

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
October 10, 2022

The October 10, 2022 Regular meeting of the City Council was held at the City-County Complex, 401 W. Main Street, 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 James Washington  
Councilmember Jay David

Councilmember Timothy Cousar  
Councilmember Johnny Eller

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 David made a motion to approve the agenda but add Board of Governors appointments and Milage rage assessment under New Business. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Approve minutes of the September 12, 2022 Regular Council Meeting**  
A motion was made by Councilmember Cousar to approve minutes. Councilmember David seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Mayor Pro Tem's Report**  
Dr. Wallace began his report saying we talked about the Football Field and we are waiting on the County. He said he thinks we ought to move forward and find out how much it is going to cost to develop that land. The lighting will probably be our biggest cost. We will need to build some kind of facility with bathrooms and a place to store equipment. We are moving in that direction. He continued saying we will probably need about \$10,000 for equipment. He thought we would get it from sponsors. Next, he asked about the trees and planters, we are waiting on DOT for their schedule. Burt Rogers said we have options on the trees we will just have to decide and plant in the spring. Can you bring pictures and give us some idea of what they look like? The trees we have are only 4- or 5-years old Burt will mark them so council can see as they ride by. Dr. Wallace went on saying Gilbert Construction will give us an estimate next week on the reconstruction of the First Bank building. Lastly, Dr. Wallace said things are moving forward and I think everything looks pretty good with the Hillside Project. Councilmember Eller asked about the lease agreement with the County on the recreation field? He said he is kind of confused, and asked are we planning on having tackle football next year. Glen responded yes for 11- & 12-year-olds. Councilmember Eller asked if \$10,000 going to be enough to buy equipment. Glen responded yes, it's about \$200 per child. Councilmember Eller asked do you think they will rescind the contract? Glen responded, "they agreed in August (I think) to give us all of the equipment that they have. I hope

they wouldn't rescind but I don't know. I would think we would continue to go forward with what we are doing now. I thought the kids and parents were having a great time last week while I was out there. We went through the NFL football jersey and I think the kids like it. I think it's going to take off not only here but other places and I say that because Marlboro went to flag football this year. We hooked them up with NFL and they are doing the same thing that we are doing. I think younger than 11 shouldn't be playing tackle". Councilmember Eller asked, "If the county doesn't agree, do we have a plan b?" Glen responded, "Yes, we are looking behind the soccer field to put a 100-yard football field. We want to keep everything in the same vicinity. I'm guessing we can build an additional field for around \$50,000. We have the space we just have to address the parking spaces". At the last game, people were having trouble leaving the field.

#### **City Manager's Report**

Glen began his report saying the county did reassessment this year and we found out late Friday and this morning that a mill this time last year equaled \$19,700, this year it's \$22,000 by law once you have reassessment you cannot collect more than the previous year in property taxes. Janet has been working with Kay and Smith Brooks, the goal is to have the same as last year. We have the mileage at 101 mils but we have to drop that to 90 mils to match the same amount of money that we brought in last year. The value of the mil has gone up. On a \$115,000 house last year city residents paid \$91.10 this year on that same house valued at 4% the assessment went up \$15,000 so they will be paying \$132. We did that about 10 years ago. If we don't decrease and leave it as is we will have to rebate everybody money back and we don't want to do that.

#### **Finance Report**

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

#### **City of Dillon Downtown Coordinator**

Lisa Moody began her report saying last month she presented Sponsorship Agreements and within the month we have had \$16k in donations. ABB donated \$10,000, First Bank \$1,500, Dillon Internal Medicine donated \$500, Palmetto Dental and Duke Energy are all sponsors. She said a lot of business owners are taking advantage of the \$150 banner sponsorship. Lisa gave a list of special events. She said she will begin advertising the Jacko Lantern Jubilee on October 14. She said there will be carnival rides, shooting gallery, and food trucks. There will be something for everybody. Next Lisa said the downtown signs you guys asked for are \$450 without installation. Gave two other quotes on signage. Dillon downtown merchant meetings will start next month. The merchants will come together each month to better display downtown. It's called consumer events like bringing people downtown to business. Lisa said she is going to Travelers Rest next week to listen to how they work. Dr Wallace asked if Lisa could send texts to remind us of what's going on so we can make as many of these as we can. Lisa went on to say the Incentive grant program in your packets, do you have any questions or is there anything that you would like to add or take away.

Councilmember Eller asked about grants and allowing business owners \$50,000 if they put that much in their buildings. Glen said we allocated \$200,000 from ARP money. Glen said we will bring it back next month to give you all time to work through this. Glen said if it was implemented today Council would decide on who would get this money, we are making sure we don't mess up where we messed up in previous years. We are going to let the business owners spend their own



money upfront and once Benny looks at the building and says it's ready then we will reimburse business owners the money. Dr. Wallace said the incentive is to do what you are going to do and then get the \$50,000 back. The business owners won't get the money until it's finished. Glen said we can schedule a workshop in 2 weeks and when we come back on November 14 Council can decide. Benny has a meeting on that day so we can't meet that day. We will schedule for the 24th I'm just not sure where we will do it at.

#### **Citizen's Report**

No Report

#### **V. Old Business**

**Election Commission Appointment** Tim Cousar gave a brief introduction of Natasha Bethea and then made a motion to appoint her to the Election Commission. Councilmember David seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

**Ordinance #22-08 – Redrawing Council Districts – 2nd Reading** No public discussion Councilmember Cousar made a motion to accept the redistricting map presented by SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs office. Councilman Washington seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

**Ordinance #22-09 Annex Highway 301 Dillon School District #4 – 2nd Reading** Councilmember Washington made a motion to annex Highway 301 Dillon School District #4 into the city limits of Dillon. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

**Board of Governors Appointments** Benny Genwright suggested replacing Charlie Donaldson and Ben Hayes with Sonny McRae and Greg Callahan. Councilman Cousar made a motion to accept Sonny McRae and Greg Callahan. Councilmember David seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

**Mileage Rate Assessment** Councilmember Washington made a motion to accept the assessment. Councilmember Cousar seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

#### **VI. New Business**

None

#### **VII. Councilmember's Reports**

Councilmember Eller began his report asking if we can start cutting the trees and shrubs down that are obstructing the businesses downtown. Councilmember Eller said there was a shooting during a game Friday night at another location, do we have officers patrolling while police officers are at the game? Chief Lane responded, "yes, we have 11 officers at the game and 4 patrolling". Councilmember Eller asked if we can post on the Facebook page that everything is safe. Chief Lane said yes but we don't want to prematurely put something out.

Councilmember David began his report saying the Rounds property has burned down, it's not a safe area. Did they find out exactly what happened? Chief Bailey said they were cleaning the property. Homeless people were living there. Chief Bailey said it's easier to clean now.

Councilmember Washington asked how are you going to clean up the Rounds property. He said they are getting the metal. Glen said once they get all of the metal there will be nothing left. Councilmember Washington said the roads we requested to be paved have we heard anything? Glen said we haven't heard anything but I know the C-funds crowd will be looking at roads Thursday.

Councilmember Cousar asked when will work start on the splash pad? Glen said he met with the contractor but we have to relocate it because we have power lines near the planned location. Hopefully they will come back this week and start moving some dirt.

Chief Lane said the Police Department annual Trunk or Treat will be held October 27<sup>th</sup> and the Wellness Center and he would love to see Council there.

Trick or Treating is Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 6pm-8pm.

**VIII. Executive Session**

Councilmember Cousar made a motion to go into Executive session. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously. No action was taken in Executive Session. Councilmember David made a motion to go back into open session. The motion passed unanimously. Once in open session, Councilmember Cousar made a motion to extend the contracts for Judge Mackie Hayes, Judge Spivey, and the City Attorney Janet Paschal. Councilmember David seconded. The motion passed 4-1.

**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 8:54pm.

Approved: Dr. Phil Wallace  
Dr. Phil Wallace, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: Tina Scott  
Tina Scott, Council Clerk

Date Approved: November 14, 2022