the city. We feel like that will be a wonderful place to put our Tree City, USA signs.

Councilman Smith: You and your staff deserve a lot of thanks for what you are doing at the sports center.

Councilman Godbey: The arborist who will work on the tree. Where is he coming from?

Van Brannon: We are going to have Schneider Tree Care come out and also Jimmy Walters met with myself and Howard and Elmer from the Tree Board. We don’t want anyone out there who doesn’t know what they are doing and Schneider will do a fine job.

ii. Discussion on Green property purchase.

Chairman Smith: It was discussed in committee to approve receiving a hold harmless agreement, a survey, and environmental study. They have given us first refusal on the property.

This item was moved to the formal session.

Councilman Black: This is the property we use for Mauldinfest parking with a lake on the back.

iii. Discussion on Tree Board appointment

Chairman Smith: It is my understanding that the Chairman of the Recreation Committee has been on the Tree Board in the past. At our committee meeting we asked who wanted to be on the board. Councilman Hunter volunteered to be the council representative.

This item was sent to the formal agenda.
d. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Administrator.

Peter Nomikos: I would like to announce that our new member training for the new board members was conducted October 2nd and 4th in the police training room. It was successful and conducted by Tom Meeks. I would like to thank the police department for the loan of their training room during those sessions. We had an annexation training meeting on October 11th with John Duggan where he briefed staff on laws regarding annexations. Staff has a better understanding now of some pitfalls.

We have a public relations training with Donna Kazia on October 24th. This is for staff who may deal with members of the public on touchy situations.

Chairman Hunter: Thank you for your forethought on providing training.

ii. Discussion on PHC Communities, LLC Rezoning – W. Butler at Holly Ridge

Chairman Hunter: This is 29.83 acres of land that is in the city. We would like to rezone from S1 to RM. It passed first reading and is up for second reading tonight. Is there a representative here tonight?

Chairman Hunter sent this item to the formal agenda.

iii. Discussion on Planner/Economic Development position.

Chairman Hunter: The Current Budget includes an economic development position and a planner position with a combined total gross salary of $61,250. Following discussion at the October committee meeting, and a visit with the Greenville City Manager the PEDC moved to forward this to full council with a recommendation that the positions be combined. The administrator has written a job description and would like council’s approval to advertise for this position.

Councilman Godbey: The economic development aspect of this should come after the planning. I think if we are combining this into one position, it is advisable for us to state that the initial stage should be focused on economic development. I trust the city administrator to oversee this.

Chairman Hunter: Originally I was of the opinion that you could not get one person to do both jobs. After talking to Mr. Bourey,
he started his career doing exactly what we are looking for. I have changed my opinion and think we should at least look.

Chairman Hunter sent this item to the formal agenda.

e. Public Works (Chairman Kennedy)

i. Reports and Communications from Public Works Director

Greg Fincher: Mr. Mayor and council, not a whole lot tonight. We have reached a plateau where things are running smoother. I am a happy camper and everyone who works at public works is happy. A lot of hard work by a lot of people and right now, hopefully, we will continue to improve. I said last council meeting we would make whatever changes we needed to.

Chairman Kennedy: Thank you for embellishing your communications in that department. You keep me informed and all of council. You are doing a splendid job down there. I can see it in the community.

ii. Discussion on purchase of brush trailer.

Chairman Kennedy: The bids for a new yard waste trailer have been received and tallied. Nu-Life Environmental was the low bidder at $16,050. It is my recommendation that Nu-Life Environmental be awarded the bid.

This item was sent to the formal agenda.

iii. Discussion on purchase of recycling trailer.

Chairman Kennedy: The bids for a new recycling trailer have been received and tallied. Nu-Life Environmental was the low bidder at $23,800. It is my recommendation that Nu-Life Environmental be awarded the bid.

This item was sent to the formal agenda.

iv. Discussion on traffic calming policy.

Chairman Kennedy: Traffic calming measures have previously been discussed but a policy has not been adopted. Due to our growth and the related increase in traffic, we are experiencing more requests for traffic calming and enforcement. At the October Committee Meeting, the Public Works Committee moved to forward this matter to the full council for discussion.

This item was sent to the formal agenda.
Councilman Godbey: Part of what I would like to talk about, I would like Mr. Nomikos to be aware of the code changes that have happened. Mr. Eubanks sent a memo to council about my attending a meeting about codes that Upstate Forever sponsored. The workshop involved if you are doing speed bumps and traffic calming, your planning is not working as effectively as you would like. They put out a 6 tier community-based program. I would like Mr. Nomikos to have a copy of the agenda and look into this so we can talk about it in the Public Works Committee, Finance, as well as PEDC since it will cut-through all three of those. It does have some very good aspects to it and Mauldin is growing significantly. This may be a model we want to adopt and go forward with. I would like to look at this a lot further because he will be the point person on this.

f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and communications from Finance Director.

Chairman Black: I would like to commend Lisa and her staff on the Standard and Poor’s bond rating plus the other financial aspects of the City. Her and her staff do an excellent job.

Lisa White: In your packets, you have the first quarter ending. Everything looks in line with the budget. There are a couple of significant areas of growth in the building permit- other permits. In the first three months, they have already gotten over 50% of their revenue. It is my understanding that the building department enforcement efforts have brought in more revenue. Most of the other line items are self explanatory. I put in your seats the report from Standard and Poor’s. We did hear from Ms. Pomeroy about the 400 members. Just six years ago, they only had 63 members. Mauldin has much more of a business appeal than it had a few short years ago. Some of the other interesting highlights were that our housing sales prices grew 15% in one year. Also, building permits are up significantly from January 2006 to December 2006, the City issued 1386 permits. During this nine months, the city issued 1400 permits. That is a pretty significant growth. Also, our principal employers are growing significantly. In 2007, our 10 largest employers grew by 3000 employees. One of the other interesting economic development items was the amount of undeveloped land- we had 1000 acres of undeveloped in 2005, and in 2006 it went to 800.

Councilman Godbey: When do you expect a response from Standard and Poor’s?

Lisa White: They were a little elusive on the date. I will be sure to let you know.
g. Committee of the Whole
   i. Discussion on purchasing policy.

   Chairman Black: I would like to pleasure of council to suspend the rules. All of these items have been discussed from either a Finance aspect or a policy. One is the purchasing policy. The city attorney has gone over this and given his approval. I would like to suspend the rules on this item plus I have some others. I would like to have that moved on. Plus, I have two other items pertaining to the cultural center. We had two bids for the signs for the cultural center. We have discussed this signage numerous times. We received two bids. The low bid was $23,314. The other was Upsouth Builders at $27,000. I would like to award the bid to Special Systems. The other item is the HVAC. We had one bid from PHC for $104,000 and one from All Weather Services for $48,760. This money has already been appropriated. We need to get this done before winter.

   Mayor Jones: The specs that were sent out. Why are the bids so different?

   Chairman Black: We have the breakdown in the packets. I have been assured that we are comparing apples to apples. The low bid was $48,700.

   Mayor Jones: And All Weather is here in town.

   Councilman Godbey: I would like to take each item individually on whether to suspend the rules or not.

   Councilman Smith seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

   Councilman Godbey: I would rather suspend the rules individually than for all three. I don’t want to suspend the rules for one of the items.

   Chairman Black: We can take all three to the formal agenda. We are discussing them individually here. We can vote on them individually.

   Councilman Godbey: I have a problem with one of them.

   Councilman Cook: I call to question. Let’s take a vote.

   The vote was 6-1 with Councilman Godbey dissenting to suspend the rules and put these three items on the formal agenda.
ii. Fire truck information

Chief Sapp: What I provided in your packet is information I received over the last week or so. We need to sign a contract with a consignment company to sell our existing fire truck. We have discussed with E-One, they were the vendor for the truck, for trade-in they are looking at $60,000-80,000 for a 2002 truck. I did some background work. This is the truck we have had problems with. We have discussed with Fire Trucks Plus, Inc, and they have assured us that they can get at least $120-125,000 for the truck. I have listed at the bottom of the page, we have $308,000 for a new truck, the sale of the E-one truck drops it down to $205,000, then the payoff on the 2002 is about $60,000 left on it now. The estimated outlay is $265,000 for the new fire truck. The budgeted amount is $308,000. We are going to save about $43,000 by going this way.

I would like council to approve my signing a consignment with Fire Trucks Plus in order for them to put the truck out for sale. I have given you some paperwork on this company. They will be nationally advertising the vehicle. They have had numerous calls about this truck since we first mentioned it several months ago. We discussed this with them at length. We do have a pumper we can place in service until this comes in. I would like to sell this truck and in the meantime put a new pumper out to bid.

Mayor Jones: You want us to give you authority to put this out and see if you can sell the old one?

Chief Sapp: Yes, sir.

Mayor Jones: You got any idea what you want to use that $43,000 for in the fire department?

Chief Sapp: Yes.

Mayor Jones: I thought you might.

Councilman Godbey made the motion to give Chief Sapp the authority to consign the 2002 truck. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

4. Adjournment.

There will be a 10 minute break before the formal session to allow those present wishing to address City Council an opportunity to sign the speaker’s log.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk
Minutes
Mauldin City Council
Regular Formal Session
October 15, 2007
7:00 pm

1. Call to Order- Mayor Jones


   Councilman Cook made a motion to approve the September 17th minutes with Councilman Smith seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

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

3. Public Comment on items appearing on the agenda.

   a. David Thomas: Thank you. On behalf of the residents in Brookside, I live at 112 Stoney Brook Trail, I have been there since 1985. After speaking with my neighbors for several years, we have come up with a proposal. I wish he was still here- Dennis Raines and I got together the beginning of this year and had a follow-up with the Mayor. We have recently had stop signs put up in our neighborhood. We heard through the grape vine that some of the neighbors want to take them down because they are wearing out their brakes. The signs have been up two weeks. I am retired and I can stand on the corner and watch traffic. This afternoon at 3:00 p.m., I saw an 18 wheeler go through the neighborhood. Why is a trailer like that going through my neighborhood? I estimate he was going 40-50 mph and went through every sign. These are corners where our children stand and wait on the bus. I want to thank the Mayor for listening to us and putting up the signs. We have to maintain them. I also want to thank my neighbors. I would like to read a couple of things to you. The potential impacts of traffic in neighborhoods have been a longstanding concern. Traffic conditions such as speed and volume can affect livability by eroding the residential character of neighborhood roads. The roads are designed to serve vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians while maintaining the character of the neighborhood. When traffic problems occur, the sense of community and well being are threatened. This is from the Greenville County traffic calming program from 2003. In it, there are three solutions- education, enforcement, and engineering. We took the low road, we know speed bumps aren’t the greatest thing, so we went after the signs.
We have three corners with signs. Has it helped? Yes. Will it stop everyone? No. You have the rolling type stops where people pull up and go through them. The majority of people are stopping. We thank you for that. With Dennis Raines’ help, we did a traffic study. Our main street is Brooks Road, in seven days we had 1629 vehicles come down that road. The average speed was 40 mph. There were 1860 vehicles on Adams Mill Road. The average speed was 42 mph. West Golden Strip, 919 vehicles with an average speed of 40. The limit is 25. I have taken this information from the County because Brooks Road is partly in the City and partly in the County. I have now been informed that Brooks Road is entirely in the city limits of Mauldin. We appreciate that. We have had the police department out there giving tickets. I saw a gentlemen giving out warning tickets. We have got to maintain these stop signs.

We had an accident on our street two months ago. The boy was doing 60 mph. I went to the accident and saw the guy thrown from his vehicle. We are also asking for you to consider more stop signs. We have more school buses come through, children walk and have to face this type of problem. I know this city has a major traffic problem. We need you really badly. I again want to thank my neighbors. This is perfect timing when you start talking about the traffic calming policy. I would like to vote for it right now. Thank you for your time. If you need anything, I am available, I am retired, 33 years as a sales rep, I can stand on any street corner.

b. Scott Smith: I live at 117 Stoney Brook Trail. I would like to take this opportunity to ask for 10 more stop signs. This is the only way we are going to slow people down. Speed bumps are a stop gap- they are bad on the fire department. There are other public safety things in our neighborhood that we will address when the time is right, but we need these stop signs. Please, when you are thinking about traffic calming, please consider our neighborhood first. It worked in a neighborhood near us- Pine Valley. Those stop signs almost eliminated cut-through traffic. They are inconvenient. They do work. Please support our neighborhood.

c. Larry Self: I live at 109 Stoney Brook Trail. I have been there since 1977. Nobody likes speed bumps or stop signs, but without enforcement of the 25 mph limit, we have to have some way to keep people from speeding. My daughters and son managed to get through their younger years without getting killed. They are out of college and I have a granddaughter that is living with me. She is going to be out on her three wheeler and trying to keep them out of harm’s way is difficult. I don’t think I have ever seen a speeding ticket given on Stoney Brook Trail. I have seen tickets presented on Adams Mill and Brooks Road, where the real dangers are is on the interior streets. I know that takes people, officers and everyone.
We have on our street, a sign at both ends saying No Thru Traffic, either people can’t read or they are totally disregarding them. I can sit in my front yard and watch traffic, their average speed is probably about 40-50 mph. We need some enforcement. Speed bumps can hurt something and cause your vehicle to go out of control. Stop signs are something that are readily seen by any person driving. It will catch some of us by surprise, but it is more visible than a speed bump. These folks drive fast. They don’t just cruise. We appreciate your efforts. If someone takes down a stop sign, we need to find out who does it and I am sure there is a law about destroying public property. I haven’t seen it, but I have heard that. Do what you can to keep our kids safe.

d. Dorothy Rohr: I live on Brandybrook Lane. When the stop signs first went up, I thought, oh God. Then, I changed my mind. There are 10 children under eight years old on the corner of where I live. One little corner. All these people are flying. They don’t care. I can imagine if there is a child there. That child might be my child even though I stand right there and watch him. My child goes to Greenbrier. He walks home, he is 7, but my car is right there. I am letting him walk but I am driving right beside him. There is no way in the world I would let my seven year old walk from Greenbrier one street over to our home by himself. There are parents out there that their children walk home every day. Their parents aren’t there. These stop signs are watching out for our children.

I love the idea of the stop signs now. I love the police officers at the school. I got a ticket. My son was sitting up front. He was not big enough to be in the front. I got a ticket and deserved it. I loved it because they are out there doing their jobs. We need more signs. I have a 25 year old son also that lives at home. He is guilty of running the stop signs in front of our home on Brandybrook Lane. I have preached at him to stop. If he doesn’t he is not going to have a license, it may not be the city taking it away from him, but I will. My neighbors know how I am. We do need more signs. There are six houses on Ashleybrook Lane. At the end of the road, those people that live there fly and they have children. The fly down that road. If I had a police officer to go with me, I would tell them to stop. I don’t care if someone’s brakes go out. We can take up money to get them some. We will find a way. My neighbor conned me into coming up here tonight.

Mayor Jones: Chief, are you taking notes? We need to go and give some warnings and then start writing citations.

e. Nigel Dodson: I live in Pine Forest on Lanewood Drive. I spoke to you before. I don’t have any young children, but in front of me and beside me and down the street, there are about seven children. I was working with a lady from the County, the Roads and Bridges lady and wasn’t getting any results from her so I reluctantly signed the petition to come into the City of Mauldin thinking I would get results from you people. I did have the lady put a radar in front of my house and she assured me that this would record the speed and record the speeders and give an average. She lied. It records and tells you the speed you are doing at the time. I have
seen someone on Lanewood came through at 78 mph. Me being a retired police officer, I know that anything 15 miles or above is reckless driving. I have requested you people to put police cars out there. They didn’t come at the time I told you people. They come 30 minutes after. I talked to your civilian clothed captain and I talked to the chief’s secretary, the chief was busy that day. I am begging you. Last Saturday, the black neighbor that lives next to my wife’s uncle, she has a Maltese dog. They are like children. Sometimes they do what you want them to and sometimes they don’t. She had the dog and when she takes it out she has it on a leash. But just going from the car to the house, she lets the dog run. Saturday the dog decided to go into Lanewood. This hatchback sports car, and she is hollering no, no, come back, this guy looks at her and speeds up and flattens that dog as flat as this desk. It could have been a child.

I am begging you. I have no children but I love children. I don’t need no place to go. I don’t want to go to a funeral. I know you have good equipment, you have both way radar, and I am asking and begging you. The park section, I resolved that earlier, but I am begging you. You went to the expense of repainting the speed bumps and the faster you go, the better off you are. There is only one and that is where the County came in and raised the bridge over that creek. That car, the first car, I am sitting on the foot of my bed, when you get above 30 mph, the sign flashes. 78 miles per hour. That is all I have got to say. If something happens, it is on you people’s shoulders, not mine.

f. Dean Kirkland: I wanted to say thanks for a job that is just about done on Fargo Street. We had some pipes that were caving in and we wanted to say thank you for the work. We went to the committee, Bill, what’s Bill’s last name? I am drawing a blank. My neighbor?

Councilman Cook: Bill Wright.

Dean Kirkland: We went to committee on a problem we are having with speeding. Our problem happens between stop signs. The cheapest thing is to close the 220 foot stretch of Danbury between Fargo and Montclair. Our community is unified on this. I know you will get a few complaints, but the ones that complain are the violators. The people on Montclair have three exits to Bethel. It used to be a closed road and somehow it got opened. Montclair can keep their problems over there. Kelly made me something and it is good to see her. Mayor said he would give me some support on this. When can we expect the street closed?

Mayor Jones: If you can start a petition, we will look at it. There aren’t that many cars that go through there. We will look at it and Trey, if you will bring this back to us.

Dean Kirkland: Do you know of any reason it can’t be done? It is a Mauldin street, right? Not a state street.
John Duggan: There is a process we have to go through to close a street.

Dean Kirkland: It was not a street at one time. I understand it is a policy that every street is run 6 times a day. If I see a police car on my street once in 90 days, that is unusual.

Chief Turner: I am not aware of a policy as Chief. Our guys and girls patrol the streets daily and nightly. Just because you don’t see them, doesn’t mean they aren’t there.

Dean Kirkland: I am not picking on you. I heard this.

Mayor Jones: I heard every six hours but that is not a policy. I don’t know if they do that. I see them on my street.

Dean Kirkland: I am not angry or anything.

g. Danny Day: Mayor and Council, thanks. My name is Danny Day and I live at 12 Fargo Street. I was here on Sept 17th about no speed bumps because I didn’t think they were the right solution to our traffic problem. We may have spurred the activity where you are trying to develop a policy. Seems like the theme of the night is nobody knows that the residential speed limit is 25 mph. That probably suggests that all municipalities need to do something to deal with residential neighborhoods. If you can’t be safe in a neighborhood, that is pathetic. Your thoroughfares are one thing, but your neighborhoods. I am here as the Fargo Street contingent and three of you have been out, and I applaud your effort, and I want to make sure everyone knows what we are talking about. Evidently when they were building these neighborhoods they thought it would be a good idea to put a connector between Montclair and Glendale 3, which is Danbury. There are no resident addresses on that little short piece of road. You will see that I have crossed across Danbury Lane, but if you will flip the map over, I have circled Glendale III, a residential neighborhood and Montclair. I am sure if you go to the courthouse, you will see those are two distinct neighborhoods. I have drawn arrows. There are two entrances off of Bethel for Glendale III and three entrances off of Bethel for Montclair. Clearly, blocking that section of road would create no undue burden on anybody.
The problems we have, and we hate to, as council and Mayor, you hear about the problems. I feel bad for those other neighborhoods, because if you have major thoroughfares on either side of you and they cut through, that has got to be horrible. We are a little more lucky. The majority of our problem is coming from the adjoining neighborhoods. The 80/20 rule might apply. If you recall this summer, y’all blocked it off temporarily for about 2-3 weeks. It was amazing the traffic you killed. It seemed to help the problem quite a bit. I will also remind you that the petition that started all this was November 23, 2005. There have been people trying to work on this problem for two years. Two years. That is a long time. We have all agreed on the problem but have differed on the solution. We don’t want speed bumps. I think as you have heard tonight, they must not have been the right decision and are not slowing anybody down. I guess the other thing is you did come out and put a No Thru Traffic on Fargo and North Golden Strip. Are there any statutes or laws to get people who continue to come through there? It struck me when I heard these people. What is the point of the sign then?

Mayor Jones: It is mostly for trucks.

Danny Day: I was curious about that. It struck me if there was any validity to that. I think the thing that is simpler in our case is we are saying from the experiments- and I applaud you. You have been putting up with us, but the best thing was closing down Danbury. You don’t know the difference that made. I have the burden and reward of having a wife that walks. It is a one mile loop and she does it five times a day rain or shine and drags me along sometimes. I know the traffic and cars. I know the cars on Montclair. We have some low riders in Montclair. They didn’t come from Glendale III. I can sit in my den and hear them come down the street. Why the choose to come that way is beyond me. They have a straight shot. The other things, the neighbor at Danbury will tell you that there are rolling stops at the little stop sign on the corner. They don’t really stop, but a stop sign is a stop sign. I would tell you, too, there are at least three of us that have yelled at the speeders. I do think about the lady at JL Mann this year that yelled and the teenagers got out and beat her up. Most of you probably saw that. It at least makes you feel better when you yell at them as they go by. I am not sure some people know what residential means.

I did talk to the state and County and it is a city road. It is under your jurisdiction. I am an engineer by degree so I only deal with facts, I would like to know the procedure it takes to shut this road down. If it is a legal issue, I would like to know it is and how long it takes to get it done. This neighborhood has been trying to get something done finitely since November of 2005. I appreciate that. When I left home tonight, I have to say this to the Chief, his man was in the car at 5:30 pm, his people was giving a little talk to someone to find out why they were there and they were not part of my neighborhood. Good job.
h. Leo Joyce: Short and sweet. My comment is on the baby boomers and the construction on condos and apartments. I think that in the future we should consider handicapped apartments and condos preparing for these people. It might be a good selling feature and might be good for Mauldin.

i. Skeet Prinze: 117 Hyde Circle. Who is the executive director of the Cultural Center?

Mayor Jones: We don’t have one.

Skeet Prinze: Who is on the board?

Mayor Jones: Six council members and five community members.

Skeet Prinze: Could I get a list? We bought the cultural center and spent a ton of money on it. Every time I go in there, there is another wall of murals covered. Who gives permission to cover these murals? I thought that was part of it? We need to keep the history. I went in tonight and there was another one covered up. If it was saved for a historical place, why are we destroying it? Why didn’t we just buy a piece of land and put up a new building? I’m serious. There are wonderful things. The Garden Club, the Serenity Garden, the cabin, but you are taking away the character in my opinion. The third thing, I heard Mr. Black on the air conditioning- why would we get two estimates with two different tonnage? Do we need 4 or 6? If we need six, why don’t we get the man that bid on four to bid on six? Would he still be less? I don’t see how you judge apples and oranges.

j. Don Kizer: I am a neighbor and as a matter of fact, I came to welcome you. That is lemon meringue. I have heard the word neighborhood tonight and that is what I am here to talk about. My address is 3004 Bethel Road and I have lived here for 37 years. I have lived at my current address for 26 years. You annexed the property across the street from me. I don’t have a problem with that, but why did you rezone from single family residential to multi-family? Why? And why did you rush it through? You didn’t listen to the facts. Councilman Godbey, thank you for opposing it. Let me tell you about the property. It is a beautiful area with a dozen natural springs and a creek that flows to Gilder Creek. It goes to the front and back yards of our neighborhoods. Gilder Creek then goes into Holly Tree Country Club. Now that you have rezoned this, these woods are going to become concrete. This beautiful creek is going to cause stormwater. Your new neighbors will have stormwater issues. It also flows into Gilder Creek and will add to the problem. Only one stood up against rezoning, Councilman Godbey. I heard you had 60 of your signs picked up this week by Mauldin trucks.

You are elected by the citizens of Mauldin and should be responsible to them. Do you want to treat your new neighbors like y’all are treating us? Is this the way you want to be remembered as a councilman? Is this type of leadership what Mauldin deserves? I think not, but welcome to the neighborhood.
Bob Cook: The City picked up about 20 of my signs too.

Mayor Jones: They got 21 of mine. Anyone who puts their signs to close to the road will be picked up.

k. Teresa Kizer: Good evening. I wanted to come before you tonight. Mayor Rufus Clarence Jones has invited non-city residents to be here tonight, so we are taking advantage of that. For the last several months, I have been a regular attendee to both standing committee meetings and council meetings. During the process, several things have puzzled and dismayed me. After you passed the annexation and rezoning requests that were so vehemently opposed by area residents, I stand amazed at the way you do business. During this rushed-through process, special meetings, blocked citizen input, only one voice on the council had the courage and discernment asked for more time to make sure that sound, rational decisions could be made. That voice was Don Godbey. Thank you, Councilman Godbey, thank you. I witnessed that you tried to make a difference, but unfortunately your voice of reason was ignored by the Mayor and other members of council. Citizens in the City of Mauldin and in the county deserve honest, fair, and open government. This hasn’t been what I have observed. Some perfect examples of poor government that I have observed in these chambers are the incredible number of special meetings during the past 18 months. Special meetings being scheduled for non-standard items on non-standard times, on non-standard days. You are not following your own council rules that you yourselves voted on.

This is improper legislation. Usually when you make allegations like that, you would like to have an example. An example I would like to say is you made a change to your zoning ordinance to allow zero lot lines. That might be proper if it was done correctly. I could be wrong, but I don’t think it is proper to do this simultaneously with a request for zoning incorporating that change. You can’t have two cars running down the same lane at the same time and it be right. I am fairly certain that was improper and something you can correct. You didn’t go through the proper alignment to make sure it was done properly. I don’t remember it having a public hearing. It may have, it may not have. Another examples are not having or severely limiting public comment and moving items from the informal session to the formal session without proper notice such as the title to the park property you just discussed are probably going to be discharged this evening. It doesn’t give the public notice and it is probably camouflaged government. Not something you should be proud of or participate in.
I am very concerned about Mauldin Council and how it conducts business. Mauldin citizens need to be concerned as well. Even though I am not a Mauldin resident, something I have been reminded of by this body, I am now a neighbor of Mauldin. As a result, I will support candidates that are not part of the good old boy system that seems to be alive and well. When one person makes a motion, it seems to go through no matter what the objection or rationale is. You don’t give each other the benefit of good, hearty discussion and debate. If you want it and you are part of the clique, it goes through. That is not good government. Good luck to the candidates that are promoting positive change in Mauldin government.

1. Andrea Kizer Hubbard: I live at 3004 Bethel Road. Growth is a good thing, but not in the way you have chosen to pursue it. I have lived on Bethel Road all of my life. I have watched Tanner Road go from cow pastures with ranch houses and everything, to more populated subdivisions than we can handle. Bethel Road was once a quiet street and now there are hundreds of cars with their little racers that go down it at all hours of the night. They speed and everything. I have almost been hit several times trying to come out of my own driveway. Bridges is horrible for traffic also. When the schools let out and the work rush hour is bad. Bridges connects four schools together- Bethel Elementary, Mauldin Elementary, Mauldin Middle, and Mauldin High School. They all let out about the same time and Bridges connects all of them to the adjoining neighborhoods. There is a ton of traffic there. When you get to Bridges and Bethel, people who are trying to make a right turn off of Bridges can barely do it and it is because of people who are taking a left.

There have been multiple accidents there. In the past three weeks, I have seen six separate accidents myself. Now, you want to add 100 plus cars with the multihousing you have approved. If you want this situation to work out, you will have to put a light up at Bridges to reduce the accidents. It is already difficult for me to get out of my driveway and this will make it even harder because I live right where you want to put that light.

I know you can only see dollars signs for this, but to me and my community, we see a last reserve of green trees, something you have obviously taken for granted, because we don’t have much left. You took our cow pastures and everything else. Please don’t put quadplexes up. Do single family housing. Make a retirement place for elderly people. People come on to Bethel Road and Holly Tree because it is quiet and peaceful. Not because it is the next Woodruff Road. Think about what you are doing not only to our community but to the wildlife also. Where will they go? From here to Woodruff, there are miles that there are no place for deer to go, no place for raccoons to go. They will be eating your garden that you worked hard to plant.

4. Reports and Communications from city officers.

5. Reports from standing committees.
a. Fire (Mr. Godbey)
b. Police (Mr. Cook)
c. Recreation (Mr. Smith)
d. Planning and Economic Development (Mr. Hunter)
e. Public Works Committee (Mr. Kennedy)
f. Finance and Policy (Mr. Black)

6. Reports from special committees.

7. Unfinished Business
   - Planning and Economic Development (Mr. Hunter)
     a. Consideration and action on PHC Communities, LLC Rezoning – W. Butler at Holly Ridge
        Chairman Hunter made a motion to accept this ordinance on second reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

8. New Business
   - Fire Committee (Mr. Godbey)- None
   - Police/ Judicial Committee (Mr. Cook)
     a. Consideration and action on highway safety grant.
        Chairman Cook made a motion to approve the grant application for $152,000 with a 20% match. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

        Councilman Godbey: The 20% match is coming from where?

        Chief Turner: The total amount of the grant is $190,360, the grantor amount is $152,088. Our match is $38,072. That is coming out of our existing non capital line and our capital equipment line.

     b. Consideration and action on PPS contract.- tabled
     c. Report on municipal court.- no action needed
   - Recreation Committee (Mr. Smith)
     d. Consideration and action on Green property purchase.
        Chairman Smith: We want to survey and have a hold harmless agreement and an environmental assessment on this property for future consideration of purchase.

        Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).
e. Consideration and action on Tree Board appointment.

Chairman Smith made a motion to appoint Councilman Hunter to the Tree Board with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was 6-0. Councilman Hunter did not vote on this item.

f. Consideration and action on Planner/ Economic Development position

Chairman Hunter made a motion to advertise for this position with Councilman Godbey seconded the motion.

Councilman Godbey: I would like to restate what I said in the informal session that the initial stage should be planning so that economic development can follow a plan.

The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Public Works Committee (Mr. Kennedy)

g. Consideration and action on purchase of brush trailer.

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to purchase the yard waste trailer for $16,050 from Nu Life Environmental. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

h. Consideration and action on purchase of recycling trailer.

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to purchase a recycling trailer from Nu Life Environmental for $23,800. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

i. Consideration and action on traffic calming policy.

Chairman Kennedy: We need to make some recommendations on this.

Mayor Jones: Are we far on this?

Trey Eubanks: What came out of committee was a review of the draft. There was also a recommendation that we take a look at the City of Greenville and that information has also been provided. We can discuss the draft policy but I think a committee meeting will be appropriate. We have had good discussion here tonight and any further direction that council would provide me and staff, we could try to work to update our draft and incorporate the things that Council needs in there to address these growing demands for traffic calming measures.
Councilman Godbey: The information from Community Building out of that Nashville presentation talked about beginning with public involved in the dialogue and establishes a vision for neighborhoods. Relooking at the zoning issues rather than temporary issues, such as speed bumps and stop signs, as another way to approach it. It is time to look at the Nashville model of zoning and bring that into the committee to discuss.

This item was sent back to committee with a unanimous vote (7-0).

Finance Committee (Mr. Black)

Chairman Black: We have three items that we suspended the rules to add on the agenda. The first is consideration and action on the purchasing policy. The city attorney has gone over it and proofread it and has no problem with it. I move we adopt the purchasing policy which gives the city administrator more leeway. I move we suspend the rules for the three items- purchasing policy, the sign for the cultural center and the HVAC for the cultural center. Councilman Smith seconded the motion.

Councilman Godbey: I have problem with putting all three of these on with suspension of the rules which requires a super majority. The purchasing policy in and of itself doesn’t need to be on a fast track. It is a policy change and we don’t have to rush through something that we have just gotten a copy of tonight. The lawyer has looked through it and I would like to have a chance to look at it and have discussion in committee. The motion is to suspend for all three of these. I don’t have any problems with the other two, but that one I do have a problem with.

Councilman Hunter: I haven’t had a chance to go through this either. I was privy to it when I attended the committee meeting the other night and I voiced some objections that night. I haven’t had a chance to read it in its entirety and I would like that.

Councilman Cook: Does this take two readings?

Mayor Jones: Yes. Do you want to vote on it tonight and look at it between now and second reading?

Councilman Hunter: That is fine.

Mayor Jones: We are going to vote tonight and give council this next month to either vote through or change it again.

Councilman Cook: I would like to take a vote to send it to committee and let the committee come back with a recommendation.

Mayor Jones: Mr. Black would have to withdraw his motion.
Chairman Black: Correct me if I am wrong, John, but none of the dollar figures or amounts have changed. The committee voted to table this until the city attorney read it and brought it back with a recommendation. The only things he changed were wording in a paragraph.

John Duggan: That is correct. In terms of issues of authority of the administrator, none of that was changed from the document that was sent to me that went through committee. On page 9, there is one thing that we slightly revised because I think it is your intent, but you ultimately decide if these figures are the way you want to go. I am trying not to invade your province of how much authority you want to give your administrator versus how much you want to retain yourself.

Under Sensitive Procurement, it said professional services and legal services, but did not exempt out for requests to the city attorney’s office. I believe the committee was intending to include under sensitive procurement that any time we had to get outside counsel that had expertise in some unusual area that I or my firm does not cover. For example, we had some technical issue come up on an environmental matter that we don’t handle. We would need to outsource that as a sensitive procurement. I provided that any type of outside counsel would go through the sensitive procurement process, but that anything that occurred in-house, for example if the Chief needed to call me about a policing matter, he doesn’t have to track down the administrator in order to be able to call me. The wording that was in the existing document would have required every department head to go through the administrator to call me. This is currently not the practice we have operated under and I don’t think it was the intention of this body. If we retain special counsel, we would deem that a sensitive procurement matter and go through the appropriate process. That is the only sentence that had any substantive change over what the committee did. How you decide to proceed is up to you, I just wanted to make you aware that everything else was spelling and editing changes.

Councilman Godbey: This wasn’t on the agenda for tonight. We are suspending the rules to bring it up. There wasn’t preparation to look at this. It was tabled in the committee meeting because there were objections about the numbers, not the verbiage. And I trust what the attorney said was accurate. I wanted to look at this more closely and discuss a policy change in committee. I asked Ms. White to comment on and give us numbers and she did at the committee. Anything under $25,000 was around 80% of purchases made by the City.

Lisa White: I think so, I can’t remember.
Councilman Godbey: It changes it to a three-tier process. It changes the idea of how we purchase in the city, the oversight being handed more liberally over to the administrator, I am all for trusting the administrator in making good purchases, but when you make a policy change, I don’t think you need to suspend the rules to pass a policy. I don’t think you need to do it in a fast fashion and I think we need to discuss it in committee where it was discussed so we can discuss it more. Thank you.

Councilman Cook: The thing I was saying is, and I don’t think we are going to slow the process down, correct me if I am wrong. We can go to committee and then have second reading at the next council meeting. We can discuss it in committee and bring it back for second reading.

Councilman Godbey: You can amend it between first and second reading, but I don’t know if I am comfortable with that. Mr. Hunter brought up some objections in the committee and moving it forward tonight for first reading, I think we should take it back as the Finance Committee is obligated to do and bring a recommendation to council. We will lose a month, but we can take that month and if we have more questions, and we address Mr. Hunter’s questions, that is part of why we tabled it. My concern is we are suspending rules when committee should look at it and discuss it again.

Councilman Cook: That is what I just got through telling you.

Councilman Godbey: You want to pass it. I don’t want to pass it.

Mayor Jones: Let’s move on. There is a motion on the floor.

The vote was 6-1 to suspend the rules with Councilman Godbey dissenting.

Chairman Black: I would like to adopt the purchasing policy on first reading. The city administrator and city attorney have both given their blessings on this. I still want to move this on for first reading.

Councilman Cook seconded the motion.

Councilman Hunter: The only objections I have are on the first page of the new policy on the approval levels that we are providing to the administrator. I think spending taxpayers’ money falls into our lap and we should not delegate that to our city administrator. Other than that, I have no problem with the proposal.

Chairman Black: May I make one comment? This only applies to items not passed in the yearly budget that was adopted by council.

The vote was 5-2 with Councilman Hunter and Godbey dissenting.
Mayor Jones: That does leave it open for changes before second reading.

Chairman Black: The next item is the awarding of the bid for the new sign at the cultural center to have shingles for each occupant. We only received two bids. I make a motion to accept the low bid of $23,314.70 from Special Systems. They have already erected three previous signs in the city and everyone knows the quality of their work. The other bid was $27,554.70 by Upstate Builders.

Mayor Jones: How many did you request to bid?

Trey Eubanks: We had a total of 9 bids picked up by vendors. We sent out to every contractor that we had a license for and we had a couple pick up bids based on the advertisements.

Councilman Godbey seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Chairman Black: The final item is the HVAC for the cultural center. There were two bids on this. One from PHC Mechanical for $104,470 and the second from All Weather Services for $48,760. They are a local vendor. I would like for Mr. Eubanks to answer the question that was brought up in the comments from the public about the difference in the bids.

Trey Eubanks: We had four vendors that had business licenses in the City. They were mailed a bid. We also had two more that picked up bids so we had a total of six. The specifications were apples to apples across the board. Ms. Prinze raised the question and it was a good one and I appreciate the opportunity to clarify that. The specifications identified the areas of that second phase of the facility that we wanted for HVAC. We left it up to the vendors to determine the precise type of unit. We identified the areas. We encouraged the vendors to tour the facility which a couple did so they could see the rooms firsthand. The detail of the bids are consistent. The two bidders had fairly consistent sizes in their bids, but the prices were drastically different. One was about twice as much. The specs did provide an opportunity to bid equally.

Councilman Cook: You said fairly. What do you mean by that?

Trey Eubanks: You mean the specifications? Could you read the minutes?

Councilman Cook: Your comment.

Trey Eubanks: Let me be specific. The classrooms, for example, we had PHC for the classroom sizes bid on two ton units. All Weather Services bid on two ton units. PHC for the kitchen and cafeteria bid on one four ton and two five ton units. All Weather Services bid on
two five ton units. The hallway area, we had one two ton unit was bid by PHC compared with a five ton unit from All Weather Services. We identified the areas that we wanted them to bid on, we did not dictate the size. We felt that is what they needed to determine in their bid. The area was equal and the specs were equal.

Councilman Cook: I don’t agree with leaving it up to the vendor. I think we should have somebody to check this. I hate to put in $45,000 worth of air conditioning and then have to put $45,000 more in there. My concern is how could they be that far off?

Councilman Godbey: I agree with Mr. Cook. We have two substantially different bids and two products being provided for the same area. The one has a lot more tonnage. What assurance do we have that the lower tonnage will be sufficient?

Russell Sapp: I would like to recommend that the HVAC come in to write specs- but that will cost about $15,000 to cover this like it is supposed to be. You have to have the BTUs required and I am not trained to do that. I talked with an air conditioning company that did not want to bid, and they put together a spec sheet on the tonnage that needed to be in each classroom, in the cafeteria, auditorium, and kitchen combined, and we sent it out as such. We included the hallway as a separate section. We sent it out based on what he told us. Those are the bids we received today at 3:00 pm.

Councilman Godbey: Just to put some levity to this, this isn’t the same group that did the ducts that we found weren’t connected?

Russell Sapp: No.

Councilman Godbey: If we got that low of a bid, are we getting what we are paying for?

Councilman Cook: If we go with $45,000, don’t come back in a year and tell me that place is hot.

Chairman Black: Let me go over these bids. The first one is PHC. The first area is classrooms- PHC recommended four two ton units at $33,910. All Weather recommended six two ton units 14 Seer with a 90% gas furnace at a total of $21,000. The hallway, PHC recommended one two ton for $8,800. All Weather will install a five ton 14 Seer for $12,500. The cafeteria on PHC was two five ton units at a cost of $42,000. All Weather is two five ton at $12,500. That is comparison of what we are talking. One is quoting more tonnage at a cheaper price.

Mayor Jones: Some companies want to make a lot more. He is quoting more tons than the higher bid. If you read the bids carefully, there is more tonnage and less money. I don’t know about air conditioning either, but I know when it is hot.
Chairman Black: Both bids include the wiring, gas pipe and everything, right?

Trey Eubanks: Yes, sir. There is a big discrepancy. I think there are some reasons for that we can get into later. We can absolutely do a number of things. We can do some due diligence on this local company and have them come out and meet with us and verify that before we authorize proceeding. We would be glad to do that.

Councilman Godbey: I would like to amend the motion to do exactly that, not get an engineer in here and spend $15,000. If we do due diligence on both bids so we have a comparison.

Mayor Jones: Before I ask, can we not live with letting the administrator get everything equal and make sure what we are buying?

Councilman Cook: My last time. Are you satisfied with $45,000?

Trey Eubanks: It is substantially lower. The bid is complete but I would like to do due diligence.

Russell Sapp: We can ask the questions.

Mayor Jones: Our job is to furnish the money. Their job is to see it gets done. They are going to be responsible.

Trey Eubanks: If there are any problems, we will not proceed if that is what council is inclined to do tonight. We will give you a report and if we feel like they can do it, we will turn them loose. If not, we can bring this back to council. We will make sure they have bid on exactly what we expect that facility to serve.

Mayor Jones: Do you want to withdraw your amendment?

Councilman Godbey: I will. I trust Mr. Eubanks to do what he said he was going to do.

The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- Committee of the Whole
  j. Consideration and action on purchasing policy.- previously done
k. Fire truck information

Chairman Godbey: I will make a motion to allow the Chief to sign the contract to sell Engine 3.

Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda.

Leo Joyce: I am sorry. I have to say something. I heard some comments tonight from residents specifying how good old boy and how decisions are made without discussing anything. October 1st and October 2nd, they had committee meetings. Most of the things you discussed tonight have been talked over fully at those meetings. I can’t see somebody turning around and saying the informal meeting is the only meeting we had.

Mayor Jones: There have been five or six, but you are not going to change their minds.

Leo Joyce: I commend you. I nearly said something. I am sorry.

Mayor Jones: We pay the bills here and they are in the County. We know who votes.

Trey Eubanks: I want to thank you for the reception tonight. It has been a great three months.

Mayor Jones: We are glad to have you. You are doing a great job.


Lisa White: I would like to make sure council knows that you are invited to the insurance workshop tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. We will have three vendors and you are invited to sit in.

Mayor Jones: Also tomorrow is the Chamber’s 25th anniversary and you are all invited. It starts I think at 5:30 pm or 6:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment.- Mayor Jones adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk