

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 13, 2023

The March 13, 2023 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
Councilmember Douglas Jackson

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 the change to move the American Red Cross Proclamation after the PDRTA report. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Approve minutes of the February 13, 2023 Regular Council Meeting and the March 6, 2023 Called Meeting**
A motion was made by Councilmember Jackson to approve minutes. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Mayor Pro Tem's Report**
Dr Wallace began his report saying hopefully this is the last meeting that he will preside over. He said he thinks this Council has moved in a positive direction. He went on to say he thinks on how government and church are kind of the same. Over the last 4 years we have been on point and going in the right direction with the citizens of Dillon and the workers of Dillon. Dr. Wallace said the St. Patty's Day event was a great event. The methodist men look forward to the chili cookoff every year and we gave out over 300 sausage wraps. It's a lot of fun. Lisa Moody said the Humane Society raised over \$7000. Dr. Wallace ended by saying we got to the event early and stayed late.

City Manager's Report

Glen began his report saying this year was one of the better St. Patricks' Day festival and chili cookoff that we have had in the last 8 years. Next, Glen said he put at your table the updated list of vacant buildings in the city. It is based off of the ordinance that council passed in the summer. We have identified 50 vacant buildings, 30 have registered and paid the fees, 10 have been notified and 6 have not registered but have been notified. Benny Genwright said the purpose of the registration is to make known to the citizens about the newly adopted ordinance and we would like to be of assistance as far as the building codes and the dos and don'ts of the vacant

buildings. A lot of the buildings has issues and the City has grants that can possibly help getting the buildings renovated. The City is here to help and get the buildings up to code to be occupied by businesses. We are not just focusing on the Main Street but all of the City of Dillon limits. We are trying to get these buildings up to code to qualify for grants. We want to have a great relationship with the business owners. Glen said we will bring the list back each month hopefully taking businesses off of the list. Glen went on to say renovations on the Visitors' Center have started they are working on the ceiling and putting up sheetrock. We estimate completion to be June and Lisa Moody can move in and we can start renovating the Police Department. Tina put drone footage of the new led lighting at the sports complex on Facebook. Glen said he thinks the biggest cost saving will be that we have a 10-year warranty on the led lights and we should see a decrease in our electricity bill. Glen said the resurfacing of Main Street could be after June. He said he got with AECOM they are doing specs to bid out the demolition of the planters. Dillon Community Alliance will pay for that. We will take out the middle planters. Lastly in American Relief Plan funds and State budget money, I am working on bids next week to update our playground equipment it will be about \$300,000 and it includes all parks.

Finance Report

Finance Director, Janet Bethea was absent. The Mayor Pro Tem, City Council, and the City Manager all received a copy of the Finance report.

Downtown Coordinator

Lisa Moody began her report saying Saturday was her most favorite event in all of her 20 years of special events. She went on saying our community came together to support the Humane Society. We had 8 food trucks, 14 chili cookers, and rides. She said she thanks the Police for their presence. Also, Public works assistance is always appreciated. Lisa said everybody had a really good time and she is looking forward to next year. Lisa said she spoke with Mary McDaniel and they made over \$7,000. The Chili cookoff was a hit and it was a great day. She also thanked Ryan Floyd for helping her out. Next, Lisa said the Celebrate Main festival will be April 29, 2023. Chocolate chip will be the band for that event. Eats on the streets will start off in May through November. First Fridays will start up in May. We are doing outdoor summer movie night starting in May through August. Next, Lisa said on March 20 we are presenting to the Board of Architectural Review for the uniform sign programs. Lisa said she sent invitations to Councilmembers homes and also invited all of the schools to bring in 5 students to help with the art project at Lockemy court yard. Lastly, she said this week she is meeting with 2 business owners for information on our grant programs. It's exciting to see the things happening in Dillon. Downtown merchants meeting will be at 9am and 6pm. Cedric page will be our speaker.

PDRTA

Don Strickland began his report saying he has great news. He said we have 40 hours of charter service to provide to the City so if you have a special event, we can pick people up take them to the events and take them back home. Mr. Wagner can ask for that service. For the pecan festival we made 300 trips. Transit services this February are up 33% in riders. We are seeing an increase averaging over 1000 trips per month. Currently Harbor Freight had over 500 trips taking people to and from work. They want more service and because of their growth we are looking to tie in

other counties. PDRTA will provide a guarantee ride. Demand rides are over 100 rides per month. We go to their homes and take them where they need to go. 44% of people riding our bus are going to work. I think it will increase to 50% soon. We receive 80% of federal funds. We have to put up physical bus stops. I would love to look at putting up shelter bus stops. The shelters cost around \$40,000. PDRTA just received transit provider of the year from the state. We would like to thank Dillon for being a part of that. We are extending our hours so that people can get back and forth to the Farmers Market. Councilmember Eller said he asked last year for markers and now he doesn't see them. Mr. Strickland responded saying we were putting them out but after a couple of days they are gone.

American Red Cross

Dr. Wallace read and presented Michael Hesbach with an American Red Cross Proclamation.

Citizen's Report

None

V. Old Business

Ordinance #23-01 Adopt the 2021 Editions of the International Building, Residential, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fire and Fuel gas codes – 2nd Reading Councilmember Jackson made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

Ordinance #23-03 Annex B&N Rental LLC, 1903 Hwy 301 N, Dillon, SC into the city limits – 1st Reading Councilmember Cousar made a motion to annex this property. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance #23-04 Annex William C. Schmidt property, 533 Lakeside Court, Dillon SC into the city limits – 1st Reading Councilmember Washington made a motion to annex this property. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance #23-05 Annex Elise Talaya Fulmore property, 411 Beaufort St., Dillon, SC into the city limits – 1st Reading Councilmember Washington made a motion to annex this property. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Ordinance #23-06 Annex Elise Talaya Fulmore property, 413 Beaufort St., Dillon, SC into the city limits – 1st Reading Councilmember Jackson made a motion to annex this property. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed 6-0.

Resolution #01-23 – Authorizing submission of an application by the City of Dillon to the division of Community Grant Programs of the South Carolina Department of Commerce Councilmember Cousar made a motion to accept this resolution. Councilmember Washington seconded the motion passed 6-0.

VII. Councilmember's Reports

Councilmember Eller asked for an update on the demolition list. Benny Genwright has two weeks and we will advertise the first of April to bid out. Councilmember Eller complimented Lisa Moody on an outstanding job Saturday.

Councilmember David said he has gotten a lot of positive feedback over the sidewalk work downtown, it's a welcomed sight to our citizens. Glen said those are SCDOT projects.

Councilmember Cousar asked about the status on our own stage. Glen responded we will try to buy one if we have ARP funds left.

- VIII. **Executive Session – Legal Matter** – Councilmember Jackson made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Cousar seconded and the motion passed unanimously. No action was taken in Executive Session. Councilmember Cousar made a motion to go back into open session. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. **Adjourn**

With no further business to discuss, Councilmember Cousar made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.

Approved: _____

Nicholas Tally McColl, Mayor

Attest: _____

Tina Scott, Council Clerk

Date Approved: _____

April 10, 2023