

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public were notified of the time, date, and place along with a copy of the agenda of this meeting. A notice was posted on the outdoor bulletin board at the Batesburg-Leesville Town Hall and the Town's website no later than twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 11, 2021

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville was held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex. Mayor Shull called the meeting to order at 7:00 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Members Etheredge, Gambrell, Cain, Lemon, Mitchell, Prouse, and Hall. Council Member Wise was absent.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Rev. Kent Suits, Christ Community Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Council Member Gambrell.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Hall to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt the minutes of the September 13, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Regular Council Meeting will be November 8, 2021.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS – Council Member Hall

Council Member Hall reported Central Midlands Council of Governments Board of Directors met September 16, 2021. This was an “in person” meeting in the Columbia Convention Center for which we did have a quorum after several months. The Consent Agenda was approved and the major issues addressed were the SCDOT Safety Targets and Performance. A SCDOT Staff Member indicated that the targets for the past two years have not been met; fatalities exceeded targets/projections. They were not able to provide a breakdown of fatalities caused by road conditions, those where road conditions contributed to the cause and those caused by other factors. Currently, fatalities exceed those for the same period last year. The remainder of the report is available.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE-Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported that EPAC did not meet in the month of September and the next meeting is October 20th.

THE COMET ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Council Member Cain

Council Member Cain reported we are in the process of hiring a new director which is moving forward. Reported he is on the Finance Committee and everything looks good. Hopefully before long we will be able to discuss the bus route in Batesburg.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the Commission met in September. Recognized Donna West with 20 years of service with the Commission. Gave updates on several projects they have going on both water and sewer. The growth continues steady through the fiscal year at 3.38%. Thirty-four current projects are under way. For the month they added 36 water customers and 5 sewer customers.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mike Taylor, President

Reported the B-L Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Center along with Arts on the Ridge will host their first event since the beginning of COVID-19. In the past we have had summer arts camps, plays, and smaller events. This will be our first festival, Fall For the Arts, which will be Sunday, October 17th beginning at 4:00 P. M. Approximately 30 artisans will display their talents, four food trucks and the Root Cellar will provide nourishment along with Cody Webb providing the entertainment. Several of the artisan's items are shown on the Arts on the Ridge Facebook page. I understand several of the shops in the Batesburg Business District will also be open. As of tonight, it is supposed to be a beautiful day Sunday, so we hope to see you then from 4-7 on Oak Street.

On Thursday, November 11th Midlands Technical College and the Chamber will host a cyber security class at the Batesburg-Leesville campus beginning at 6:15 P. M. This is open to all members of the Chamber and if room is available other community businesses will be welcome to attend.

A week later the Chamber will host their Annual Banquet on Thursday, November 19th at T&S Farm. Georgia Mjartan, Executive Director of SC First Steps, will be the speaker. The Lexington County First Step office is located in our Life Long Learning Center. The 2021 Christmas Parade will be held on Sunday, December 5th at 5:30. This year's theme is "The Angels of Christmas."

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Council Vote to Excuse Absence from Last Month's Meeting for Council Member Shirley Mitchell

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Hall to excuse Council Member Mitchell. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

F. Discussion and Possible Vote on the Town Taking Ownership and Maintenance Responsibilities for Shirley Street

Mayor Shull made a motion with a second by Council Member Prouse to have the Town Attorney get this process started with a title search. Mayor Shull stated that before acquiring any property you need to have a title search done. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

MANAGER'S REPORT

A. League of Women Voter's Update – Debbie Dickinson (Replaced Anita Baker)

Ms. Dickinson stated she was present on behalf of the League of Women Voters of the Columbia area trying to encourage voters to be engaged and participate in the upcoming municipal elections. This is being done throughout Lexington, Richland and Aiken county as well. VOTE 411 is an online voter's guide for election information you may need. The information includes when, where, and how to vote. It includes who's running and where they stand. You can register online at www.VOTE411.org or visit your county board of voter registration.

ARP FUNDING UPDATE

- Since the last Council meeting, we submitted the past Resolution to the MASC, completed the necessary online documentation to SC Department of Administration, and have received the \$1,347,912.52.
- Our second allotment of funds should be deposited in September 2022.

Council Member Gambrell asked about the time frame on the ARP money. Manager Luckadoo stated we have 4 years to assign the money for specific projects and 6 years to spend it.

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MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

PROJECT UPDATES

- **WWTP Improvement Projects** – NAC has completed demolition and cleaning of basin #1 at the WWTP. Gregory Electric is progressing through the electrical panel installs for each of the floating aerations and should wrap that portion up in the next few weeks. There are two cracks in the outer ring and will be repaired soon and once that is done, they will begin putting the floating aerators in. We are still awaiting the construction and delivery of the new screws which is a few weeks out. Electrical work for the headworks project continues.
- **Highway 23 Resurfacing** – Palmetto Corp of Conway should begin work around the first of November on resurfacing Highway 23. Around mid-October, the pole in the roadway should be removed for SCDOT to place the base down for the right turn lane so it can be paved during the resurfacing.
- **Oak Street Resurfacing** – We met this past week on-site with C.R. Jackson to discuss the upcoming resurfacing of Oak Street. They expect for NS to notify them this week or next about what days the flagger can be on-site for the project. We discussed that there is an event this coming Sunday and that we can't have the roadway torn up for the event, so it would either need to start this week and be completed by Sunday or start after the event on Sunday. We express our need to know when NS can be on-site and what days they will be paving, so we can communicate with merchants for them to make necessary plans for a couple days while repaving is occurring.
- **C Fund Sidewalk Replacement** – Sidewalk repair/replacement along West Railroad Avenue, North Oak Street and West Church Street is complete. With this completed, we have now performed approximately \$163,000 in sidewalk repairs/replacement over the last 4 years.
- **Sewer Infiltration/Inflow Project** – The contractor being utilized to perform CCTV camera inspections is doing an additional 5,000 linear feet or so of work with some funds that were left over, to try and locate some of the manholes along the main trunk line leading into the WWTP that previously couldn't be located. They started this week and it should take them the next couple weeks to complete. Once this is done, Frazier Eng. will finalize their report and prepare the presentation for Council.

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| | Sep-21 | Aug-21 | Jul-21 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund Checking | \$ 1,697,943.83 | \$ 1,910,524.77 | \$ 2,140,759.00 |
| General Fund Savings | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Police Donations | \$ 8,088.83 | \$ 9,961.02 | \$ 15,696.97 |
| Fire Department 1% | \$ 23,086.92 | \$ 20,844.89 | \$ 20,844.89 |
| Municipal Court | \$ 33,659.86 | \$ 35,800.50 | \$ 38,478.71 |
| Victims Assistance | \$ 2,599.05 | \$ 2,254.28 | \$ 1,955.25 |
| Total (Non-Utility Funds) | \$ 1,765,378.49 | \$ 1,979,385.46 | \$ 2,217,734.82 |
| Utility Fund Checking | \$ 284,577.69 | \$ 229,673.30 | \$ 288,354.46 |
| Utility Fund Reserve | \$ 767,884.18 | \$ 767,877.95 | \$ 767,871.48 |
| Capital Improvement Project/Impact | \$ 1,596,445.37 | \$ 1,544,163.17 | \$ 1,544,580.89 |
| USDA Debt Service Reserve | \$ 564,848.36 | \$ 564,843.73 | \$ 564,838.96 |
| American Rescue Plan Funds | \$ 1,347,914.52 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 3.00 |
| 2021 Infrastructure Revenue Bond | \$ 2,944,905.55 | \$ 3,154,628.04 | \$ 3,154,648.04 |
| Total (All Utility Funds) | \$ 3,213,755.60 | \$ 3,106,560.15 | \$ 3,165,648.79 |
| Hospitality Tax Checking | \$ 660,597.95 | \$ 645,043.18 | \$ 618,284.31 |
| Total All Funds | \$ 5,639,732.04 | \$ 5,730,988.79 | \$ 6,001,667.92 |

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| | Sep-21 | Sep-20 | Sep-19 | Sep-18 | Sep-17 | Sep-16 | Sep-15 | Sep-14 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund Checking | \$ 1,697,943.83 | \$ 1,464,391.88 | \$ 1,146,304.31 | \$ 1,319,989.38 | \$ 1,345,242.52 | \$ 1,194,091.20 | \$ 1,092,133.40 | \$ 1,029,111.13 |
| General Fund Savings | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 43,401.55 | \$ 43,401.55 | \$ 154,645.07 |
| Police Donations | \$ 8,088.83 | \$ 5,155.06 | \$ 12,308.00 | \$ 7,694.07 | \$ 6,696.68 | \$ 7,766.10 | \$ 13,532.71 | \$ 11,319.80 |
| Fire Department 1% | \$ 23,086.92 | \$ 26,629.34 | \$ 22,561.19 | \$ 22,471.47 | \$ 19,751.37 | \$ 23,311.49 | \$ 20,509.19 | \$ 17,147.88 |
| Municipal Court | \$ 33,659.86 | \$ 31,459.27 | \$ 32,781.62 | \$ 30,362.14 | \$ 34,931.75 | \$ 39,726.43 | \$ 29,722.92 | \$ 31,645.96 |
| Victims Assistance | \$ 2,599.05 | \$ 1,359.56 | \$ 566.49 | \$ 89.18 | \$ 175.48 | \$ 351.77 | \$ 164.35 | \$ 261.65 |
| Total (Non-Utility Funds) | \$ 1,765,378.49 | \$ 1,528,995.11 | \$ 1,251,873.16 | \$ 1,417,957.79 | \$ 1,444,149.35 | \$ 1,308,648.54 | \$ 1,199,464.12 | \$ 1,244,131.49 |
| Utility Fund Checking | \$ 284,577.69 | \$ 240,621.22 | \$ 268,728.32 | \$ 356,674.03 | \$ 523,876.31 | \$ 456,008.47 | \$ 191,589.87 | \$ 67,568.64 |
| Utility Fund Reserve | \$ 767,884.18 | \$ 767,756.97 | \$ 764,173.45 | \$ 758,084.10 | \$ 1,074,613.98 | \$ 675,638.85 | \$ 832,477.17 | \$ 518,208.86 |
| Capital Improvement Project/Impact | \$ 1,596,445.37 | \$ 1,517,168.04 | \$ 1,322,247.90 | \$ 929,859.28 | \$ 70,114.72 | \$ 45,040.72 | \$ 11,907.72 | \$ 3,880.72 |
| USDA Debt Service Reserve | \$ 564,848.36 | \$ 564,754.97 | \$ 562,119.27 | \$ 557,639.78 | \$ 231,081.00 | \$ 231,081.00 | \$ 231,080.00 | \$ 231,080.00 |
| American Rescue Plan Funds | \$ 1,347,914.52 | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ - | \$ - |
| 2021 Infrastructure Revenue Bond | \$ 2,944,905.55 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 1,859.25 | \$ 778.78 | \$ 1,498.79 | \$ 2,366.49 | \$ 587.27 |
| Total (All Utility Funds) | \$ 3,213,755.60 | \$ 3,090,306.20 | \$ 2,917,273.94 | \$ 2,604,119.44 | \$ 1,900,465.79 | \$ 1,409,268.83 | \$ 1,269,421.25 | \$ 821,325.49 |
| Hospitality Tax Checking | \$ 660,597.95 | \$ 806,007.87 | \$ 384,621.45 | | | | | |
| Total All Funds | \$ 5,639,732.04 | \$ 5,425,309.18 | \$ 4,553,768.55 | \$ 4,022,077.23 | \$ 3,344,615.14 | \$ 2,717,917.37 | \$ 2,468,885.37 | \$ 2,065,456.98 |

General Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru September 2021 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 899,899.59 | \$ 4,676,151.00 | 19% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 1,066,318.95 | \$ 4,676,151.00 | 23% |

Utility Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru September 2021 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 899,163.56 | \$ 3,280,700.00 | 27% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 922,502.98 | \$ 3,280,700.00 | 28% |

Victim's Assistance Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru September 2021 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 1,765.90 | \$ 7,500.00 | 24% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 1,719.90 | \$ 7,500.00 | 23% |

Hospitality Tax Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru September 2021 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 171,213.64 | \$ 565,300.00 | 30% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 115,485.70 | \$ 565,300.00 | 20% |

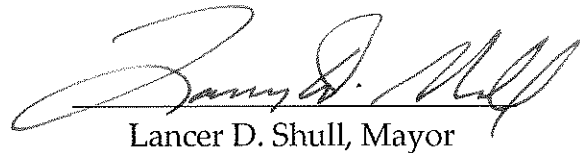
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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Prouse to adjourn at 8:01 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.


VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

Approved this 8th day of November 2021.



Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:



Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk