

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 11, 2013 – 7:00PM**

The March 2013 regular meeting of City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the City-County Complex Building 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, Mayor Pro-tem Douglas Jackson, Councilman John Braddy, and Councilman Phil Wallace.

Mayor Todd Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00pm by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Benny Genwright gave the invocation. Councilman Braddy made a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Councilman Eller and passed unanimously. Councilman Eller then made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2013 meeting. Councilman Braddy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting and began his report by asking if the City could do something about the Council on Aging parking lot, such as use some crush and run to resurface it. Glen agreed to look into the matter. The Mayor announced that the first taping of the new series, "Down Home Dillon" had been done. He added that Councilman Braddy was scheduled to be on the next program to discuss the Façade Grant. Next, he began his update on the Wellness Center stating that the track looked good. Work was completed with the exception of lights and benches. The garden clubs and the Lions Club were donating the benches and 18 lights would be installed around the track, mainly along the sides and in the back. The Mayor also announced that a sound system had been installed in the fitness area.

The Mayor extended condolences to Mayor Pro-tem Douglas Jackson whose father, "Cotton" Jackson, had passed away. As promised last month, Mayor Davis then gave an overview of the different tax revenues that the City collects and how they were used. The 2% Hospitality Tax is paid on hot meals from the various restaurants and grocery store delis in the city limits. The State Accommodations Tax revenue is money received from the State and given to the municipalities to disburse. Of that money, the first \$25,000 goes to the City of Dillon, the next 5% goes to the City, 65% goes to the Accommodations Tax Committee to disburse as they see fit, and 30% goes to the Chamber of Commerce, which is the tourism designee. The Local 3% A-tax is revenue collected from hotels and motels in the city limits. This money is spent in the city on lights for I-95 entrances and exits, signs along I-95, Celebrate Main Street, beautification projects, and donations to charitable organizations and other requests. Janet Bethea added that we usually collect about \$5,800 per month in 3% A-tax funds. This figure is down from the \$12,000 we normally collected in previous years. Lastly, the Mayor reminded everyone about the upcoming Health Fair on Saturday, March 23, 2013 at the Wellness Center from 8:00am until 11:00am.

Smith Brooks of Kenneth Cobb and Company came forward to present the audit report for the fiscal year of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. He said that once again the City had received an unqualified, clean opinion with no exceptions except for the ones mentioned in prior years, such

as no segregation of duties due to small staff size and purchases made without obtaining a purchase order. In the General Fund, Smith said our fund balance was equal to 188 days of operation. Councilman Wallace asked how much we should have in our depreciation account. Smith said there was no specific amount and no set formula to determine this as it was at council's discretion. In the Water/Sewer Fund, Smith reported a surplus of approximately \$428,000. He also stated that we have three years left on the Perdue debt note. Perdue accounts for 41% of our water and sewer sales. There were no further questions or comments and Council thanked Smith for the report.

Adding to his report, the Mayor said he had received an email about the CPI index, which indicates how much a municipality can increase their millage rate. He said that residents question their property tax bills and wonder why they continue to go up, but he wanted to state that the City has not increased our millage rate in several years. The increase in property taxes was due to increases in the millage for schools and the County. The Mayor then gave information on the water, sewer and garbage rates, which he felt were in line and in some instances lower than the surrounding towns. Water rate inside: base cost \$3.86/\$1.54 per 1000gallons; Sewer rate inside: base cost \$13.20/\$2.18 per 1000gallons; Residential garbage: \$19.92 per month.

The City Manager began his report by stating that a new mower was needed for the Sports Complex to replace their 72inch diesel Kubota mower. Glen said prices so far were around \$13,000 and he needed to know if Council wanted them to purchase one now or in the new budget year. Mayor Davis said that we needed to get bids and Councilman Wallace asked how long it would take to get one. Glen said he would get bids, but he did not know how long it would take to receive the mower. Councilman Wallace made the motion to purchase a new mower for the Sports Complex after receiving bids at a cost not to exceed \$14,000. Councilman Braddy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Continuing his report, the City Manager stated that the hog trapping system had been purchased for less money than we originally thought. He then gave Council an update on the CDBG project for water lines behind J.V. Martin saying the Corps of Engineers had signed off on the project and the bidding process would begin. We were also planning to do a similar project in the Stewart Heights area. Concerning the Rural Infrastructure Fund grant for \$350,000 for the Commerce lift station upgrades and spray field monitoring, Glen said the grants were awarded in March and April and we did not get awarded in March but were told that we may be on the list for April.

There were no citizens' reports.

Maggie Riales reported that an Indoor Yard Sale will be held at the Wellness Center on Saturday, April 6, 2013 beginning at 7:00am. She also reported that there were no federal funds available for the walking trail. Glen added that he was getting cost estimates on asphalt for surfacing the trail. He said we had used the County's roller to put down the crush and run that is now on the trail.

There was no unfinished business. In new business, Ordinance #13-01 was presented for first reading to amend the Business License rates for non-residents and itinerants. Glen explained that this amendment would allow the City to charge a higher rate for peddlers and non-residents of the city who wished to do business within the city limits. Councilman Wallace made the motion to

approve Ordinance #13-01 on first reading. Councilman Braddy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Councilmembers' Reports:

Councilman Eller said there were several lights not working on Radford Boulevard.

Mayor Davis reported that work should begin soon on the Old Marion Road and Jackson Street intersection.

Councilman Wallace asked about the pools since he missed the update from last month's meeting. Glen said Council had decided to wait due to the cost of the pools.

Councilwoman Manning announced that she was an official graduate of the Municipal Institute of Government. Council congratulated her.

Mayor Davis reminded everyone of the health fair and called for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a lease agreement. Councilman Braddy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

After the executive session, no other business was discussed. Councilman Eller made the motion to return to open session and to adjourn. Councilman Wallace seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, J. Todd Davis

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Council Clerk, Lynn Bowman

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