

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 17, 2014
7:00 PM**

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

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Goodson
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Goodson
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mauldin Chamber

James Stewart from the Mauldin Chamber was present to announce the Annual Chamber dinner at the Ryan Nicholas Inn. The Christmas tree lighting will be held December 5th. The Christmas Parade will be December 6th.

 - a. Jennifer Lawton presentation- Chief Turner presented Jennifer with a plaque for her service to the police department.
 - b. Police Officers- auto break-ins- Sgt. Jason Peterson presented his squad, who was instrumental in making arrests in the auto break-in cases we had in the City.
 - c. Walker Smith – Director of Advocacy and Community Relations for Bon Secours St. Francis.- Walker introduced herself. There is a group in Brookfield, so St. Francis has a presence in the Mauldin community.

Ashley Burdette thanked the City of Mauldin for hosting the Relay for Life this year. \$59,184 was raised and that was almost twice the goal for the American Cancer Society.

- d. 2014 audit presentation- David Phillips from Greene, Finney and Horton presented the audit. The City is in very good financial shape and has an unmodified opinion, which is the best.
3. Reading and approval of minutes.- Special called Council October 7, 2014; Council minutes October 27, 2014- Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the October 7, 2014 minutes with Councilman Goodson seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0). Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the October 27th minutes with Councilman Matney seconding. Councilman Black had a question about the executive session section. The minutes state the administrator's

contract was renewed for three years. There was never a vote. No action was taken in the executive session. Daniel Hughes is going to check on this issue and come back with an answer for council. Councilman Cook withdrew his motion to approve the minutes until we can get the opinion back from Daniel. The minutes were tabled.

4. Public Comment.- None
5. Report from City Administrator- Trey reported we recently received a grant in the amount of \$2376 for our cultural center for the railroad concert series. The cultural council received a grant for \$2000 to support the BBQ event and also \$1200 for general operations. Trey recognized George McLeer's efforts on these grants. The Veteran's Walk served us well at the Veteran's Day event last week. Trey thanked the PW and Rec departments for their help with that. The trees are in at East Butler at the high school and 18-20 street lights will follow. The encroachment permit has been issued from DOT for the entranceway sign on I-385. The Election Commission has one vacancy. The municipal Clerk graduated from the Risk Management Institute this month.

Councilman Goodson asked if we needed to update our recording equipment. Trey said everything is being recorded twice, so there is redundancy. Trey said it can be looked at so equipment could be included in the budget if need be. Councilman Goodson asked if the City could do something for Janice Holcombe for her efforts during the Veteran's Day event.

Councilman Black said he wanted to look at either moving the podium or getting new equipment so the citizens can hear the council meetings and the public comments. Councilman Black asked if Trey checked on the mulch at 385 and I85. Trey said the mulch was put out and part of it has bad drainage. He said we need to look at putting some rock in the spring time to help that problem. Councilman Black said the rest of it looks good, but not the red mud.

Councilman Matney asked about the way finding signs. John Gardner said the locations are still being finalized with DOT.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Planning and Economic Development (Mayor Raines)

i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer- John Gardner reported that we got a first set of plans from DOT for a side path from Butler Road to Sunset Park. The location of the way finding signs are being looked at still because of the distance between the other traffic signs. We had an issue on the sign between 385 and Butler, but we should be able to go with the installation on that soon. John said the interstate signs should be installed before Christmas.

ii. Office of Cultural Affairs report- George reported that about 1700 events have taken place at the center. He is completely booked through the end of the year.

b. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)

i. Reports and Communications from the PW Director- Mike showed a power point with some pictures of work the sewer and other departments have been doing. Councilman Black asked about the leaf pickup and if the department could work overtime because of the amounts of leaves that are falling and the holiday season coming. Councilman Black asked if some information could be sent to the residents on where to place their leaves so as to not block traffic. Mike stated that overtime is being provided for leaf collection and that information on leaf placement has been posted on the local government channel. We have three leaf vacuums and one of the one-arm bandits. Councilman Matney asked about recycling bins filling up with rain and if the lids could be closed after pickup when it is raining.

Councilman Goodson thanked the PW Department for their efforts during the Veteran's event.

c. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director- Holly reported

revenues are light and expenditures are running very well.

d. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)

- i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services- Kim reported on permit activity in the department. Business continues to increase.

e. Recreation (Chairman Matney)

- i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director
Director.- There were 2388 Seniors that participated in programs.
Basketball season is starting. Councilman Goodson asked if we could put up more decorations at the cabin at the cultural center.

f. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)

- i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief- The report is on file.
- ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court /
Administrative Judge- Judge Martin reported that jury trials will be held December 8-12.
- iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.- The department ran 248 calls and saw 2216 adults and children during Fire Prevention Week. That is about 1000 more than last year.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Report on zoning ordinance amendment on non-depository financial institutions (Committee of the Whole)- Councilman Matney recused himself due to a potential conflict of interest. Council requested last month that we look at restricting these types of businesses to one zoning district. The recommendation is S1. Second reading will take place in December. Councilman Cook asked if metal businesses could be in I1. Chairman Crosby said commercial storefronts cannot be in I1. Councilman Cook said he was talking about scrap metal. They said the metal in this ordinance is referring to pawn shop type businesses and that scrap metal operations are restricted to I1.

8. New Business

- a. Consideration and action on park improvements (PW)- This item was tabled until a special called committee meeting can be held on Wednesday morning. Chairman Goodson made the motion with Councilman Matney seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).
- b. Consideration and action on health insurance (Finance)- Trey reported that the City will have a 9.9% increase over last year's premiums. The City budgeted for a 25% increase. The employee coverage is still funded 100% by the City. Employees who choose to cover dependents will still have the same percentage of subsidy by the City. The vendors will not change for any insurance coverage except for the TPA for dental and vision, but we will continue to be self funded.. The dental and vision premiums will remain the same. The City will still offer the wellness program. Chairman Black made a motion to approve all insurance coverages with Councilman Crosby seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).
- c. Consideration and action on temporary use ordinance (Building Codes)- Currently the ordinance does not allow temporary structures or uses such as food trucks. Chairman Crosby made a motion to adopt this ordinance with Councilman Cook seconding. Councilman Goodson asked if this would impact our businesses. Trey said there is a 250 foot distance separating the restaurant and the food truck. A mobile food truck that wants to come closer has to get a letter from the property owners. Permits will be required from all food trucks. 90 calendar days per year is as long as the vendor can stay on private property. Councilman Matney said he thinks that 250 foot separation is too much. 100 feet sounds more reasonable. He doesn't want to discourage people from coming in to the City. Councilman Black asked if a mobile food truck that is owned by a restaurant needs a permit. Kim said not if it is being used for a special event on their property. If the food truck moves outside the property, it would need a permit. Councilman Cook said the distance needs to be discussed. Councilman Goodson said he doesn't have a problem with 250 feet to respect our business owners. Councilman Black asked about a food truck on cultural center grounds that would be close to a restaurant. Kim said there is an exception for city events. The

vote was unanimous (6-0). Council asked Kim to see what other cities do regarding distance.

- d. Consideration and action on alcohol request (Rec)- Councilman Matney recused himself due to a conflict of interest. Councilman Cook made a motion to approve this request with Councilman Goodson seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- e. Consideration and action on security cameras (Committee of the Whole)- Chief Turner has looked into security cameras. They would not be manned, but would be recording if something happened and the tapes needed to be reviewed. Chief said there is case law on whether the security cameras are installed to protect property or to protect people. We have no instances of violence, so we would just want to protect property. Councilman Cook said he doesn't think cameras will help, but we need to look at the lighting of the building. Councilman Black said to make sure it is directional lighting and would not go in to the neighbor's houses. Daniel Hughes was asked to look into any liability the cameras might cause. Councilman Cook asked this go to the Public Safety committee to discuss lighting. Councilman Cook made a motion to table this item and send it to committee. Councilman Matney seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0). Mayor Raines asked if we wanted to deter crime or catch someone in the act. Councilman Cook said if they aren't monitored, they won't help anything.

9. Public Comment

Ray Atchison: Sgt. E5 US Army 555736. My comments are brief. I was moved by the service on the 11th. I was moved by the beauty of the simplicity, the respect, the honor, of that service. I think every member of the council, every department, committee that had a part in it should be commended. It was very moving to me. I am proud to be a citizen of this country and a citizen of this City. Please take my thanks.

10. Council requests.- Councilman Matney reported that the MHS football team and MHS varsity cheerleaders went to state playoffs. Neither won, but made a good showing for the City. MHS received a rating of excellence, and was one of only 4 schools that received that rating. Van played Dr. Ben Dover in the elderberries senior play.

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk