

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 10, 2023

The July 10, 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 Tally McColl

Councilmember James Washington

Councilmember Jay David - Absent

Councilmember Dr. Phil Wallace

Janet Paschal, City attorney was in attendance.

Mayor Pro Tem Timothy Cousar - Absent

Councilmember Johnny Eller

Councilmember Douglas Jackson

- I. **Call to Order** - Mayor McColl called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **Invocation** – Pastor Henry Altman, Main Street Methodist Church, Dillon gave the invocation.
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
Councilmember Eller made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction to add Councilmembers Report and an Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **Approve minutes of the June 5, 2023 Regular Council Meeting and June 26, 2023 Special Council Meeting** A motion was made by Dr. Wallace to approve the minutes. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- V. **Mayor's Report**
Mayor McColl began his report saying it's been another busy month in Dillon. He said he wanted to thank the City Manager Glen Wagner for putting together the Dixie Youth Baseball Tournament. He said there were 24 teams, 400 kids and parents at the Wellness Center. Mayor McColl continued saying Glen and the city employees have taken on that event and it is beyond belief the employees of the city. He said he's not sure what time they started but he left at 9:30pm and they were starting to tear down. Then they were back at the fields to begin the games early Saturday morning. The City employees were doing their normal jobs and they were also helping with the tournament. Thank the employees and Glen it's an honor for the city to be able to host that. Lastly the Mayor said we are coming off of the 4th of July weekend, lets recognize anyone who has served in the armed forces.

City Manager's Report

Glen said he doesn't have anything. He said most of Council have been here for these events and the employees are big help, we are very appreciative. We miss out on a lot of funds because we don't have places for these people to stay for this event. They are driving back and forth to

Florence. We get a little for hospitality tax. Lastly, Glen said It's been a good time and we got fortunate today. We will finish tomorrow.

Finance Report

Finance Director, Janet Bethea gave the Mayor, City Council, and the City Manager a copy of the Finance report.

Citizen's Report

Bridgette Thornton began by saying she is the property owner at 306 West Jackson Street and over the past winter we have had a lot of problems on that block. There is a property at 710 MLK Blvd. that's been on the condemned list for a while and the problem is drug dealers and homeless people are using that property as shelter. I would like for you to go ahead and get the property condemned there are rental properties with small children and we need that property gone. The property owner is Mr. McClellan, I spoke with his son and he said he has spoken with you all about tearing it down. Ms. Thornton continued saying the second problem is that she had a security light installed and it covers a 10 ft span and I can see them before they do me harm. She said Allen Watts is the owner at 700/702 5th Ave. She said she has met with his head person on 3 occasions, and asked to trim the tree because it's covering my safety light. She said she also talked to Benny Genwright and sent him a letter on May 9 and May 25 and has not gotten a response. That is leading into safety issues and we need something done. Glen said it's on the list right now for the bidding project to be condemned. Mayor McColl thanked Ms. Thornton for bringing this to our attention.

Sonja Wynn complained about the City tearing up the roads and then only patching them up. She continued saying the roads are so raggedy and people are having to slow down when coming through. Ms. Wynn said the last time the City dug the road up because a pipe busted and it is a disaster. She said she has to go the long way to keep from going down that road, she knows someone else has to help but you guys have to initiate. Glen said that is the one we are trying to get them to come in to do research for. She asked how long is follow up? Glen explained, we are at the mercy of the contractors.

VI. Old Business

Ordinance #23-13 Annex Samuel Calderon-Orozco property located at the Southeast Intersection of Highway 301 North and East Reaves Avenue into the city limits of Dillon – 2nd Reading Dr. Wallace made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance #23-14 Annex Anna Jane Church property located 200 feet Southeast of Intersection East Roosevelt Street and Deerwood Avenue into the city limits of Dillon – 2nd Reading Dr. Wallace made a motion to accept this ordinance. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

VII. New Business

Resolution #08-23 Adoption of the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina Dr. Wallace made a motion to adopt this resolution. Councilmember Washington seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Dillon Community Alliance Mayor McColl began saying we have a three (3) person committee that meets with DCA and we have gone through all of this stuff and this is a formality. In order to

be fully transparent, the committee wants to go ahead and get some stuff out of the way they want to meet with the concept architect and draw these up into a streetscape. The council will get to choose what kind of trashcan, benches, trees that we want. If we go ahead and approve now, we will have all the approvals, we don't know if we can afford all of this stuff but we can go ahead with the approval. Councilmember Jackson made a motion to approve. Dr. Wallace seconded. Dr Wallace said he thought we would have a picture by now. Stephanie Mitchell said in speaking with the architect without it being permitted it would give a false sense of what's coming because DOT may say we cannot have it. This vote is just an approval to move forward with the design process. Councilmember Eller said I would like for the business owners to have a part in this. Lisa Moody has a Downtown Merchants Association meeting have y'all presented those to them? Stephanie said no because we have nothing to present but the meetings are public and they were invited. Councilmember Eller said he would like for the survey group to come and give us an illustration. Councilmember Eller said so DCA was given money to do the signage because I don't see any movement on that. Stephanie said Lisa is working on that project and the design stuff. Councilman Eller responded he thought the sign was already done. Lisa said the problem is they don't have their logo on a PDF so that's the hold up. Councilman Eller also said DCA we voted to remove the planters...Stephanie said they have a bid for \$172,000 and Palmetto Ports will start on this. Can you give a time frame on when the planters will be removed. Stephanie said she can after she meets with them tomorrow. Mayor McColl said I can assure that if anyone is concerned, I am all over this project because I want this project to start tomorrow. I want to put the trees and shrubbery back on main street better than before and I won't let this fall through. Councilmember Eller asked how do we find out how you are reporting your money. Stephanie said it's reported to Ashley Berry at the State division and it will be public. The motion passed 5-0.

VIII. Councilmember's Reports

Councilmember Eller began his report asking about the demolition project. He said he has had several calls about this. There is a house on 4th Avenue that has been condemned for years and I would like to know when it's going to be torn down and also two houses on Calhoun Street has drugs and prostitution happening. Glen said they are on the list. Councilmember Eller said other municipalities are getting a percentage off of the food trucks, are we? Glen said we are starting to get money from this as well. Councilmember Eller asked can you put the credit card purchases in the finance report? Glen responded, yes.
No other Councilmembers had reports.

IX. Closing Prayer

Benny Genwright said a prayer.

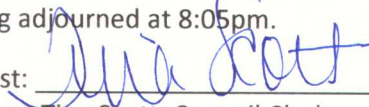
X. Executive Session – Municipal Judge Contract

Dr. Wallace made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. No action was taken in Executive Session. Dr. Wallace made a motion to go back into open session. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 5-0. In open session Dr. Wallace made a motion to accept Allen Berry as the Municipal Judge. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

XI. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, Dr. Wallace made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Jackson seconded and the motion passed 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Approved: 
Nicholas Tally McColl, Mayor

Attest: 
Tina Scott, Council Clerk

Date Approved: August 15, 2023