

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
December 13, 2021

The December 13, 2021 Regular meeting of the City Council was held at the City of Dillon Wellness Center, 1647 Commerce Drive, Dillon, SC. Notices of this regular meeting of City Council was provided to the media and individuals requesting a copy of the agenda informing them of the date, location, and time of the meeting.

Councilmembers in attendance:

Mayor Pro-Tem Dr. Phil Wallace
Councilmember Timothy Cousar
Councilmember Johnny Eller

Councilmember Douglas Jackson
Councilmember James Washington

- I. **Call to Order** - Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Wallace called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Benny Genwright gave the invocation.
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
Councilmember Jackson made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Approve minutes of the November 8, 2021 Regular Meeting**
A motion was made by Councilmember Eller to approve minutes. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Mayor Pro Tem's Report**
Dr. Wallace began his report saying there was a great turnout at the Parade. He also said he went to the Dillon verses Camden high school game. We didn't win he said, but we were a way better team. We showed a lot more class. Dr. Wallace went on to say he attended the Fire Department Christmas Party and they had a lot of people. Fire Chief Keith Bailey received his 30-year service pin. Next, he attended the Downtown development meeting and he is excited about that group of people. We have a lot of people starting to show interest in our downtown and our buildings. Dr. Wallace went on to say if we get one good investor, we will be good. Lastly, he said we have a little burst of covid. If you have been vaccinated the new variant won't be so severe. If you have some underlying issues such as heart or kidney disease you should avoid crowds. We won't have a city manager report, Glen's wife father passed away and he is dealing with that.

City Manager's Report

No report. Glen Wagner was absent.

Finance Report

Finance Director, Janet Bethea gave copies of the Financial Report to the Mayor Pro Tem, City Council, and the City Manager.

V. **Citizen's Report**

None.

VI. **Old Business**

Ordinance #21-15 Adopt Model Business License Ordinance in Accordance with the Business License Standardization Act (2020 Act No. 176) – 2nd Reading Councilmember Cousar made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilmember Jackson seconded and that motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance #21-16 Repeal the Existing provisions within Title 7 (Licensing and Regulation), Chapter 1 (Business Licenses), Section 7-1-16(C) of the City of Dillon Code of Ordinances – 2nd Reading Councilmember Eller made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance #21-17 Annex a tract of land located within the 1600 Block of Highway 301 North (Tax Map # 049-15-00-149) – 2nd Reading Councilmember Eller made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. **New Business**

Resolution #19-21 Approving the issuance by the Housing Authority of the City of Florence of its multifamily housing Revenue Bonds (Dillon Grade School Apartments) Tonya Haddox gave information on the Grade school apartments and said within 90 days of the bond closing they will begin constructions. Councilmember Eller also asked will police stay there. Tonya responded with yes, we have incorporated a sub-station and would love to have a police officer on the premises. She went on to say ages 62 and older would be eligible for these apartments. Councilmember Cousar asked if they are taking applications. Tonya responded we will probably start next year this time. Councilmember Eller asked what is the income threshold Tonya responded \$21,000 for one person. NO public comments.

Resolution #20-21 Purchase Certain Property – located at 108 Railroad Ave, Owned by ERT of Dillon Councilmember Cousar made a motion to purchase this property. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #21-21 Resolution regarding restoring nine buildings located on Martin Luther King, Jr., BLVD, TMS #059-06-17-001 After a brief discussion, Councilman Cousar made a motion to accept this resolution. Councilmember Eller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #22-21 Retail Recruitment Lisa moody gave information on this resolution. Councilmember Eller asked if she spoke with anyone from the Benchmark Planning. Lisa responded that we meet with three council members and business owners each month. He asked do you have a priority list? Stephanie Mitchell answered we are trying to get something physical so the citizens can see that the DCA is working. It does take time, but we are trying to get this done. Dr. Wallace said our welcome to Dillon signage is not impressive. Stephanie said she has requested funding to get that redone. Councilmember Eller said he would like for Stephanie to bring us back a cost so we can get a jumpstart to enhance our downtown.

Appointment to Board of Architectural Review Dr. Wallace said we had another nomination come up and Council will have to get together and discuss this other person.

Christmas Bonus Dr. Wallace said after talking with Councilmembers they all agree the city is in a good place. We will give each full- time employee \$500. Councilmember Eller made a motion to give a \$500 Christmas Bonus. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Councilmember's Reports

Councilmember Eller began his report recognizing Joshua Finklea, a teacher at the Middle School. Joshua Finklea works with the chorus and he is doing a good job. Next, he said we opposed I-73 and the news reporters are wanting to speak with us. I feel like it will be detrimental to the city of Dillon and I would like to see us pressure our legislatures to widen Hwy 9. This way we will see all of the beach traffic coming through our town. Lastly, he wanted to compliment the city employees on how well of a job they have done during the pandemic. He went on to say he knows we have a lot of turnovers and this council is working trying to keep the moral. I wish them all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilmember Washington wanted to let the city employees know that we appreciate them and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilman Jackson gave information on the City of Dillon holiday schedule. We appreciate the city employees and they all do a great job. Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Cousar began his report saying he wish we could get away with voting for the Christmas bonus every year. He said the employees deserve it and I would love to just put that in the yearly budget. He went on to say he went to the Christmas Tree Lighting and it was really good. I went to Downtown Development at Twin Lakes, and I also went to the Legacy Motown Review and it was a great show. I would love to see that band at Celebrate Main Festival.

IX. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Cousar made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Approved: _____

Dr. Phil Wallace, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest: _____

Tina Scott, Council Clerk

Date Approved: _____

~~12/13/2021~~²⁸ 1/13/2022