

In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, the news media and the public was 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

OCTOBER 14, 2019

Mayor Shull opened the first Public Hearing at 7:00 P. M. to receive citizen input on *An Ordinance Amending Exhibit "B" of the Local Hospitality Tax Ordinance*. Since no one appeared before Council, Mayor Shull closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 P. M.

Mayor Shull opened the next Public Hearing at 7:01 P. M. to receive citizen input on *An Ordinance Amending the Budget for the Local Hospitality Tax*. Since no one appeared before Council, Mayor Shull closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 P. M.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

The Regular Council Meeting for the Town of Batesburg-Leesville, held in Building B of the Town Hall Complex, was called to order by Mayor Shull at 7:02 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Etheredge, Gambrell, Simpkins, Whittle, and Prouse. Council Member Mitchell arrived at 7:06 P. M. and Council Member Cain arrived at 7:14 P. M.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Rev. Kent Suits of 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 Etheredge to approve the agenda. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 0 Denied

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt the minutes of the September 9, 2019 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion held, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 0 Denied

***Council Member Mitchell arrived after the vote was taken.*

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt the minutes of the September 23, 2019 Council Work Session. With no discussion held, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 0 Denied

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adopt the minutes of the September 26, 2019 Special Council Meeting. With no discussion held, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 6 Approved 1 Denied - Council Member Simpkins

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Regular Council Meeting will be November 11, 2019.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS - Council Member Gambrell

Council Member Gambrell reported the following from the COG meeting:

- COG to include the Columbia Riverfront Gateway Project into the Columbia Area Transportation Study Metropolitan Planning Organization 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan.
- South Carolina Medicare Program is open
- SC Works Midlands is a proud partner of the American Job Center network whose goal is to deliver a comprehensive range of employment, training, and related services in one location for their customers and provides seamless service integration and ensure convenience for the customers. These organizations

CENTRAL MIDLANDS CONT'D.

- include SC Dept. of Social Services, Midlands Tech, Adult Education, Job Corps, SC Commission for the Blind, SC Vocational Rehab, and a few other worthwhile organizations
- The Zion Hill & Fortune Springs Park Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, located in Winnsboro, presents a comprehensive revitalization strategy that identifies and addresses critical housing, infrastructure, public safety, and public facility needs within the community. The plan was designed to be in compliance with the SC Dept. of Commerce, CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization program. Council Member Gambrell stated there are several neighborhoods in this Town which could use some of this work and talked with several people about getting some of this money.
- Central Midlands Area Agency on Aging provides several direct services to seniors through the region, one being client assessment. The team provides in-home assessments annually to clients who are either receiving or applying to receive services provided through the Older American's Act. They have assessed 1,940 clients and are looking for more. Stated he had an application for assessment if anyone would like to have it.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ADVISORY COMMITTEE (E. P. A. C.)

Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported there was no meeting in September.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION - Mayor Shull

Reported there have been two meetings since our last meeting because of the way the meetings fall in October. There was one meeting on September 11th and the other one on October 9th.

- Reported there have been some water quality issues coming out of Lake Murray with the heat, algae bloom, and not having any rain, etc. They have been working around the clock to get this issue fixed and have been talking with several water plants outside the state. This type of algae use to be in the upper part of the United States but has gradually worked its way down here.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION CONT'D.

- The construction of the main office is finished and should be moving in today. They have a couple of openings for utility technician positions.
- Working on a financial plan for new debt, looking at restructuring some debt which would save approximately \$2.5 million off the current debt they have.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - Mike Taylor, President

- The B-L Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Center and the B-L Study Club work together on the Fall Fashion Show which was Thursday, October 10th with over 100 people attending from Aiken, Pelion, Gilbert, Saluda, Columbia, Lexington, as well as local residents. The fashions were presented by Mae's of Batesburg.
- The Chamber General Membership Meeting, which will be on Thursday, October 24th, will be sponsored by Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative. Broadband internet service is a major concern for those who are unable to receive the service from Spectrum. The question may arise when will customers who aren't with MCEC be able to purchase from CarolinaConnect.
- The Annual Chamber Banquet will be Thursday, November 21st at T&S Farm and the event speaker will be County Administrator, Joe Mergo.
- Arts on the Ridge performing arts camp will begin June 22nd and end June 26th with the performance of Cinderella. The committee is also looking into the possibility of an event during this December.
- The Dream Catchers attended service at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 29th and enjoyed lunch with the congregation afterwards and thanked Faith Lutheran Church for the overwhelming support provided to their summer Drone Camp. They had a busy day Saturday, October 5th as they unloaded pumpkins for St. John's annual pumpkin sale and then offered concessions at the first Professional Wrestling event held at the B-L Leisure Center. They offered hot dogs, chili, chips, nachos, popcorn, and homemade slushes made by Boss Man Lemonade. Boss Man Lemonade is owned by one of the 13 year old Dream Catchers, with a little help from his Mom.
- Dream Catchers is most appreciative of all the support Wiz's Eatery provides to them.

*****Council Member Cain arrived during the Chamber report.***

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second reading on An Ordinance Amending Exhibit "B" of the Local Hospitality Tax Ordinance was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Gambrell to approve. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

B. Second reading on An Ordinance Amending the Budget for Local Hospitality Tax was held. A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Etheredge to approve. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

NEW BUSINESS

A. Proclamation - 2020 Census Partnership

Mayor Shull read the Proclamation after which a motion was made by Council Member Simpkins with a second by Council Member Gambrell to adopt. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

B. Proclamation - Creation of a 2020 Census Complete County Committee

Mayor Shull read the Proclamation after which a motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Simpkins to adopt. With do discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 8 Approved 0 Denied

C. Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement Between Midlands Technical College and the Town of Batesburg-Leesville for Police Department Substation Office at B-L Campus was held.

