

MINUTES
CITY OF MAULDIN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 21, 2022 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 5 E. BUTLER ROAD

Members present: Mayor Terry Merritt, Council members Taft Matney, Carol King, Jason Kraeling, Frank Allgood, and Diane Kuzniar. Councilman Michael Reynolds was not present.

Others present: Daniel Hughes, City Attorney and Brandon Madden, City Administrator

1. Call to Order- Mayor Merritt

- a. Welcome- Mayor Merritt
- b. Invocation- Councilman Kraeling
- c. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Kraeling

2. Proclamations and Presentations

- a. Donate Life Proclamation- Mayor Merritt read the proclamation.
- b. Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation- Mayor Merritt read the proclamation.
- c. GCRA Presentation- This presentation will be held at a public hearing prior to the Council meeting next month.

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- a. City Council Meeting –February 21, 2022

Motion: Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilwoman King seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- b. Special Called Council Meeting – March 7, 2022
- c. Special Called Council Meeting – March 10, 2022

The Special Called Council minutes for March 7th and March 10th were approved by acclamation.

- d. Special Called Council Meeting – March 15, 2022

Motion: Councilwoman King made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Matney seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

4. Public Comment- None

5. Report from City Administrator- City Administrator Brandon Madden

Mr. Madden reported the paving at Springfield Park is almost complete and the games will resume this weekend.

6. Report from Standing Committees

- a. Finance and Policy (Chairperson Reynolds)- None
- b. Public Safety (Chairperson King)- Chairwoman King reported the new fire truck will be coming in soon.
- c. Public Works (Chairperson Kraeling)- Chairman Kraeling reported the street sweeper is operational.
- d. Economic Planning & Development (Chairperson Matney)- None
- e. Building Codes (Chairperson Kuzniar)- Chairwoman Kuzniar reported 10 new businesses opened in February and the number of permits and licenses have increased over last year.
- f. Recreation (Chairperson Allgood)- None

7. Unfinished Business

Ordinances – 2nd Reading

- a. An ordinance to provide for the annexation of property owned by Zenith Holdings, LLC, and located at 220 Fowler Circle (Tax Map Parcel: M007.03-01-010.01) by one hundred percent petition method; and to establish a zoning classification of R15, residential for said property

Motion: Chairwoman Kuzniar made a motion to approve this ordinance on final reading with Councilman Matney seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- b. An Ordinance to provide for the annexation of property owned by David M. Cumbia and Karen G. Cumbia, and located at 110 Rose Circle (Tax Map Parcel: M013.02-01-014.00 and M013.02-01-014.01) by one hundred percent petition method; and to establish a zoning classification of R12, residential, for said property

Motion: Chairwoman Kuzniar made a motion to approve this ordinance on final reading with Councilman Matney seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- c. An Ordinance approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict and Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Agreement

Councilman Matney has a recusal letter on file and stepped out of Council Chambers during discussion and vote on this item.

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to approve this ordinance on final reading with Councilwoman King seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (5-0).

8. New Business

Ordinances – 1st Reading

- a. An ordinance to amend Section 6:4, Signs, of the Mauldin Zoning Ordinance to provide standards for the installation of banners on light poles and similar poles

Motion: Chairwoman Kuzniar made a motion to approve this ordinance on first reading with Councilman Matney seconding.

Councilman Matney said he will wholly support this item, but reiterated this is a solution in search of a problem. The City already utilizes light pole banners. He does not understand why we need to add something into our sign ordinance to allow another governmental entity to do something we already allow ourselves to do. They are not prohibited in our ordinance now, nor are they specifically allowed.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

Standing Committee Items

- b. Therapy Dog

Motion: Chairwoman King made a motion to approve a therapy dog with Councilman Kraeling seconding.

Cpl. Sefcik introduced Deputy Dally, K9 Joy, and K9 Hope. Hope is the sister to the dog the police department would get if this were approved. Chairwoman King stated there will be no cost to the City for the therapy dog. The dog food was the only cost we would incur, but that is also now being donated. Cpl. Sefcik also said she has been in contact with other businesses that will likely donate \$5,000 to \$10,000 each.

Mayor Merritt commented that Cpl. Sefcik has done a great job in getting donations, and made a fantastic presentation to committee, but Mauldin is growing, and this requires additional patrol officers. Having a new K9 that will need a handler will take an officer off the streets. The budget this year is already tight. Mayor Merritt said he loves dogs and supports the police department's K9 program, but cannot support this item tonight. Officer Hobart said he is a K9 patrol officer in North Charleston and his K9 is on the street and is deployed when needed.

Chairwoman King said therapy dogs are used in certain special situations to calm people down. This is another tool to reach our residents. She understands the concerns, but thinks the good would outweigh any negatives. Councilwoman Kuzniar asked if we would have to buy a new K9 vehicle. Cpl. Sefcik answered there are two K9 vehicles in the lower parking lot now that could be used for a while, but one of the patrol vehicles the City just bought could be used, since the dog will be out on patrol. The vehicle accessories for the dog will be donated from the 911 foundation.

Councilman Kraeling said he always thought the K9 would be with a patrol officer who would continue to be out on the streets. He has dealt with PTSD issues and says a dog will make a world of difference in those type of situations.

Officer Hobart said he used Hope in a domestic violence situation to calm a victim down. She was also used with a minor that had some mental health issues.

Vote: The vote was 5-1 with Mayor Merritt dissenting.

- c. Contract Amendment- This item is a resolution for the new fire headquarters and police sub-station contract and it will authorize the Mayor to execute the contract.

Motion: Chairwoman King made a motion to approve this item with Councilman Kraeling seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- d. Enterprise Asset Management Software Purchase Agreement

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to approve a purchase agreement with Cartegraph for the implementation of its Enterprise Asset Management software with Councilwoman King seconding.

Mayor Merritt said the City doesn't have a great record with purchasing software. He also noted that this will be purchased with ARPA funds, which was a one-time payment. Any ongoing payments must be budgeted.

Councilwoman Kuzniar asked if the contract would automatically renew. Mr. Madden answered there is a provision for termination in the contract.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- e. On-Call Stormwater Engineering Services

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to approve an On-Call Engineering contract via a resolution with KCI to provide stormwater project design services. Councilman Allgood seconded the motion.

Chairman Kraeling said this is the right thing to do and puts the City on the right track.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

f. City HVAC Replacement Contract

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to approve a contract with Waldrop Mechanical Services for the replacement of HVAC units contained within City-owned facilities with Councilwoman King seconding.

Mayor Merritt said this will allow us to accelerate replacement of our HVAC units. This will also be paid for with ARPA funds.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

g. Palmetto Pride Grant Acceptance

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to accept the \$25,000 grant for litter pickup with Councilman Matney seconding.

Councilman Matney said he thinks about this issue a lot. There are people who cut-through Mauldin and throw trash out of their car window and do other littering. It is disheartening that some people will put a blight on the City. He is appreciative of Palmetto Pride for this grant.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (6-0).

Committee of the Whole

h. CDGB Resolution- Held until next month.

9. Public Comment- None

10. Council Concerns- Councilman Kraeling said he is happy about the therapy dog program and thanked the officers for their attendance.

11. Adjournment- Mayor Merritt adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk