

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**APRIL 8, 2013 – 7:00PM**

The April 2013 regular meeting of Council was held at the City-County Complex Building in the Council Chambers, located at 401 West Main Street in Dillon, South Carolina. All councilmembers were in attendance: Mayor Todd Davis, Councilman James Washington, Councilwoman Connie Manning, Councilman Johnny Eller, Councilman Douglas Jackson, Councilman John Braddy and Councilman Phil Wallace.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Benny Genwright gave the invocation. City Attorney Jack McInnis then administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers John Braddy, Johnny Eller, and Phil Wallace.

After the oath, Councilman Braddy made the motion to approve the agenda, with a second by Councilman Eller. The motion passed unanimously. Councilman Eller in turn made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 11, 2013. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

City Manager Glen Wagner said that after each election councilmembers have to elect or re-elect a Mayor Pro-tempore (Pro-tem) from among themselves. Councilman Wallace made a motion to leave the office as is with Councilman Douglas Jackson acting as Mayor Pro-tem for another two year term. Councilwoman Manning seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Davis began by reporting that the façade grant had been well-received and there were no more funds left for this budget year. Maggie Riales added that she did not know how much was actually used since we were still waiting on some projects to be completed and final invoices turned in. The Mayor then reported that the lights had been installed around the Wellness Center track. We were waiting on the benches. Maggie said the shrubbery would be added when Glen gave her the approval to purchase. Mayor Davis said that there was another issue with the Perdue line on Deerwood Avenue. The repairs would be contracted out. The Mayor added that Hardy's crew responded quickly when the pipe collapsed. They replaced 40feet of pipe to get Perdue back online. Hardy said that 2000feet of pipe had to be replaced. Glen added that we were looking into costs. He said there was not enough land on either side to do parallel piping so we may have to do a pipe burst. Hardy said we were also trying to determine how to bypass the line on the weekends.

The Mayor continued his report with questions about the financial report. He asked why nothing had been spent from I and I line items in the Water & Sewer Fund. Hardy replied that we had been looking into repairing manholes but there was really not enough money available to begin. The Mayor then asked about the over expense in the machinery and equipment repair and capital expense line items for water and wastewater. He was told that this was due to pump and aerator repairs at the wastewater treatment plant and water line repairs in the city. Councilman Wallace commented that we needed a more realistic budget to

include extra funds for repairs. Glen and Hardy added that it was hard to predict these line items since there was no way to know when an emergency situation might arise. Moving forward, the Mayor asked about a surplus in miscellaneous revenue/returned check fees for Water & Sewer and a shortage in motor carrier vehicle taxes in the General Fund. Finance Director Janet Bethea said that the surplus was not all due to return check fees but to miscellaneous revenue received for reimbursement for lightning damage repairs. Concerning the motor vehicle carrier tax, Janet said that these funds are not received all at one time but as they are paid each month. The Mayor then pointed out that other revenues were in line. He asked Glen what the line item program supplement was for. Glen said these were funds to help the athletic programs with things such as umpire pay and uniforms.

Mayor Davis then asked about controlled burning in the city limits. He said that he had spoken with Glen and Fire Chief Keith Bailey about a property owner who had a question about burning around his property to prevent a possible incident similar to what had happened in Conway, SC. Glen said that we would have to change our ordinance to allow this. Keith Bailey added that our ordinance said that burning could be done with the approval of the City Fire Chief. He said that the area could be burned if it posed a hazard and the fire truck could be present at the site. Keith said he would check out the area in question.

Lastly, the Mayor called for open discussion about the golf course. He asked councilmembers if they agreed with the City of Dillon entering into a lease agreement to maintain the golf course at Twin Lakes Country Club. Glen directed Council's attention to the proposed budget that he had sent out. He said that our goal would be for the golf course to be self-sustaining in the coming years. We had budgeted for 8,000 rounds of golf, which was low, and the biggest cost would be staff. Mayor Davis said that he was excited and the feedback he had been receiving was that it would be a shame to see Dillon County not have a golf course. He said the David Strickland had some great ideas on revitalizing the golf course. Councilman Braddy said he felt we needed to pursue this from a quality of life and an economic standpoint. He said we needed to do this carefully and make it self-sustaining. He also clarified that we were leasing the golf course only and not the pool, restaurant, or ballroom. Councilman Eller asked if we had heard anything about support from the County. Glen said we had not. Councilman Wallace added that the County was in support of the City taking over the maintenance of the golf course but they were still in discussions on financial aid.

City Manager Glen Wagner began his report by stating that we were working on cost estimates for the Perdue line repairs. He then directed Council's attention to an information sheet on C-funds and a list of the members of the Transportation Committee. The information sheet reported that one (1) mile of asphalt costs \$400,000. Continuing his report, Glen said that overall, the budget was in line at 75%. He said Janet was working on the proposed new budget and we were waiting on health insurance information. Glen informed Council that we pay approximately \$7,000 per year per employee for health insurance. He said the budget would include a salary increase of \$750.00 per employee. The budget would also include the capital purchase of a flusher truck, which was used to clean out water and sewer lines. The one we have is on its last legs. The cost would be between \$100,000 and \$300,000. Projects in water included a grant to rehab the lines in the Stewart Heights area and a grant for the Commerce Drive lift station and the spray fields.

Lastly, the City Manager brought an issue to Council concerning a property owner who did not think he should have to pay a business license for rental property. The owner had two

buildings in town that he leased out and he felt that since he already paid property taxes he should not have to pay an added business license fee. Glen said that we have about 17 rental property owners that this applies to. We collect approximately \$2,600 and they pay out approximately \$56,000 in property taxes. Glen asked Council if they wanted to continue this or look at doing something differently. After some discussion, Council agreed to continue as is.

In unfinished business, Ordinance #13-01 amending business license rates for non-residents and itinerants was presented for final reading. Councilman Braddy made the motion to pass the ordinance on second and final reading. Mayor Pro-tem Jackson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

In new business, Resolution #02-13, Fair Housing Resolution, was presented for approval. This resolution was needed for us to receive CDBG funds for our water line project around J. V. Martin and Stewart Heights areas. Councilman Braddy made a motion to pass the resolution. Councilman Wallace seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Councilmember Reports:**

Councilman Eller said that the lights on Radford Boulevard had still not been fixed. Glen said he would check on them again. Councilman Eller then asked about the surplus in daily user fees for the Wellness Center. He asked if we were encouraging people to join. Glen said the user fees mostly came from individuals playing basketball in the gymnasium.

Councilman Washington asked if we were sending out letters for cutting lots and who received the money for the lot mowing. Glen said that letters were sent out and the City received the money.

Councilman Wallace asked about the water tower project. Glen said Mike Hanna was working on a PER, Preliminary Engineering Report. Councilman Wallace then asked about the pools. Glen said he had been concentrating on the golf course. Glen added that we have to look into using the Hospitality Tax funds.

Councilwoman Manning reported that she was having a problem with 18-wheeler trucks coming through the neighborhood and pulling down wires. She said a cable wire had been down in the neighborhood for a while. Burt said the cable company was very slow in removing their downed lines. Councilwoman Manning also asked the Police Department to continue monitoring the activity on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Lastly, she commented on the bad condition of the stretch of road on Palmetto Street behind the County Fire Department.

Councilman Wallace made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss the lease agreement concerning the golf course. Mayor Pro-tem Jackson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Wallace made the motion to return to open session and to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro-tem Jackson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor, J. Todd Davis

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Council Clerk, Lynn Bowman

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_