

**GCRA public hearing at 6:45 p.m. before the council meeting.  
Martin Livingstone conducted the hearing.**

**MINUTES  
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 25, 2013  
7:00 PM**

**Members present were Mayor Dennis Raines, Council members Bob Cook, Patricia Gettys, Gabe Hunter, Scott Crosby, Dale Black and Larry Goodson. City Attorney John Duggan and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.**

1. Call to order. – Mayor Raines
  - a. Invocation- Councilman Cook
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilman Cook
  - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
2. Proclamations and Presentations- Mauldin Chamber; Mauldin Cultural Center; Bob Settle presentation; Smoke-free presentation

Trey Eubanks reported that the chamber is trying to set up a public town hall meeting for early May. Several legislators will be invited. The city and chamber are working to get Transportation Secretary Robert St. Onge here for a tri-chamber, Golden Strip event.

George McLeer reported James Gregory is coming to the auditorium on Thursday. George is teaching a class on scheduling events and concerts.

A plaque was presented to Bob Settle for his participation on the Planning Commission.

Terry Taylor and Tiffany Linder were present to talk about the possibility of Mauldin becoming a smoke-free community.

3. Reading and approval of minutes.- January 28, 2013- Councilman Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

#### 4. Public Comment.

- a. George Caldwell: I am George Caldwell. I live at 830 Knollwood Drive. I came tonight to ask council to look into the firing of your Interim PW Director, Mr. Charles Kirksey. He was suspended for three days and was told to sign a grievance. If he didn't, after three days' suspension, they would talk to him later about termination. He was emailed about termination. That is not right. The man has been working here 26 years, ever since he got out of high school.

Don't drag him through the mud because a trailer is missing. He may have borrowed a trailer several months ago with permission from the former Public Works Director. You don't do people like that. He was treated like a criminal. Anything that is not in a personnel manual cannot be forced on an employee. That is federal law. Mr. Kirksey is a nice guy. I helped raise him. I live in the City of Mauldin and he does too. I ask you to look into this. It is not right.

If you have a problem with PW, take care of. If you don't want Charles to have the job, be man enough to tell him. Don't just degrade him. I know he doesn't have a college education. But he has been here 16 years. That's not right. I hope you can look into this and reinstate him. Just don't throw people out like that. At least, the administrator should have at least called him and told him, you know, I am going to terminate you. That's not right. You know it is not right. You are treating him like a criminal. This is a personnel matter. Nothing was stolen. The personnel department should have investigated instead of the police department. They took him into a room and interrogated him without reading him his rights. You violated the man's rights. You can't do that. That is against the law. If you aren't going to go by your own personnel policy, why do you have it? That is uncalled for. I know what type of person he is. I appreciate your time. There are a lot of things I can't or won't say, because this may go to court. Thank you for your time.

5. Report from City Administrator

Trey reported that windows have been installed in Station 1. The cultural center roof is going out to be rebid.

Staff is working on examining options to fund some new ball field lighting.

The main intersection will be pushed through CTC. They are the project administrator. This is the second busiest intersection in Greenville County.

The Butler Road interchange project should be in place sometime this May.

A copy of the budget document will be made available to council before the first budget workshop.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)

i. Reports and Communications from Business and Development Services Director.

Kim Hamel reported that the department is seeing steady permit activity for commercial and residential property. For permits, the department has surpassed the whole year of 2012 just in this month.

b. Recreation (Chairwoman Gettys)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director

Van Brannon reported that over 1700 seniors have participated in programs this month. Basketball participation was very good this year. The Peacock 5k is on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Easter Egg Drop will be March 29<sup>th</sup>.

- c. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)
  - i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief- Recognition of newly promoted Corporals and two new Reserve Officers.  
Calls for service have increased. The Citizen's Police Academy is going very well. Amy Baker and Adam Bradshaw were sworn in as new Reserve Officers.
  - ii. Reports and Communications from Municipal Clerk of Court / Administrative Judge- Jury trials will be coming up March 11-14<sup>th</sup> and again in May.
  - iii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.- Response time for the department is 2.9 minutes. 241 calls for the month.
- d. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)
  - i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer  
Work continues on annexation. We are having some good discussion with developers for the city center. Larry Goodson said the Dairy Queen sign looks really nice.

Councilman Crosby asked Tommy Elrod from SCDOT about Chrome Drive being shut down. Mr. Elrod said it would not, that connectivity would be re-established.

- e. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)
  - i. Reports and Communications  
Trey reported that the department was going through a transitional time. The staff is staying focused on service delivery. Preparations are being made for maintenance of ball fields. Assistant City Administrator Chief Sapp is involved in the day to day activities of the PW Department. We hope we will have a name for a new PW Director at the next council meeting.

f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and Communications from Finance Director

Holly reported budgets look good right now. She is working on the new budget and getting ready for the March 19<sup>th</sup> budget meeting.

7. Unfinished Business – None

8. New Business

a. DOT agreement (PEDC)- This is the Garlington/ Miller Road and I385/I85 projects. This will move the projects forward. Chairman Hunter made a motion to accept these agreements. Councilwoman Gettys seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

b. Approval of Dock Dogs event and associated ordinance (Rec)- This is an event for April 19-21. Our current ordinance does not allow dogs in the park, but this will be an amendment to the ordinance for a special event. Chairwoman Gettys made a motion to approve this amendment on first reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (7-0). Councilman Cook asked if we needed to vote on the event. John Duggan asked if the application has been filed. The application is not finalized. John Duggan said second reading has to be done before the event can be approved. Council can give a provisional approval. John Duggan did caution regarding insurance issues. Olivia Vassey said insurance is already in place.

John said the council cannot give formal approval until the ordinance is completed. Olivia said there is enough time for the event to wait. Councilman Black said there is a rental fee for a city facility. Olivia said the group would pay that. A \$2.00 donation will be given at the entrance. There is not an admission fee. DFA is a 501c3 non-profit organization. This will be a fundraiser.

c. Zoning Ordinance administrative revisions (Building Codes)- Chairman Crosby made a motion to accept these Article 8 revisions on first reading. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

d. Cultural Center alcohol request (Rec)- Chairwoman Gettys made a motion to allow the alcohol request on February 28<sup>th</sup> with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

e. Garden Club request (Rec)- The Garden Club would like to install two benches on the cultural center grounds. One bench would be in memory of Ray Dee Wyatt and would have daffodils installed around it. This item is for information only tonight.

9. Public Comment

Pat Taylor: I would like to know if you could let us know about holidays. I came last week for the council meeting and there was not one.

This was put on the access channel and website. We will work to put the change out as best we can.

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Raines

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller  
Municipal Clerk