

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 and 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.*

PUBLIC HEARING

DECEMBER 13, 2021

Mayor Shull opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 P. M. to receive citizen input on an **Ordinance to Repeal and Replace the Business License Ordinance of the Town with Changes Required by Act 176 of the State of South Carolina.** Since no one appeared before Council, Mayor Shull closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 P. M.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

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 7:01 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Brown, Gambrell, Cain, Lemon, Mitchell, Wise, Prouse, and Hall.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Rev. Neal Smith, Steadman Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Town Manager Luckadoo recommended that the Resolutions for both the Termites and Mites Youth Football Championship be moved before item #4 or after item #4. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell to move items B and C of New Business after the adoption of the minutes with a second by Council Member Hall. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adopt the minutes of the November 8, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS

B. Resolution Recognizing the B-L Termite Youth Football Championship was read by Mayor Shull. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Hall to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

C. Resolution Recognizing the B-L Mites Youth Football Championship was read by Mayor Shull. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Each team and coaches came forward for this recognition.

Swearing in of Council Member Mitchell from the November 2, 2021 Election

Attorney Nichols Riley administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Mitchell, after which she took her seat on Council.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Regular Council Meeting will be January 10, 2022.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS – Council Member Hall

Council Member Hall reported Central Midlands Council of Governments, Board of Directors, met December 9, 2021. This was a "Hybrid" meeting (in person and via zoom) at the Airport Campus of Midlands Tech. A copy of the agenda can be found on

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December 13, 2021
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CENTRAL MIDLANDS CONT'D.

the Central Midlands website at www.cmcog.org. Of interest was the approval to use Guideshare funds as "emergency funding" to resurface approximately a 10-mile section of secondary road in Newberry County close to Prosperity. The next meeting will be January 27, 2022.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported EPAC did not meet in December; the next meeting will be January 19, 2022.

THE COMET – Council Member Cain

Council Member Cain reported Comet met and took care of administrative items along with discussion on "Stuff the Bus" in cooperation with Richland County and the City of Columbia which was a great success.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the Joint Municipal Water/Sewer Commission met November 10, 2021. Celebrated the retirement of one of the staff after 17.5 years and will be greatly missed at the Commission; experienced 185% growth since she came on board and 250% growth on the sewer side of that system and continues to be the largest water system in Lexington County. Completed a new office project design, continues to work on the tank behind Lowes Foods. Growth has slowed a bit to 3.38 % with revenues 6% above for the year with expenses 6% below for the year.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mike Taylor, President

The Batesburg-Leesville Chamber of Commerce and Midlands Technical College hosted a Cyber Security class last month. Those in attendance learned the do's and don'ts while on the web. At the end of the presentation everyone had the opportunity to check the dark web to see if any of their passwords were listed to their email address.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONT'D.

The annual banquet was held on Thursday, November 18th at T & S Farm. The guest speaker was Georgia Mjartan, SC First Steps Executive Director. Homeland Craft Beer & Wine won the "Small Business of the Year Award", Mae Buzhardt received the Chairman's Award, and Pastor Lisa Iserhower received the President's Award.

The Batesburg-Leesville Ministerial Alliance held their Thanksgiving Community Service on Sunday, November 20th at Faith Lutheran Church. The offering was given to Christian Ministries in B-L.

Our 2021 Christmas Parade was held on Sunday, December 5th. Our theme this year was "The Angels of Christmas". Those who participated in the parade did an outstanding job of incorporating the theme with their entries this year. Arts on the Ridge won first place, Wittenberg Lutheran Church won second, and Faith Lutheran Church came in third.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading – Ordinance to Repeal and Replace the Business License Ordinance of the Town with Changes Required by Act 176 of the State of South Carolina was held. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Prouse to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation – Celebrating Ms. Evelyn G. (Jones) Williams 100th Birthday and Service to Batesburg-Leesville was read by Mayor Shull. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Lemon to adopt. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS CONT'D.

D. Council Vote to Excuse Absence from Last Month's Meeting for Council Member Shirley Mitchell was held. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Lemon to excuse Council Member Mitchell from last month's Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

E. Approval of Regular Council Meeting Dates for 2022 was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Hall to approve these dates as presented. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

F. Council Approval of Premium Pay for Employees Under the American Rescue Plan as presented in Council's packet was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Wise to approve the premium plan for all current full-time employees and volunteer fire fighters as presented in Council's packet. After discussion, Council Member Prouse amended his motion to include part-time employees, as well as full-time employees and volunteer fire fighters up to \$200,000 with a second by Council Member Wise. With no further discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

G. Council Election of Mayor Pro Tem

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Wise to reappoint Council Member Olin Gambrell to that position. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

H. Council Appointments for:

a. Town Attorney

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Prouse to reappoint the current town attorney firm and that appointment be to continue to

H. Appointments Cont'd.
a. Town Attorney

operate under the existing contract for a period not to exceed 90 days until Council can review that contract. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 5 Approved 4 Denied – Council Member Brown, Cain,
Lemon, Mitchell

b. Town Judge

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Gambrell to remain with Robert Cook. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

c. Central Midlands Council of Governments

A motion was made by Council Member Lemon with a second by Council Member Cain that Council vote on c., d., e., and f. at the same time retaining all existing that serve on each. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

MANAGER'S REPORT – Ted Luckadoo

CHIEF OSWALDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION

- Tonight, I want to start by taking a moment to recognize our wonderful Chief of Police, Wallace Oswald, for his recent recognition by the SC Law Enforcement Officers Association.
- On Friday, November 19th, at the Annual SCLEOA Conference in Myrtle Beach, Chief Oswald was bestowed with the Lifetime Achievement Award. This award follows a long list of recognitions, achievements and awards Chief Oswald has received over his 45-year career with the B-L Police Department.
- In 2016, Chief Oswald was a recipient of the Strom Thurmond Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement, the highest honor you can receive in law enforcement in SC.

MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

- In 2010, Chief Oswald was awarded the Order of the Silver Crescent by Governor Mark Sanford. This award is SC's highest civilian honor for community service that can be received.
- Chief Oswald has also been recognized for Innovations in SC Law Enforcement by the University of SC and graduated the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.
- Beyond his law enforcement recognitions, Chief Oswald was awarded a Broze Star for his military service during Operation Iraqi Freedom and a Broze Star for his military service during Operations in Afghanistan.

We are extremely proud of Chief Oswald and all that he has done over his career here in B-L and wish to congratulate him on his recent recognition by the SCLEOA with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

UPCOMING TOWN HOLIDAYS

- Just a reminder that Town offices will be closed the following dates:
 - December 23rd, 24th, and 27th for Christmas Holiday
 - December 31st for New Year's Holiday

UPCOMING MASC HLAD AND MEO INSTITUTE

- The Municipal Association of SC will hold their annual Hometown Legislative Action Day on February 1, 2022 at the Columbia Marriott. HLAD draws local officials from all over the state to Columbia to receive updates on current legislative issues, visit their local legislators at the State House and connect with legislators at the legislative reception. The following day, February 2, 2022, is the Municipal Elected Officials Institute. If you are interested in attending HLAD or the MEO Institute and have not already told us you wish to attend, please contact me so that I can put you on the list to be registered. The registration deadline is January 21, 2022.

BOZA AND PC APPOINTMENTS

- With the election having just occurred, it is time for Councilmembers from Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, and the Mayor to either reappoint people to the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, or appoint someone new. For these members, if you need to discuss who you currently have serving, vacancies, or just need to be reminded, please get with me

and I'll let you know and once you give me who you want to reappoint or appoint new, we will bring it to Council for vote. We would like to get this done soon, so we can set up training with CMCOG.

2022 Dominion Energy Tree Trimming Locations

- Dominion Energy has provided us with their tree trimming map and locations for 2022. By looking at the map, all trimming for next year will be on the far Batesburg side of Town. They will be utilizing the same contractor as they have the past two years. As a reminder, Dominion Energy handles any and all complaints related to tree trimming and they put out notices in the areas they are to be cutting with contact information in case of complaints.

PROJECT UPDATES

- ***WWTP Improvement Projects*** –_With regards to the headworks project that is underway at the WWTP, the new screw pumps that were expected to be in this month are now projected to arrive in January. It has been bumped due to difficulty in getting supplies for manufacturing. Fisher Tank should be starting this month on the installation of the new digester tank. Parts have been ordered for the Aeration Basin #2 project and the new floating aerators should be completed in the next 2-4 weeks. They have begun the process of draining basin #2 to be cleaned out and are beginning the old aeration equipment demolition. This project is expected to be completed by mid-January.

	Nov-21	Oct-21	Sep-21	Aug-21	Jul-21
General Fund Checking	\$ 1,264,096.96	\$ 1,486,972.36	\$ 1,697,943.83	\$ 1,910,524.77	\$ 2,140,759.00
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Police Donations	\$ 9,917.03	\$ 8,088.83	\$ 8,088.83	\$ 9,961.02	\$ 15,696.97
Fire Department 1%	\$ 22,297.79	\$ 22,844.09	\$ 23,086.92	\$ 20,844.89	\$ 20,844.89
Municipal Court	\$ 34,242.60	\$ 32,111.87	\$ 33,659.86	\$ 35,800.50	\$ 38,478.71
Victims Assistance	\$ 354.10	\$ 386.75	\$ 2,599.05	\$ 2,254.28	\$ 1,955.25
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 1,330,908.48	\$ 1,550,403.90	\$ 1,765,378.49	\$ 1,979,385.46	\$ 2,217,734.82
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 336,884.69	\$ 314,405.61	\$ 284,577.69	\$ 229,673.30	\$ 288,354.46
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,888.35	\$ 767,888.35	\$ 767,884.18	\$ 767,877.95	\$ 767,871.48
Capital Improvement Project/Impact Fe	\$ 1,632,591.86	\$ 1,589,625.44	\$ 1,596,445.37	\$ 1,544,163.17	\$ 1,544,580.89
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,851.44	\$ 564,851.44	\$ 564,848.36	\$ 564,843.73	\$ 564,838.96
American Rescue Plan Funds	\$ 1,347,914.52	\$ 1,347,914.52	\$ 1,347,914.52	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00
2021 Infrastructure Revenue Bond	\$ 2,808,179.06	\$ 2,550,186.68	\$ 2,944,905.55	\$ 3,154,628.04	\$ 3,154,648.04
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,302,216.34	\$ 3,236,770.84	\$ 3,213,755.60	\$ 3,106,560.15	\$ 3,165,648.79
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 640,405.82	\$ 676,371.70	\$ 660,597.95	\$ 645,043.18	\$ 618,284.31
Total All Funds	\$ 5,273,530.64	\$ 5,463,546.44	\$ 5,639,732.04	\$ 5,730,988.79	\$ 6,001,667.92

	Nov-21	Nov-20	Nov-19	Nov-18	Nov-17	Nov-16	Nov-15	Nov-14
General Fund Checking	\$ 1,264,096.96	\$ 936,076.96	\$ 738,830.01	\$ 856,156.86	\$ 959,181.73	\$ 821,316.83	\$ 733,072.09	\$ 701,088.00
General Fund Savings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 37,351.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 43,401.55	\$ 168,645.07
Police Donations	\$ 9,917.03	\$ 5,155.06	\$ 11,957.47	\$ 10,615.07	\$ 8,005.68	\$ 10,246.96	\$ 13,585.37	\$ 9,613.92
Fire Department 1%	\$ 22,297.79	\$ 26,135.07	\$ 21,546.86	\$ 21,546.58	\$ 18,687.22	\$ 21,989.57	\$ 19,684.39	\$ 16,644.49
Municipal Court	\$ 34,242.60	\$ 31,247.14	\$ 32,896.72	\$ 30,257.84	\$ 36,356.52	\$ 39,807.43	\$ 29,722.92	\$ 31,645.96
Victims Assistance	\$ 354.10	\$ 1,240.47	\$ 500.20	\$ 94.08	\$ 406.05	\$ 152.94	\$ 313.97	\$ 175.19
Total (Non-Utility Funds)	\$ 1,330,908.48	\$ 999,854.70	\$ 843,082.81	\$ 956,021.98	\$ 1,059,988.75	\$ 936,915.28	\$ 839,780.29	\$ 927,812.63
Utility Fund Checking	\$ 336,884.69	\$ 338,021.79	\$ 248,905.85	\$ 422,130.80	\$ 363,493.56	\$ 579,807.34	\$ 230,337.28	\$ 82,013.96
Utility Fund Reserve	\$ 767,888.35	\$ 767,814.76	\$ 765,195.75	\$ 759,098.24	\$ 773,738.51	\$ 794,173.91	\$ 578,559.71	\$ 584,862.42
Capital Improvement Project/Impact Fe	\$ 1,632,591.86	\$ 1,544,929.45	\$ 1,420,606.67	\$ 995,217.72	\$ 429,086.93	\$ 35,961.72	\$ 13,049.72	\$ 4,451.72
USDA Debt Service Reserve	\$ 564,851.44	\$ 564,797.36	\$ 562,871.12	\$ 558,385.76	\$ 555,700.00	\$ 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	\$ 2,808,179.06	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.00	\$ 1,006.07	\$ 2,346.89	\$ 94.72	\$ 1,232.05	\$ 2,865.43
Total (All Utility Funds)	\$ 3,302,216.34	\$ 3,215,568.36	\$ 2,997,584.39	\$ 2,735,841.59	\$ 2,124,366.89	\$ 1,641,119.69	\$ 1,054,258.76	\$ 905,273.53
Hospitality Tax Checking	\$ 640,405.82	\$ 850,525.68	\$ 422,043.84					
Total All Funds	\$ 5,273,530.64	\$ 5,065,948.74	\$ 4,262,711.04	\$ 3,691,863.57	\$ 3,184,355.64	\$ 2,578,034.97	\$ 1,894,039.05	\$ 1,833,086.16

General Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru November 2021	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,264,071.12	\$ 4,676,151.00	27%
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,866,291.21	\$ 4,676,151.00	40%

Utility Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru November 2021	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,878,010.55	\$ 3,280,700.00	57%
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,949,491.30	\$ 3,280,700.00	59%

Hospitality Tax Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru November 2021	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 274,381.94	\$ 565,300.00	49%
Operating Expenses	\$ 238,846.13	\$ 565,300.00	42%

Victim's Assistance Fund

Revenues/Expenses thru November 2021	Actual	Budget	% Budget
Operating Revenues	\$ 2,593.25	\$ 7,500.00	35%
Operating Expenses	\$ 3,340.40	\$ 7,500.00	45%

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Receipt of Legal Advice Relating to Quit Claim Deed for Leesville Alleyway
- B. Discussion Regarding Property Purchase in Leesville for Downtown Parking

A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Gambrell to enter Executive Session at 7:58 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Council Member Mitchell did not attend Executive Session.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to return to Regular Session at 8:11 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY COUNCIL IN FOLLOW UP TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

**A. Possible Action in follow up to Quit Claim Deed for Leesville Alleyway
Discussion – NO ACTION TAKEN**

**B. Possible Action in follow up to Discussion Regarding Property Purchase in
Leesville for Downtown Parking – NO ACTION TAKEN**

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING – January 10, 2022

A motion was made by Council Member Mitchell with a second by Council Member Gambrell to add to the January 10, 2022 Regular Council Meeting agenda the ditch issue on Line Street. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

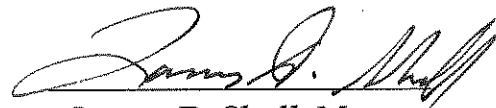
Vote: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Prouse

ADJOURNMENT

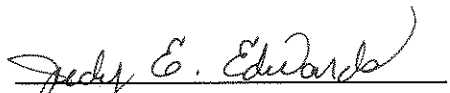
A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Hall to adjourn at 8:13 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Approved this 10th day of January 2022.


Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk