

**MINUTES
CITY OF MAULDIN
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 17, 2023
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, Michael Reynolds and Diane Kuzniar.

Others present: City Administrator Seth Duncan and City Attorney Daniel Hughes

1. Call to Order- Mayor Merritt

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

2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mayor Merritt read the proclamations and Recreation Chair Frank Allgood presented certificates.

- a. 12U Girls' Basketball Presentation
- b. Mauldin High School Girls' Basketball Presentation
- c. Habitat for Humanity Presentation- Mark Steenback made the presentation on affordable housing.
- d. National Day of Prayer Proclamation

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- a. City Council Meeting- March 20, 2023

The Council minutes were approved by consent.

4. Public Comment- None

5. Report from City Administrator- Mr. Duncan reported on cultural center programming. Songs of Faith by the Mauldin City Singers will be performed this weekend. Mauldin Blues and Jazz is coming up on April 29th. You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown will be held at the Cultural Center in May.

The employee service awards luncheon is this Thursday.

Mauldin Fire Department received a Fire Safe Communities designation for reducing fire injuries and improving data quality.

6. Report from Standing Committees

- a. Finance and Policy (Chairperson Reynolds)- The next budget workshop is April 27th.
- b. Public Safety (Chairperson King)- None
- c. Public Works (Chairperson Kraeling)- None
- d. Economic Planning & Development (Chairperson Matney)- None
- e. Building Codes (Chairperson Kuzniar)- Permits and inspection numbers are increasing. 17 new businesses have opened.
- f. Recreation (Chairperson Allgood)

7. Unfinished Business- None

8. New Business

Ordinances – 1st Reading

- a. Ordinance 1015- Sale of Property on Jenkins Court to McPhail Revocable Trust

Motion: Chairman Matney made a motion to accept the ordinance on first reading with Councilman Allgood seconding .

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- b. Ordinance 1016- Local Revenue Services Agreement

Motion: Chairman Reynolds made a motion to accept the ordinance on first reading with Councilwoman King seconding .

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Standing Committee Items

- c. Comp and Class Plan- This item is a recommendation to follow the Hybrid Parity proposal that would ensure the City's pay rates are brought in line with the market rate. Employees will receive a percentage increase based on factors that include longevity (both with the City and time in position), cost of living, and current pay scale in regard to market compensation values. Percentage increases will vary from employee to employee with no full-time employee receiving less than 4 percent.

Starting pay for Police Officers would be increased to \$45,000.00 and Fire Fighters to \$42,000.00.

All Sports Center Part-Time employees wages would be increased from \$10 per hour up to \$11 per hour.

The total cost for implementation of the measures will be approximately \$539,000. Pay adjustments will be reflected in staff checks beginning April 28th. Cost to implement during the 2022-2023 budget year will be approximately \$124,000.

Motion: Chairman Reynolds made a motion to accept these recommendations with Councilwoman King seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

- d. Sports Center Roof RFQ- The recommendation on this item is that City Council approve the contract with Guy Roofing for 129,900 dollars and authorize the City Administrator to approve all change orders up to 150,000 dollars in the event that deteriorated decking and insulation is discovered during the roof installation.

Motion: Chairman Kraeling made a motion to accept these recommendations with Councilwoman King seconding.

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Committee of the Whole- None

9. Public Comment

Kristi Smith: My name is Kristi Smith and I reside at 102 Sanderling Drive in Forrester Woods Estates. I am here on behalf of the HOA board to address a pressing issue in Forrester Woods Estates. Forrester Woods Estates is a wonderful neighborhood experiencing turnover where younger families are replacing the aging population. However, we are here today to address a growing concern that affects our residents, especially those who are elderly or children.

A speed study was performed in our neighborhood in 2021 that showed the speeds did not warrant traffic calming measures. We believe the study underestimates the speed in our neighborhood. When alerted to radar, speeders will slow down 80% of the time. Speed in the area is not only an inconvenience, but it poses a significant danger to the residents in Forrester Woods Estates. Studies show that when pedestrians are hit by a vehicle going 40 mph, there is a 10% chance of survival. At 20 mph, there is a 90% chance of survival. We have a lot of children in our neighborhood.

Two large brick mailboxes held by posts have been decimated in the last year. We cannot continue to ignore those events. Just imagine if that had been small children. We have also noticed an increased number of teenagers riding through our neighborhood. In the past month, we have observed them doing burnouts in our cul-de-sac, driving in excess of 50 mph, and just last weekend two cars were racing each other backwards up Sanderling Drive.

By the time the police department is called, and most residents do not bother to call, because by the time the police arrive, they are gone. We are here to ask for help from the Mauldin Police Department and City Council with an exception to the traffic calming study or another solution. Instead of being told what cannot be done, we hope that you will work with us to find a solution that addresses the safety of our residents.

In closing, we ask for your help in addressing this pressing issue and we believe with your help, we can find a solution. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Councilwoman Kuzniar asked if the HOA has talked to the residents to find out if they are interested in speed humps. Ms. Smith said the residents would prefer stop signs. Ms. Smith said she has been told that stop signs were not a deterrent. She said 80% of the residents on Sanderling Drive have signed a petition for stop signs, but would also agree to speed humps.

10. Call for Executive Session

- a. Executive Session on receipt of legal advice regarding business license appeal as allowed by State Statute Section 30-4-70 (a)(2).

Motion: Councilman Reynolds made a motion to go into executive session with Councilwoman Kuzniar seconding .

Vote: The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Mayor Merritt reconvened the Council meeting at. Councilman Reynolds reported no decisions were made and no action taken in executive session.

- b. Possible action on items discussed in executive session- None

11. Council Concerns- None

12. Adjournment