

Budget public hearing was held at 6:45 pm before the council meeting started.

**Minutes
Mauldin City Council
Informal Session
June 18, 2007
7:00 PM**

Members present were Mayor RC Jones, Council members Don Godbey, Bob Cook, Gabe Hunter, James Kennedy, Dale Black, and Jerry Smith.

1. Call to order.- Mayor Jones
 - a. Invocation- Councilman Cook
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance- Mayor Jones
 - c. Welcome
 - d. Proclamations and Presentations-
Fred Payne- Greenville County Transportation; Sgt. Bob Rogers-
retirement plaque; 3 newly appointed Police Sergeants

All were presented.

2. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Fire (Chairman Godbey)
 - i. Reports and Communications from Fire Chief

Captain Brown: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Council. We had 84 fire calls in May, 154 medical calls, and 8 miscellaneous. That was a total of 246 calls. Also, this month on Friday, the 15th we took our fire safety house out to Woodruff Road and ran 193 kids ranging from the ages of 3-5 years through the house. We also ran some of the teachers through also. Starting on the 21st, the department will start up the Explorer program again. We have about 10 that will participate. Our response times for the month, the average was 2.8 minutes- fire 2.7 and medical is 2.9.

Chairman Godbey: Those are great numbers and I appreciate all the department does to keep those numbers down with the expanding area we have.

Councilman Black: I want to compliment the Captains on a job well done in the absence of their chief. I know they are looking forward to getting him back, but I don't know if he is going back or not.

ii. Discussion on three fireworks requests.

Chairman Godbey: We have three requests.

Russell Sapp: We have requests from three different locations. Brookwood Church and New Horizon Church on July 1st. We have received all the paperwork, insurance papers, and Comp National on August 11th. They are celebrating 25 years in Mauldin. This shoot they are planning on doing, with your approval, will be monitored better than the last time. Hopefully they won't be shot electronically this year.

Chairman Godbey moved this item to the formal agenda.

b. Police (Chairman Cook)

i. Reports and Communications from Police Chief.

Chief Turner: I wanted to draw your attention to a couple of things. We are restructuring the department. Officer Kelly Pickard has been moved to Property and Evidence and she is working out of Investigations. That gives them a female presence and also gives us a new property person since Debbie Cooke was reassigned to Angela in Judicial. One officer on board with us is Andrew Cochrane. He has been in dispatch for about 18 months. He has wanted to be a police officer and took the job dispatching because he was not yet 21. We did some testing on him and he scored very, very well- 97 percentile. The next viable candidate to him was about 78%. He also did very well in reading comprehension. I told him this was the point of no return. He has a working knowledge and has seen the other side of a radio. He will know what he has to do.

Our DUI numbers have increased since last year. Prosecution has come along as well. The same guys and girls are out doing the same things. Our officers have a new awareness and they know I have their back. I wanted to let you know that as well. Our accidents are higher, juvenile crime is down but I expect it to go up now that school is out. We ask for your patience with that.

Councilman Kennedy: What is the status of your accreditation?

Chief Turner: After July 1st, there is some paperwork that has to be presented to the committee and then to you for us to pursue the accreditation. One of the things we are doing is the records management update. It will be online July 1st. We are severing ties with the County a little. We won't have to go through third party stuff. There will be a learning curve, but it will be beneficial for us and Judicial. I want to thank you for allowing me to recognize my guys tonight.

Chairman Cook: We are going to be the number 1 police agency in the State of South Carolina. We appreciate what you are doing.

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

Angela Cooper: Good evening. For the month of May, we disposed of 657 cases, we have 1916 cases pending. There were 749 new cases filed. As the police stats increase, I continue to make myself available after hours on the weekends. The police officers come by my house to get warrants signed. I am trying to help the City in any way I can.

iii. Discussion on executive session for a personnel matter.

Chairman Cook: I would like for this session to be first when we get to it and I would like Chief Turner and Ms. Cooper to attend.

iv. Discussion on out of state travel request.

Chairman Cook: The chief and I made a mistake on some dates. We would like to forward this to formal council. We are trying to cover ourselves. We would like to move this forward.

c. Recreation (Chairman Smith)

i. Reports and Communications from Recreation Director.

Van Brannon: Thank you. Good evening. Our sports- Miracle League is completed. We recently started back with wheelchair softball for adults. We are hosting our first tournament on Friday night. The Senior Program hosted a Father's Day breakfast and took a group to see Hello Dolly. They are working on some outdoor activities to get some more men involved. We had 2000 participants last month. The membership of the sports center is 2403. We had an issue with the walking track that has been taken care of. It looks great. We appreciate all of your support.

Councilman Godbey: I have known the Senior Program to be in different events. We could use the mass transit program for rapid transit to the downtown area. I want Mr. Payne to be aware of that.

Councilman Hunter: Did you follow up with the MASC about the July meeting?

Van Brannon: Julie is working on getting the information to them for the packets.

Councilman Hunter: Tell the audience what we are talking about.

Van Brannon: We were requested by Mr. Hunter- the MASC is having their state meeting and he requested we put a membership in their packets so they can come in during the week. We are trying to showcase it.

Mayor Jones: Some of you asked me how many members we would have by June and I said 500- I want to revise that. That's great.

Van Brannon: The membership is still going. Staff says usually it slows down in the summer, but that is not what is happening with us. We have tours every day.

ii. Discussion on approval of use of Sunset Park for concert. – withdrawn

d. Planning and Economic Development (Chairman Hunter)

i. Reports and Communications from Building and Zoning Administrator.

Peter Nomikos: During the past few weeks, the zoning property standards inspector went to Columbia for training on electrical and plumbing so he can cross train with the building inspector. Also, the building inspector went for certification for mechanical, plumbing and electrical. He was spent after all three exams. We have prepared a petition for Woodington subdivision.

Councilman Black: Are we still getting reports on your violations?

Peter Nomikos: We have lapsed on that somewhat due to staff training and vacation and should have a large packet Friday for you.

ii. Discussion on Pine Forest and Oak Forest annexation ordinance.

Chairman Hunter moved this item to the formal agenda.

iii. Discussion on Planning Commission and Zoning Board vacancies.

Chairman Hunter moved this item to the formal agenda. This will be done by secret ballot.

Councilman Godbey: I would like to point out that on the Zoning Board, the current sitting member, Ms. Brown, has also applied.

e. Public Works (Chairman Kennedy)

i. Reports and Communications from Public Works Director.

Greg Fincher: Mr. Mayor, City Council members, first I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to thank Russell Sapp for driving me all over the city and get me through this transition period. I have been on the job 19 days now. These 19 days have been productive. We have conducted meetings with all staff as well as people from Perry. We have let everyone know we have an open dialogue. We need to change the culture as far as pw goes. No suggestion falls on deaf ears. We will have a maximum effort from pw to serve the citizens of Mauldin. A lot of citizens have come up to me and said I know who you are and that is a loaded comment. I don't know if it is good or bad.

I was treated very nice when we worked on the Sports Center and I know this is the calm before the storm. I did state earlier that we have been busy. The Jenkins Street, we removed 30 dump truck loads of debris and the site we are on now on McDougal Court. Public Works is now under one roof except for the shop. Throughout the moving, we have maintained our daily requirements of trash pickup. I have met with DOT on doing some road repairs; we have some open dialog there to get some things done as far as getting some guard rails on Bon Air. We are getting a lot of positive feedback. They want to help us. It is amazing. You think of government and you think that they don't want to help, but they do. I am still evaluating and observing the daily operation of the personnel and equipment. The conclusion I have reached is we can do better. You can't stop striving to be better. It is one day at a time and we are trying to get better.

Chairman Kennedy: I can see evidence of your good works already, just on my street. I appreciate what you are doing and I am sure the community can see improvements already. You have made a significant difference. We appreciate your being on board with it. The communications between your department and you are going to make a big difference.

Councilman Cook: The honeymoon is over as we told the police chief. Mini Greg was looking at me.

Greg Fincher: That is my buddy.

Mayor Jones: Which one is Kojak and which one is Mr. Clean? You are doing a good job. If you have not been McDougal, I want you to see it. There are twenty something vehicles and how we had that at Jenkins, I don't know.

Councilman Black: I understand you are going to present a new look to the citizens of Mauldin.

Greg Fincher: Yes. What the perception of public works right now in talking with the people that supply the uniforms, we have dark brown pants and some of those guys have been wearing those since they stopped wearing furs. They have not been maintained and the orange shirt which is not OSHA approved. I have met with the people and we have come up with a lighter weight shirt, it is more comfortable, it is royal blue and the pants are khaki. They have agreed to swap those out with the brown and orange. It is kind of like when you get dressed up and you have a brand new suit on, you feel good and I think that is going to help swing the morale around. If you look good, you feel good. A lot of those guys have been with the city a long time and I think they deserve a new look. It is a new department. We are not color coded with the City. When we did the sports center that was a big deal with the walls and the gold emblem. We need to get into the 21st Century. We will go with the safety vests with the reflective material which will be OSHA certified.

Councilman Black: I appreciate everything you have done and you can see results just in the 19 days.

Greg Fincher: I am glad to be here.

Councilman Smith: I have had so many people ask me who is the big fellow in the public works truck. Is there a name other than PW Director that we can tell them?

Greg Fincher: My name is Greg Fincher and give them my phone number and any trouble they can call or come by.

Councilman Smith: Mini Greg?

Greg Fincher: Kelly is sitting there and I am not going to disclose any of that.

ii. Discussion on out of state travel request.

Chairman Kennedy: We need to pick up the Christmas decorations. They are in North Carolina and we need to get council approval to go out of state. This is not an overnight trip. They are in Hickory, NC. We just need a vehicle rental fee. I want to get permission to authorize this travel at this time and want to make sure this is placed on the formal agenda for your approval.

iii. Discussion on WCRSA ordinance.

Chairman Kennedy: This is second reading of the ordinance.

This item was moved to the formal agenda.

f. Finance and Policy (Chairman Black)

i. Reports and communications from Finance Director.- no report given

ii. Discussion on budget ordinance.

Chairman Black: I recommend that we take first reading on the 2008 budget. This will maintain the 58.5 mills and it is \$14,281,920. This is an increase of 18% over the 2007 amended budget. We have increased growth with annexation and good management from our department heads and employees. Second reading will be June 25th, next Monday.

This item was moved to the formal agenda.

iii. Discussion on staff clothing purchase.

Chairman Black: We have approximately 16.5 people getting clothing. Instead of giving employees the money, we will let them continue to purchase their clothing but it will be with a city credit card and purchase orders to back up their purchases. He sent a memo out to put a hold on purchases until further notice for the June timeframe. The clothing will have the city logo on it.

This was moved to the formal agenda.

Mayor Jones: I have one comment. Someone should go to Belks to see if we can make arrangements because some of the guys we have, they are not going to be able to purchase clothes off the rack.

iv. Discussion on purchase of 13 Jenkins Street.

Chairman Black: We have to the best of my knowledge taken first reading on this. I move that this goes to the formal agenda.

Mayor Jones: For the record I would like to thank Mr.,. Chandler for giving us the opportunity to buy the property the way he did. It is such a good gesture on his part.

John Duggan: Because of the changes in the financing arrangement and the interest rates, we are having first reading tonight. Second reading is next Monday night. Closing is scheduled for the last week of June. This is actually first reading of the approval of the purchase with the new financing terms.

Chairman Black: I will amend my motion to move the first reading to the formal agenda.

Mayor Jones: He dropped the interest rate.

g. Committee of the Whole

i. Discussion on executive session for two legal matters and one personnel matter.

Councilman Cook made a motion to go into executive session with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Hunter: I make a motion that Council will authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement to settle a business license dispute with Bilo, Inc. Councilman Cook seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Black: No vote or action was taken on the personnel matter in executive session.

3. Adjournment.- Mayor Jones

There will be a 10 minute break before the formal session to allow those present wishing to address City Council an opportunity to sign the speaker's log.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk

**Minutes
Mauldin City Council
Regular Formal Session
June 18, 2007
7:00 pm**

1. Call to Order- Mayor Jones
2. Reading and Approval of minutes- Informal and Formal sessions- May 21, 2007. Special called minutes June 5, 2007 and June 12, 2007.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the May 21st minutes with Councilman Smith seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the June 5th minutes with Councilman Smith seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

Councilman Hunter made a motion to accept the June 12th minutes with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

The minutes from June 7, 2007 were not available. There was no tape. They shall be reconstructed at a later date.

3. Public Comment on items appearing on the agenda.
4. Reports and Communications from city officers.
 - a. City Administrator
5. Reports from standing committees.
 - a. Fire (Mr. Godbey)
 - b. Police (Mr. Cook)
 - c. Recreation (Mr. Smith)
 - d. Planning and Economic Development (Mr. Hunter)
 - e. Public Works Committee (Mr. Kennedy)
 - f. Finance and Policy (Mr. Black)

6. Reports from special committees.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Consideration and action on Pine Forest and Oak Forest annexation.

Chairman Hunter made a motion to accept this ordinance on second reading with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (7-0).

b. Consideration and action on Western Carolina ordinance.

Chairman Kennedy: We have these items on the informal agenda. I would like to mention these for your approval. The WCRSA ordinance for your approval.

Councilman Godbey seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Mayor Jones: Before we go any further, we have someone we want to introduce to you. It is getting late and close to the kids' bedtime.

Councilman Black: On behalf of the Council, after about 20 applications received for the position, we screened several applicants and it is with pleasure that I make a motion that we hire Raymond C. "Trey" Eubanks, III.

Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (7-0).

Mr. Eubanks: I want to thank you very much. It is getting rather late. My two daughters 5 and 7 are still very lively, I think they are as excited as me and my wife to come here. My wife Denise, and I are glad we have the opportunity to be here. There is a great quality of life in this community and a great opportunity for me. I know your expectations are high for me and I am confident in my ability to meet those. I am very much looking forward to coming and serving you, meeting everyone, working with the staff. Thank you very much and I am looking forward to it.

Mayor Jones: Mr. Eubanks comes to us from York, SC. He has been the manager there for 10 years. A lot of experience and we drilled him real hard and he is the one we wanted. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you run the ship.

8. New Business

- Fire Committee (Mr. Godbey)

a. Consideration and action on three fireworks requests.

Chairman Godbey made a motion to approve the three fireworks requests. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- Police Committee (Mr. Cook)- Mr. Cook left council early

- b. Consideration and action on executive session for a personnel matter.
- c. Consideration and action on out of state travel request.

Councilman Godbey made a motion for Dani Kramer to attend out of state training in Florida. Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- Recreation Committee (Mr. Smith)

- d. Consideration and action on approval to use Sunset Park for a concert.- withdrawn

- Planning and Economic Development Committee (Mr. Hunter)
- e. Consideration and action on Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals vacancies.

Chairman Hunter: Mr. Mayor, we have vacancies on the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals. Council has voted and I would like to congratulate these candidates and I appreciate very much your serving in these capacities. Mr. Ralph Crawley has been elected to the Zoning Board, Mr. Gordon Lowe, Mr. Bob Settle, and Mr. Bobby Harper have been elected to the Planning Commission. Gentlemen, we appreciate this very much and look forward to serving with you. I move to accept these elections of candidates.

Councilman Black seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

Councilman Godbey: I would like to commend all the applicants and appreciate the fact that we have more applications than positions. The community is well served by volunteers that step up like that and I hope they stay involved in the community.

- Public Works Committee (Mr. Kennedy)
- f. Consideration and action on out of state travel request.

Chairman Kennedy made a motion to accept the out of state travel with Councilman Black seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- Finance Committee (Mr. Black)
- g. Consideration and action on budget ordinance.

Chairman Black made a motion to approve the first reading on the budget ordinance. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

- h. Consideration and action on staff clothing purchase.

Chairman Black made a motion to approve this new policy for staff clothing purchases with Councilman Godbey seconding. The vote was unanimous (6-0).

- i. Consideration and action on purchase of 13 Jenkins Street.

Chairman Black: On this next item, I have two motions. We have to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract with the owners of the Jenkins Street.

Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6-0).

Chairman Black: I make a motion on first reading to adopt the ordinance to purchase the property which will put the City in a contract with DTC Holdings, LLC for the property at 13 Jenkins Street. This is first reading because we had changes in amounts and the time frame.

Councilman Hunter seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (6- 0).

- Committee of the Whole
- j. Consideration and action on executive session for 2 legal matters and one personnel matter.- previously done in informal

9. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda.

10. Council requests.

11. Adjournment. – Mayor Jones

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk