

Town of St. Matthews
Special Called Town Council Meeting Minutes
December 19th, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members present:

Mayor Helen Glover-Carson
William 'Webb' Carroll
Deidre Prickett
Virgil Jacobs
Eloise Shuler-Guinyard
Marla Riley

Also Present:

Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator
Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk

Absent

Sharon Bennett

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Jacobs opened the Meeting in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Helen Glover-Carson opened the Public Hearing – regarding Ordinance 2023-6 – Amendment to Business License Ordinance (Class Schedules) and Ordinance 2023-7 – Sewer Use Ordinance. The Public Hearing opened at 6:01 p.m. There were no public comments. The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. The Mayor entertained a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-6 – 2nd and Final Reading - Amendment to Business License Ordinance. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Riley. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Glover-Carson entertained a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-7 – 2nd and Final Reading - Sewer Use Ordinance. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Mr. Carroll. The motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Glover-Carson entertained a motion to approve New Perspective Medias request for media services in the amount of 6,000.00. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Mr. Carroll. Councilmembers, Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and Mr. Jacobs opposed the motion. The motion was carried.

Mr. Jacobs asked if Lake Inspiration could be sprayed to kill the weeds.

Ms. Prickett asked about the Butler Street incident. Ms. Warren gave her an update concerning the sewer issue.

Ms. Shuler-Guinyard had concerns with Fair Street and a pothole near the old Town Hall.

Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was moved by Mr. Carroll and seconded by Mr. Jacobs. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by:


Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk

Town of St. Matthews
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 05, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.
1313 Bridge Street, St. Matthews, SC 29135

Council Members Present:

Mayor Helen Glover-Carson

Virgil Jacobs

William "Webb" Carroll

Deidre Prickett

Sharon Bennett

Marla Riley

Eloise Shuler Guinyard

Also Present:

Rosyl Warren, Town Administrator

Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk

Gregory Sandlin, Fire Chief

Gregory Wilson, Maintenance Supervisor

Michael Smalls, Chief of Police

Mayor Glover-Carson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Jacobs opened the Meeting in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Glover-Carson entertained a motion to accept the prior Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor entertained a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor entertained a motion to accept the Police, Fire, and Animal Control Reports. It was moved by Ms. Shuler-Guinyard and seconded by Ms. Riley. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Mayor acknowledged and welcomed those persons attending the Meeting.

Citizens Input –

Ms. Hinson suggested moving the citizens' input further down the agenda, allowing the citizens to hear what was happening before commenting. She also stated under old business, consider putting New Perspective Media under next year's budget if the current budget has been completed.

Mr. Jacob Hair – spoke about the donation requests the Town has received from the Calhoun County Public Schools. He stated that he talked to the District Superintendent and the Athletic Director (AD), and any persons making requests for donations know funding has been placed in the school budget. They will need to follow the protocol. Mr. Hair stated, that the Town will no longer receive any more donation requests from the schools.

Mayor and Council News

Recognition of Town Employees: The Mayor acknowledged the birthdays of Town Employees for December: Mr. Britt on December 4th, Mr. Merkle on December 8th, Ms. Bennett on December 10th, and Mr. Shultz on December 27th.

Mr. Carroll stated he is glad to see all the areas of concern in the Town come to fruition.

Ms. Shuler-Guinyard elaborated on Mr. Hair's comment about school donation requests. Mr. Hair stated all requests must be taken to the school board. Ms. Shuler-Guinyard would also like Ms. Warren to find out who owns the West End Cemetery and have them trim back some trees blocking the lighting.

Mr. Jacobs – asked Ms. Warren if she had contacted the Highway Department concerning the end of Lower Muller Street near Lake Inspiration. He also shared content about the Calhoun

County Snack Packs Program. The program's mission is to supplement the nutritional needs of every low-food-secure student in Calhoun County, S.C. These children are identified as having food access problems. The program will feed fifty children from St. Matthews K-8 and fifty from Sandy Run. Ms. Shuler-Guinyard stated the program is working, and the children are getting a bag every day. Mr. Jacobs challenged the Mayor and each Council member to donate to this program. Several Councilmembers donated.

Ms. Prickett stated that a palmetto tree would be donated to the Town for the Pocket Park. The Town should receive the palmetto tree around March. Ms. Prickett suggested a thank you card be sent to the Garden Club and the Donor.

Ms. Bennett - received a scholarship to attend the National Foundation Women's Legislative conference held at the Waldorf Astoria in Orlando, Florida. Ms. Bennett had the opportunity to network with other municipal and state women's legislators. Ms. Bennett stated she was immensely proud of her Town compared to the other local legislators.

Ms. Riley – asked about the broken light on Bridge Street. There is a wire down on her street. On December 06, 2023, the sweeper will sweep the Town. Ms. Warren informed her they would only be sweeping Bridge Street for the parade, and she would have to request the Town to be swept. Ms. Riley would like the sweeper included in next year's budget.

Motions Period (Town Council): None Distributed to Administration

Ordinance – 2023-6 – Amendment to Business License Ordinance; Class Schedules (first

Reading by Title Only) – Ms. Warren stated that a class nine schedule was added to the Business

License Ordinance, and everyone will use the same model ordinance throughout the State of South Carolina. The Mayor entertained a motion to adopt Ordinance-2023-6 – Amendment to Business License Ordinance; Class Schedule (1st Reading by Title Only), adding the class 9 schedule to the Ordinance. It was moved by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Prickett. The motion was carried unanimously. On December 19th, 2023, a second reading will be at 6:00 p.m.

Ordinance – 2023-7 – Sewer Use Ordinance (1st Reading by Title Only) – Ms. Warren stated that once the Ordinance is adopted, it will then be forwarded to S.C. DHEC for approval. The Mayor entertained a motion to adopt Ordinance-2023-7 – Sewer Use Ordinance (1st Reading by Title Only). It was moved by Mr. Jacobs and seconded by Ms. Bennett. The motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

New Perspective Media (NPM) Request – Mr. Harvey Elwood – stated that New Perspective Media covers all good news and Events. He gave an overview of the services that New Perspective Media would provide to the Town.

Donation Requests (3) – The Mayor suggested the person requesting a donation exhaust all means before the Town approves a donation. Ms. Shuler-Guinyard stated the school is not giving out the funding. Ms. Prickett suggested having the Superintendent attend the next Town Council Meeting and table the answers to all the donation requests at the next meeting.

Capital Projects Update – Mr. Wilson stated the Capital Projects are approximately 98 percent completed.

Demolition Projects Update – Mr. Bobby Mitchell is awaiting the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) permits to complete demolition.

Town Events Update:

December 09, 2023 – Town of St. Matthews Christmas Parade starting at 5:30 p.m. The lineup will begin at 4:30 p.m. Following the parade, there will be hot chocolate, cookies, and Christmas Carols sung by the Rowe sisters at the Town Pocket Park.

December 15, 2023 – Town Christmas Party – This year’s Christmas party will be at the Pounderosa from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Playground at Lake Inspiration – the grand opening will occur after the New Year.

U.S. Marine Corps – “Toys for Tots” – several individuals brought toys to Town Hall, and if anyone is still interested, they may do so by December 22, 2023.

Water Billing Issues – The Town moved to a new Water Billing System. However, there are some customers still receiving higher than normal water bills. The new system is designed to give an accurate reading to the minute.

New Business

Fire Department Update – Ms. Warren met with Hardee Construction, who won the bid for the new Fire Department, to discuss the design phase. The Fire Chief, Water System, and Mr. Wilson met with the architect to review the plans. The Town Attorney reviewed service contract for the new Fire Department. The groundbreaking ceremony will be held in January.

Christmas Holiday Hours – Town Hall will close at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 22, 2023, and closed on Monday, December 25, 2023, and December 26, 2023.

2024 Proposed Holiday Schedule – Council Action – for the 2024 Holiday schedule, Columbus Day and Christmas Eve were added. The Mayor entertained a motion to approve adding Columbus Day and Christmas Eve to the 2024 Holiday schedule. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Ms. Riley. There was one who opposed the motion: Ms. Shuler-Guinyard.

2024 Council Meeting Calendar – was given for informational purposes.

Report of the Town Administrator

Ms. Warren thanked the citizens for the Christmas gifts and baked goods brought to Town Hall.

Fire Department Report – There was a fire resulting in a death. The Fire Chief stated he is pushing hard for smoke alarms. If anyone needs a fire alarm, contact the Fire Department. The Fire Department will install it for the Citizens.

Police Department Report – The Police Department hired Mr. Carl Shultz with over 30 years of experience. Mr. Shultz will start in the Police Department as a Patrol Sergeant/ Training Officer/ Investigator.

Maintenance Department Report – Mr. Wilson said he looks forward to the Christmas parade. The Maintenance Department has been working hard on the Christmas decorations.

Mayor Glover-Carson entertained a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a potential legal matter. It was moved by Ms. Bennett and seconded by Ms. Riley. The motion was carried unanimously.

The council reconvened its Public Session at approximately 8:00 p.m. without further discussion

or vote. The Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the Meeting. It was moved by Ms. Prickett and seconded by Mr. Carroll. The motion was carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:



Rosalind Johnson, Town Clerk