

**MINUTES
MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2012
7:00 PM**

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

1. Call to order.- Mayor Raines
 - a. Invocation- Councilwoman Gettys
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Councilwoman Gettys
 - c. Welcome- Mayor Raines
 - d. Proclamations and Presentations- Pat Pomeroy, Mauldin Chamber;
George McLeer, Mauldin Cultural Center
Pat Pomeroy was present from the chamber. She reported on a business after hours that will be next week. A chamber retreat will also be held next week. GHS is celebrating its 100 year anniversary this year and is scheduling several events for that milestone. Pat then introduced Carol Campbell from Gleneagle Apartments, who is the 2012 President of the Chamber Board.
George McLeer reported that 150 events were held at the cultural center this past year and 20,000 people came through the door. The first concert of this year is sold out of the free tickets. A lot is happening at the center and George offered tours to anyone who may be interested.
 - e. Appointment of Mayor Pro Tempore
Councilman Goodson nominated Councilman Black for Mayor Pro Tempore. The vote was affirmed unanimously. Councilman Black thanked the council for their confidence in him.

2. Reading and approval of minutes.- December 6, 2011; special called January 3, 2012

Councilman Black made a motion to accept the December 6, 2011 minutes. The minutes were approved as read. Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the January 3, 2012 minutes. The minutes were approved as read.

3. Public Comment.- None
4. Report from City Administrator

Trey Eubanks reported that efforts toward an energy management plan is continuing. The goal is to upgrade equipment at our facilities, and get peak efficiency from our utilities thus cutting our cost. We have gone out to bid for an owner's representative and have received seven proposals. A selection committee will be appointed to go through these proposals.

Ten firms submitted proposals for the City Center master plan. These were evaluated on November 18th and again December 7th and a leading firm's recommendation will come before the February Finance committee.

The 276 project is going well. Demolition work is almost finished. Trees should be installed this month and landscaping will be installed in March. The project should be complete by April per SCDOT's contractor.

Eric Dillon has confirmed that SCDOT will develop paving marking, signing, and signalization plans by the end of this month to provide a double left lane from West Butler to Main and a dedicated right lane from North Main onto West Butler.

The City received notification that we have been invited by the SC Department of Commerce to pursue certification of the 40 acre site that we annexed last year. Councilman Goodson asked what the advantage of certification is. Trey Eubanks answered that certification provides anything a prospective corporation or business would need. It is a very comprehensive assessment of the site that will provide a new business what they need to develop the site and get up and running. This makes the site much more marketable.

Mayor Raines asked about the lights at the cultural center. Trey answered that some bids have been received on this and the lights should be up in a couple of weeks.

Councilman Black commented that the news about the turn lanes is great and the city has been working on this for a long time.

5. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and Communication from Finance Director

Holly Abercrombie provided a report in the council packets. The budget process is beginning.

b. Building Codes (Chairman Crosby)

i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Director.

Peter Nomikos reported that new home construction is up 14.1%. Existing home sales are up and the economy seems to be slowly recovering.

c. Recreation (Chairwoman Gettys)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director

Van Brannon reported that there are still over 2000 participants at the senior center. Over 100 people showed up for the Christmas dinner. Basketball is going well and baseball and softball signups will be in February. The fitness bash will be January 13th. January 29th will be the sports center's 5 year anniversary.

Councilman Goodman asked what association we were in with the youth programs. Van answered we are in Dixie Youth now but are thinking about starting a Golden Strip league with Fountain Inn and Simpsonville.

Councilwoman Gettys thanked Van and his staff for displaying the flags for the young soldier who died in Afghanistan.

d. Public Safety (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief.

Chief Turner gave a presentation on crime stats for the last three years. Chairman Cook said it is so important for citizens to call the police department if they notice anything suspicious.

ii. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief.

The fire station is going well. Some cosmetic issues are being worked through. Substantial completion should be accomplished by the end of the month.

The month of December had 257 total calls.

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

190 new cases were filed for this month.

e. Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from the Economic Developer.

John Gardner will be the staff contact for this new committee. Several national retailers and restaurants are interested in Mauldin. The Dollar General is moving to the 864 Customs building.

f. Public Works (Chairman Goodson)

i. Reports and Communications from PW Director

Greg reported that most of the leaves have been gathered and this is a good time of the year for the department. Councilman Goodson asked if the city was putting crush and run down at the Knollwood entrance where the holes are being caused by the work on 276. Greg said the city is trying to keep up with the maintenance there because it is posing a hazard. This is not a city road, but the city is taking care of the problem as much as we can.

Mayor Raines asked Greg about the leaf tonnage that has been picked up. Greg said he would have to call him with that number.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Consideration and action on budget amendment (Finance)

Chairman Black made a motion to adopt the budget amendment. The Greenville County Legislative Delegation Transportation Committee is matching \$300,000 to help us with the paving of city streets. Councilman Goodson asked if the \$300,000 was in addition to the \$280,000 that is in the road resurfacing fund. They said yes, the \$300,000 is coming from the general fund and is in addition to the \$280,000 that was budgeted. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

8. New Business

a. Consideration and action on 2013 budget calendar (Finance)

Chairman Black made a motion to approve the 2013 budget calendar. One date change has been made on the first budget workshop in March. Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

b. Consideration and action on city services fee. (Finance)

Chairman Black made a motion to repeal the \$45.00 city service fee and strike it from the upcoming budget as an income source. This will not be part of the 2013 budget. Councilman Goodson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

9. Public Comment.

Leo Joyce: I live at 114 Old Bridges road. For the Chief of Police, on automobile accidents, is there a way of indentifying particular areas where the accidents happen?

Chief Turner: We look at the GPS location of each accident and if we know there are certain issues like the timing of a light, we try to address those problems. We do have issues in some parts of the city.

Leo Joyce: You have repealed the \$45, are you going to return the money to the people?

Mayor Raines: We have a meeting with the county on Wednesday to talk about that. We want to make sure this is done feasibly.

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment.- Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk