

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
November 12, 2018

The November 2018 meeting of City Council was held in the Council Chambers of the City-County Complex Building located at 401 West Main Street in Dillon SC. Councilmembers in attendance were Mayor Todd Davis, Mayor Pro-Tem Connie Manning, Councilman James Washington, Councilman Johnny Eller, Councilman Douglas Jackson, Councilman John Braddy and Councilman Phil Wallace. Mayor Todd Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Benny Genwright gave the invocation.

Councilman Wallace made a motion to approve the agenda and Councilman John Braddy seconded and motion passed unanimously. Councilman Wallace made a motion to pass the minutes of October 8, 2018 regular meeting and the minutes of the October 28, 2018 Special Council Meeting and Councilman James Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Davis opened by thanking the Veterans for their sacrifices and on today at the city we honored them with a Veterans Day Program. This is the first one he has ever missed. He spoke about the Veteran's program at the Theater hosted by Judge Lockemy at 7:00pm. He would have liked to been there but due to the Council Meeting, he couldn't. He welcomed Tina Scott, Glen Wagner's new administrative assistant. He asked Glen Wagner about the Animal Control Officer position. The last day to accept applications was November 9, 2018. Glen Wagner and Benny Genwright will go through the applications and will have the Humane Society help with the interview process. Glen Wagner hopes to have someone on board by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Mayor Todd said that he liked that he was using the Humane Society having a voice because they were a big help in getting the animals safe during the hurricane. Going forth with all the rain today and coming to keep the focus on the planning for the larger pipes not only on Virginia Lane, Laurel Lane, and Johnson Drive but on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and in all of the neighborhoods. He knows it won't get done by next hurricane season but maybe over the next two or three hurricanes down the road. Hospitality tax money next month will be right at \$1,000,000. Latta put up a nice digital sign and Dillon needs to follow suit. A digital sign would be perfect right on Radford Boulevard where the other one sits. They cost about \$25,000-\$30,000. Glen said the sign that we have is probably around 4x6ft. Two weeks ago we awarded two Up-fit Grants to Dr. Robert Hooker and Sally Huggins. Talked to Glen last week and Glen, Benny, and I will meet with last years' recipients because we are disappointed with what they have done so far. They need to get moving on the projects. One has all of the money and the other has half of the money. Latta has a gutted out building on Main Street and they put a false front on it. It really looks really nice and we are going to ask if that can be done in Dillon. It looks horrible coming down Main Street in Dillon with the gutted out building. We are going to get with Mr. McLeod to see if he will look into doing that. Councilman Johnny Eller asked about a time frame. Glen responded we will have to start writing summons and making them abide by Main Street standards. Councilman James Washington asked what are we going to do about the Pawn Shop on Main Street and who does it belong to? Glen said his understanding was that the Pawn Shop owners are not coming back to Dillon and Robbie Coward owns that building. Councilman Johnny Eller asked when would we get with the business owners to remove the wood from the windows. Benny Genwright responded with last year. Glen Wagner responded with we have contacted them and now we will start taking them to court. Mayor Todd Davis talked about a video he received from an event some months ago with Dillon police officers. It was an ugly scene of what police officers go through. An officer got spat on and he is going to their meeting tomorrow just to thank them for all that they do. They face a lot of things that we don't know anything about right here in our town. Let me mention events...November 27<sup>th</sup> the Christmas tree lighting starts around 6:00pm. We started last year. Very nice event. We have a great spot and beautiful tree. Everyone left in a great mood last year. In two days on November 29<sup>th</sup> we



have the City of Dillon parade. Before that this weekend we have the Chili Cookoff at the Wellness Center from 11am-2pm. The proceeds go to the Humane Society. That is also the Holiday Goodness. The Scrooge production runs November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 2<sup>nd</sup> and then December 6<sup>th</sup> through December 9<sup>th</sup>. It's a huge event for Dillon. They will have a matinee that Sunday. This is a huge even for Dillon. Thank the County for helping build the stage. The carpenters are talented people. They like doing it here because the Theater is smaller. Tickets are coming out this week. They will dress up McArthur avenue and open up offices beside the theater. Local dance teams are in this production. The theater has gotten so run down. Mayor Todd Davis said he has raised about \$8000 and it will be used for enhancing the Theater. Matt Gresham runs Revelations Ministries in Marion. We have got him on the Theater board. He texted with the owner of the Plaza Cinemas and asked if he was opening back up. He states they are in insurance negotiations and hope to open back up soon. It is closed due to the Hurricane.

City Manager, Glen Wagner stated as you mentioned earlier Tina Scott has been with us a week. She has been with Florence County Government working in the Administrators office and the clerks' office and has a little experience with what we need her to do. If you get a chance please introduce yourself to her. Last month or previous month I may have mentioned the water tank that issue has been resolved. They are scheduled to be here November 27<sup>th</sup> to start raising the tank an additional 20 feet. They should be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup> depending on the weather. Hwy 34 water tank should be in operation by January 1, 2019. A year or so ago we received a CDBG Grant for upgrading two lift stations, one at the Armory and the other on McKenzie Road located behind the football stadium. That job is now being bid out. The opening bids for that is December 20<sup>st</sup>. The grant for that is \$658,000 and the City portion is roughly \$120,000 with an estimate of \$758,000. Hopefully the bids will come in at the number or lower. As mentioned earlier, Benny and I along with the Humane Society will get together and start looking over applications for the animal control position. We hope that have that position filled by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Janet has been working on the audit for about four or five months and hopefully we will have that completed by December 1<sup>st</sup> and presented at the December meeting. The police department will be fully staffed by end of November and of that full staff we have two that are waiting to go the Academy. We hope to have them all certified by mid spring. In New Business the Dillon County Safety Officer's club are requesting an additional 20year lease. The property is located on Hwy #9 East. 1<sup>st</sup> reading tonight and if it pass we will bring it back for final reading in December.

Janet Bethea, Finance Director, gave the financial report on all funds. Mayor, City Council and City Manager has the financial report.

Councilman Johnny Eller asked about the Overtime for the Police Department. He wanted to know if the new guys coming in with help with the overtime. Glen stated it was due to the Hurricane and that it could help. They requested security for FEMA at the Wellness Center and we charge them but it still comes out of the budget.

Mayor Todd Davis asked if the pump on Hillside have a permanent pump station that will be ran by a generator. Glen stated that right now it is a temporary by pass pump the actual lift station is not operational.

#### No Citizens' Report

New Business Dr. Wallace made a motion to grant the 20year lease extension to the Dillon County Safety Officers' Club and Councilman Braddy seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Johnny Eller asked about the water problems on McLaurin Drive and Julia Lane. He said he knows we are taking out the \$4 for storm water drainage to hire new City employees and when will the advertising start. Glen said not any time soon because we have only collected \$45,000 and a portion of that money has to go towards paying for that truck which is \$60,000 so it will probably be a year plus before

we get to the number that we need to get to. He asked Burt Rogers have we done everything that we need to do alleviate the problem? Burt stated that the pipes are so small and can't handle the volume of water that we have been getting. The building on Hampton Street that we have a bid on to tear down? Glen stated they backed out.

Councilman Braddy how does the water problems effect Squires Lake since those two dams below them failed again. So much of East Dillon empties into the Squires Lake. Burt stated it actually helps the water problem. Councilman Braddy asked because it can flow straight through? Burt replied yes. Apologized for missing meetings.

Mayor Todd Davis wanted to thank the police department on the Trunk or Treating. He said he came through town that night and there must have been 200 children there. They did a great job with it.

Dr Wallace asked what are they doing with that smell over by the Wellness Center. Hardy said they will increase the lime to see if that helps. Glen stated we provide lime at the head of that line at the lift station at Perdue and Perdue is supposed to do it on their end as well before they give it to us. It had gotten way better but someone on some end is not doing something. Can we get with Mr. Brown to see if Perdue is doing their part? Mayor Davis asked how much are we spending a month on that chemical. Hardy stated right at \$3000 a tank. Dr Wallace says he thought we were spending \$10,000 a month to keep that smell down. We need to make sure and check the concentration that they send.

Mayor Pro Tem Connie Manning attended the laying of the Blue Star Memorial at the Wellness Center for the Mayor. What is the procedure for totally burned houses just sitting there. Glen said they will go through the insurance process and if nothing is done within 60-90 days we can condemn the house. At 5<sup>th</sup> and Hudson Street a gentleman complained of how the drains are covered up. The grass has grown into the road and the water can't get through. She didn't know if the county pushed that back but she told him that she would mention it at the council meeting.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter and Councilman Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr Wallace made a motion to adjourn executive session and Councilman Braddy seconded to go into open session to vote on the extension of City Manager's contract.

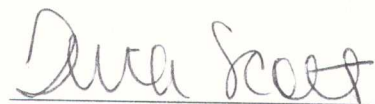
Motion by Dr. Wallace to extend Manager's contract to December 31, 2021 with a 6.1% increase in pay, motion seconded by Councilman James Washington. Vote called by Mayor Todd Davis with show of hands. Motion passed 7-0.

Councilman Braddy made a motion to adjourn meeting and seconded by Dr. Wallace and motion passed unanimously.

Approved:

  
Todd Davis, Mayor

Attest:

  
Tina Scott, Clerk to Council