

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 10, 2022

The January 10, 2022 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 James David
Councilmember James Washington

Janet Paschal, City attorney was in attendance.

- 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 Cousar made a motion to approve the agenda with an added Executive Session. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Approve minutes of the December 13, 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 Dillon had a great holiday season and was decorated well. He went on to say that we had a lot of shootings on Hampton Street. Chief Lane said we've had a lot of shootings over the last year. Dr Wallace asked, "do we have an idea on how to get a control on that". Chief Lane responded saying they have increased patrol in that area. Next, Dr. Wallace said the golf course is officially ours as of December 31. He said we will be moving forward with grants and will start out doing the parking lot and the cart shed. Glen Wagner said we are working on grants for that, recreation, and Main Street. Representative Hayes wanted a list of things that we can do in Dillon. I am thinking he's going to bring that before the general assembly. Lastly, Dr Wallace discussed COVID and how it has blasted through Dillon. He said for the most part if you are vaccinated you are probably going to be fine but even if you are not, it's a milder version of the previous variant. If you are obese, or have chronic diseases be careful because what will be mild to most people will be lethal for people with those issues.

City Manager's Report

Glen Wagner started his report discussing the Madison Property. He said this property is different because there is not an estate so we don't really know who the owners are. He said he will present under new business the quotes that we have to demolish it. If Council approves this Janet will get

back with me tomorrow on what we can do. Councilmember Eller asked if the bids are over \$30,000. Glen responded one of the bids is over \$30,000. We have Wofford Demolition at \$29,726 and Copperhead Marine at \$38,446.

Finance Report

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

Pat Liard – Dillon County Initiative (Farmers Market)

Pat Liard began her report thanking Council for allowing her to be on the agenda. She went on to say they host a Farmers Market from May to October on the South Plaza but are looking for permanent space. She said they need a sheltered space with an event room and a kitchen. She said this will enhance the Downtown Development program. Pat said she and Johnnie Leuhrs have attended Grant Workshops offered by the Tom Rice Foundation and have spoken to Representative Hayes and Senator Williams. She said she requesting that the City lease a portion of the property at 108 S. Railroad Avenue to build a Farmers Market. Dr. Wallace said he would like for the city to be a part of this project. He said he would like to get a committee to come back to Council with some ideas or pass it on to the Downtown Development group. Councilmember Eller said he doesn't want Council to drag their feet on this and we need to push the ball.

V. Citizen's Report

Stephanie Mitchell said she would love for DCA to join in this farmers market plan. Stephanie said the DCA has worked very hard and have some funding. She said they would like to expand and maybe have a covered stage area. She would like to put it closer to Ace hardware. ARP funding has been used for farmers markets. DCA is ready to get moving on the downtown buildings and we do need money from the city to get the ball rolling. Stephanie went on to say we have to submit a budget by the end of April for what we plan to do with this money. We have to be committed on how we are spending this money no later than December 2024 and the money spent by December 2026.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

Appointment to Architectural Review recommended by Planning and Zoning. Councilmember Cousar made a motion to appoint Rev. Matt Adams and Councilman David seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Demolition of Madison Property – Councilmember David asked if arrangements can be made with the family that owns this property. Glen responded no one is listed as a representative. Councilmember Cousar made a motion to demolish the Madison property. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Councilmember's Reports

Councilmember Eller asked what is the process for redistricting? Glen responded it's based on population. The whole idea is to have an equal number per district. Next, he asked are we helping city employees with 25 years of service with their health insurance premiums. Glen said we are

trying to get the health administration to come and talk to council to see where we want to go with this. He went on to say he can bring something back next month and hopefully they can come see us in February or March. Glen went on to say years ago if you met certain guidelines, we paid your health insurance until you were 65. Then in 2007 we were told we had to fund it and we didn't want to do that because we would have to put money aside.

Councilmember David began his report saying people have called him about the trees on Radford Boulevard looking bad. He asked, can we use grant money to remove these? Stephanie said there are tree grants available from time to time. Councilman David said half of the trees are about to fall. If we are going to replace them, we need to do it in the winter. Glen said we can put it on our list of to do things. Next, Councilmember David asked is the Rownds property secure by fencing. Glen responded, "NO, it's not". Councilmember Eller asked can you ask the property owners to secure the property?

IX. Executive Session

Councilmember Cousar made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember David seconded and the motion passed unanimously. No action was taken in Executive session. Councilmember Cousar made a motion to go back into open session. Councilmember Eller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

X. 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 8:33pm.

Approved: _____

Dr. Phil Wallace, Mayor Pro-Tem

Date Approved: _____

Attest: _____

Tina Scott, Council Clerk