

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

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

Mayor Shull opened the Public Hearing at 7:00 P. M. to receive citizen input on an *Ordinance to Amend the Animal Control Ordinance to Reflect Changes Made by Lexington County*. Since no one appeared before Council, Mayor Shull closed the Public Hearing at 7:00 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 7:00 P. M. Members present were Mayor Shull, Council Member Etheredge, Gambrell, Cain, Lemon, Mitchell, Wise, Prouse, and Hall.

INVOCATION

Pastor Kent Suits asked all present if they would repeat the Lord's Prayer along with him.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Council Member Gambrell. He asked all present to stand and place their hand over their heart.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

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ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Gambrell with a second by Council Member Wise to adopt the minutes of the August 10, 2020 Regular Council Meeting. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Shull reported the next Council Meeting would be October 12, 2020.

CENTRAL MIDLANDS – Council Member Hall

Council Member Hall reported that the COG did not have an official meeting due to the lack of a quorum. Those present held discussions and reached informal decisions on all items on the agenda. Reported Santee-Wateree-Lynches Transportation will not be participating in Federal Funded programs due to lack of matching funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council Member Prouse

Council Member Prouse reported EPAC did not meet during the month of August.

THE COMET ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Council Member Cain

Council Member Cain reported the committee did meet. He stated he would like to have a Work Session to discuss transportation funding and suggested we take one half month's hospitality revenue, approximately \$20,000, to fund the Comet. Would like to see four dedicated routes from Batesburg to Midlands Tech in Columbia for the students that have no way to get to school. Our Midlands Tech here does not offer the courses our students need to receive their degree.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER/SEWER COMMISSION – Mayor Shull

Mayor Shull reported the Commission did not meet. He further stated that they have thirty plus significant capital improvement projects that are currently under way, residential, commercial, and also Joint funded. The biggest are two sewer expansions, a water line replacement in the Town of Pelion, and going out to bid on the major sewer trunk line upgrade in Red Bank. Currently under construction is a new water plant transmission main, approximately 25,000 linear feet, 36-inch diameter iron pipe, etc.

B-L CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Mike Taylor, President

Reported last month we congratulated Hitachi at our July General Membership Meeting on their 100th anniversary; during our August meeting we recognized Fisher Tank. President of Fisher Tank, Paul Windham, was our speaker. This month Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. will be our meeting sponsor and have the program.

COVID-19 has certainly had an impact on our lives and businesses and the Chamber has not been immune. One positive has been the Zoom meetings and presentations the Chamber has been a part of. Municipalities have the Municipal Association of South Carolina and Chambers and businesses have the SC Chamber of Commerce. This past month I was able to hear from Senators Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott, Congressman Joe Cunningham, Joe Wilson, Tom Rice, Jeff Duncan, Ralph Norman, William Timmons, and James Clyburn as part of their Washington Speaks Virtual Tour. A few points from their Grassroots Tour in our state that affect our businesses and students:

- 32 states with some type of liability protection for employees.
- South Carolina, Florida, and West Virginia are the only three Southeastern states that have taken NO action.
- 4,000 lawsuits have been filed in the country including 25 in South Carolina.
- 435,000 South Carolinians who don't have access to internet in their homes or have access to inadequate service.
- 150,000 SC student households are without access to highspeed internet.
- 160,000 students who either can't afford the service or don't have a computer.
- I feel that virtual learning and working from home is not going away.

At our Board meeting County Councilman Larry Brigham reported that the new budget was \$220 million with 75% going to public safety and public works. The west region

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CONT'D.

will gain four more deputies. The budget increase will be an additional \$10.43 per \$100,000 value for homes and \$15.63 per \$100,000 value for businesses

The Chamber will hold their postponed golf tournament this Friday at the Ponderosa Country Club. Our Annual Auction was postponed from August to Thursday, October 8th.

PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Second Reading – Ordinance to Amend the Animal Control Ordinance to Reflect Changes Made by Lexington County was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second a Council Member Etheredge to approve. After Discussion, a vote was taken.

Vote: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Cain

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Contractor for the Replacement of Town Hall Building A Roof
A motion was made by Council Member Hall to accept the bid as presented with CSS Enterprises as the lowest bidder with a second by Council Member Wise. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

B. Approval of Funds to Purchase New Street Dept. Mower with Remaining Funds from Town Hall Roof Budget

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Gambrell to approve the funds to purchase the mower locally from B-L Rental at a price of \$11,332.27. After discussion with Counsel, Council Member Cain withdrew his motion and Council Member Gambrell withdrew his second. A motion was then made by Council Member Cain to direct staff to bring back to Council three bids for the mower that meets or exceeds state specs with a second by Council

NEW BUSINESS #B. CONT'D.

Member Gambrell. Discussion was held after which the motion and second was removed. Council Member Cain then made a motion to table this request with no second therefore the motion fails. A motion was then made by Council Member Prouse to approve the funds to purchase a new Street Department lawn mower with funds remaining from the new Town Hall roof not to exceed \$12,300 with a second by Council Member Hall. Discussion was held after which Council Member Gambrell called for the question. Council Member Lemon requested to speak after Council Member Gambrell had called for the question, therefore Mayor Shull had a vote to end discussion.

VOTE: 0 Approved 9 Denied

Council Member Lemon and Mitchell spoke concerning the purchase of the mower. Manager Luckadoo stated Council is not voting on the purchase of a specific mower but approving the funds to purchase a mower up to \$12,300. After further discussion a vote was taken on the purchase of the mower.

VOTE: 6 Approved 3 Denied – Council Member Etheredge, Cain, Mitchell

C. Approval of Funds to Purchase New Christmas Lights as Budgeted for FY 2020/21

A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by Council Member Etheredge to approve the funds to purchase Christmas lights as was put in the Hospitality Tax budget FY 2020/2021 and also as presented in the Town packet that was sent out last week. Manager Luckadoo stated a memo was sent out this afternoon with an amendment to the quote previously received. Council Member Prouse withdrew his motion and Council Member Etheredge withdrew her second due to the difference in price. Council Member Prouse made a new motion to approve funds to purchase new Christmas lights as budgeted in the Hospitality Tax budget and based on the revised memo sent out today with a second by Council Member Etheredge. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 2 Denied – Council Member Cain, Mitchell

D. First Reading on an Ordinance to Rezone Two (2) Parcels of Property Located at 301 West Church (TMS#005920-05-004) and 305 West Church Street (TMS#005920-05-001) from R-3, Multi-Family Residential, to C-2, Office and Institutional Commercial was held. A motion was made by Council Member Prouse with a second by

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NEW BUSINESS #D Cont'd.

Council Member Wise to approve first reading. Patricia Saeed along with the owners of the property, Asia America Immigration Services, came forward to answer any questions Council may have. After discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 7 Approved 2 Denied – Council Member Cain, Hall

MANAGER'S REPORT – Ted Luckadoo

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING EVENT

- The electronic recycling event was held a couple weekends ago. We had 488 vehicles come through the event for tire disposal, electronic disposal, paper shredding, and donations to Mission Lexington. It was once again a very successful event.

CENSUS 2020

- U.S. Census has announced that door to door data collection will begin on August 11, 2020 in South Carolina. They have also announced that the Census collection will end on September 30th.
- As of 8/6/20, here are the updated statistics for Census 2020:
 - National Response – 65.7% (Up from 63.2% last meeting)
 - South Carolina – 59.7% (Up from 56.4%) (43 out of 52 States)
 - Lexington County – 66.8% (Up from 64.8%) (4th out of 46 counties)
 - Saluda County – 48.2% (Up from 46.6%) (38th out of 46 counties)
 - Batesburg-Leesville – 58.6% (Up from 56.7%) (71 out of 271 cities/towns)
 - Batesburg-Leesville – 68% (2010 total response % for the Town)

CDBG HOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- We have spoken with Sandy Fox from Lexington County CDBG and we are looking to partner with them soon for an information session at Town Hall on the County “Minor Home Repair” and “Comprehensive Housing Rehabilitation” programs for our lower income residents who need work done to their owner-occupied residences.
- The Minor Home repair program offers awards of up to \$13,999 while the Comprehensive program goes up to \$25,000. Minor home repair can go towards roof or

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MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

- HVAC, window replacement, porch or stair repairs, etc. The comprehensive program would bring a home up to code.
- The program is open year-round and they have plenty of funding available. Our thought and idea are to have their staff come to Town Hall to discuss what they can do and the process and to answer questions. Once we establish a date for this, we will place notices in the next water bill with information on the program and announcing the informational session at Town Hall.

NOVEMBER ELECTION LEESVILLE PRECINCT LOCATION CHANGE

- Leesville United Methodist Church and the Lexington County Election Office have confirmed that voting for the upcoming November election will be held at LUMC for the Leesville precinct and not at the cafeteria at Leesville College Park. They will be publicizing and notifying voters that vote at that precinct.

SCDPS COVID-19 GRANT

- The BLPD has been awarded a grant through the SC Department of Public Safety in the amount of \$7,864 for COVID-19 equipment and supplies. The BLPD will be utilizing it to purchase Nitrile Gloves, masks, respirators, hand sanitizer, infrared digital thermometers, EZ personal protection kits, goggles, disinfectant wipes, peroxide, and N95 masks.

SC CARES ACT REQUESTED REIMBURSEMENT

- We have completed our submission for reimbursement for South Carolina Cares Act. Our total requested reimbursement is \$23,602.45. We will update Council once we know the status of the reimbursement request. Here is the allocation breakdown submitted:
 - o Salary Reimbursement - \$11,014.59
 - o Paid Sick or Medical Leave - \$8,121.51
 - o Telework Capability - \$1,945.55
 - o Other COVID 19 Expenses - \$2,520.80

FOG PROGRAM/ORDINANCE UPDATE

- We have received a DRAFT copy of the Fats, Oils, and Grease Program and Ordinance changes. It is under review by staff at this time. Once we have finalized review, we will work with Summit Engineering to put into a final format to Council.

MANAGER'S REPORT CONT'D.

FACILITY REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

- To date, we have been able to make good progress on the facility repairs and improvements that Council budgeted for this year.
- We have finalized all the electrical problems and replaced all the airlines at the FD stations.
- We have also finalized the installation of the two new HVAC units at the Train Depot and we obviously had approval of the Town Hall roof contractor on the agenda for tonight.
- We are still awaiting final word from the roofing contractor for the PD on when he can begin work. We are hopeful that will begin late this month or first of October.

TOWN FINANCIAL/BUDGET UPDATE

SEE NEXT THREE PAGES

TOWN FINANCIAL/BUDGET UPDATE

Monthly Account Balances for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

| | Aug-20 | Jul-20 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund Checking | \$ 1,587,048.12 | \$ 1,773,743.00 |
| General Fund Savings | \$ - | \$ - |
| Police Donations | \$ 5,155.06 | \$ 4,655.06 |
| Fire Department 1% | \$ 17,581.74 | \$ 14,740.23 |
| Municipal Court | \$ 32,906.28 | \$ 32,584.93 |
| Victims Assistance | \$ 1,073.76 | \$ 714.00 |
| Total (Non-Utility Funds) | \$ 1,643,764.96 | \$ 1,826,437.22 |
| Utility Fund Checking | \$ 149,392.83 | \$ 92,722.75 |
| Utility Fund Reserve | \$ 767,725.47 | \$ 767,683.46 |
| Capital Improvement Project/Impact | \$ 1,520,775.86 | \$ 1,483,730.95 |
| USDA Debt Service Reserve | \$ 564,731.85 | \$ 564,700.97 |
| USDA Depreciation | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.00 |
| Senior Assistance | \$ 2.00 | \$ 2.00 |
| Total (All Utility Funds) | \$ 3,002,631.01 | \$ 2,908,843.13 |
| Hospitality Tax Checking | \$ 761,699.34 | \$ 731,740.64 |
| Total All Funds | \$ 5,408,095.31 | \$ 5,467,020.99 |

Monthly Account Balances for July Since 2014

| | Aug-20 | Aug-19 | Aug-18 | Aug-17 | Aug-16 | Aug-15 | Aug-14 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| General Fund Checking | \$ 1,587,048.12 | \$ 1,272,435.29 | \$ 1,555,865.60 | \$ 1,522,832.27 | \$ 1,364,152.08 | \$ 1,347,194.55 | \$ 1,240,686.53 |
| General Fund Savings | \$ - | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 37,351.55 | \$ 43,401.55 | \$ 46,433.63 | \$ 154,645.07 |
| Police Donations | \$ 5,155.06 | \$ 11,558.00 | \$ 9,757.17 | \$ 8,146.52 | \$ 7,766.10 | \$ 11,804.98 | \$ 11,349.75 |
| Fire Department 1% | \$ 17,581.74 | \$ 13,875.50 | \$ 14,238.98 | \$ 10,979.05 | \$ 14,069.87 | \$ 11,149.01 | \$ 8,638.40 |
| Municipal Court | \$ 32,906.28 | \$ 30,975.24 | \$ 31,073.07 | \$ 33,587.40 | \$ 34,993.83 | \$ 29,722.92 | \$ 31,404.58 |
| Victims Assistance | \$ 1,073.76 | \$ 289.67 | \$ 280.77 | \$ 4.22 | \$ 233.55 | \$ 143.30 | \$ 195.59 |
| Total (Non-Utility Funds) | \$ 1,643,764.96 | \$ 1,366,485.25 | \$ 1,648,567.14 | \$ 1,612,901.01 | \$ 1,464,616.98 | \$ 1,446,448.39 | \$ 1,446,919.92 |
| Utility Fund Checking | \$ 149,392.83 | \$ 256,559.43 | \$ 324,234.51 | \$ 485,624.80 | \$ 377,448.76 | \$ 188,174.28 | \$ 47,092.65 |
| Utility Fund Reserve | \$ 767,725.47 | \$ 763,671.20 | \$ 757,585.86 | \$ 1,011,818.95 | \$ 650,792.12 | \$ 782,777.02 | \$ 460,969.33 |
| Capital Improvement Project/Impact | \$ 1,520,775.86 | \$ 1,291,512.30 | \$ 777,588.04 | \$ 58,295.72 | \$ 39,501.72 | \$ 11,907.72 | \$ 3,880.72 |
| USDA Debt Service Reserve | \$ 564,731.85 | \$ 561,749.82 | \$ 557,273.27 | \$ 231,081.00 | \$ 231,081.00 | \$ 231,080.00 | \$ 231,080.00 |
| USDA Depreciation | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.00 | \$ 3.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ 1.00 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Senior Assistance | \$ 2.00 | \$ 2.00 | \$ 2,453.46 | \$ 1,611.57 | \$ 2,269.31 | \$ 3,114.39 | \$ 1,215.85 |
| Total (All Utility Funds) | \$ 3,002,631.01 | \$ 2,873,497.75 | \$ 2,419,138.14 | \$ 1,788,433.04 | \$ 1,301,493.91 | \$ 1,217,053.41 | \$ 744,238.55 |
| Hospitality Tax Checking | \$ 761,699.34 | \$ 320,249.72 | | | | | |
| Total All Funds | \$ 5,408,095.31 | \$ 4,560,232.72 | \$ 4,067,705.28 | \$ 3,401,334.05 | \$ 2,766,110.89 | \$ 2,663,501.80 | \$ 2,191,158.47 |

General Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru August 2020 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 805,151.91 | \$ 4,334,551.00 | 19% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 710,680.33 | \$ 4,334,551.00 | 16% |

Utility Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru August 2020 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 567,572.84 | \$ 3,315,031.00 | 17% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 396,447.86 | \$ 3,315,031.00 | 12% |

Victim's Assistance Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru August 2020 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 1,288.89 | \$ 7,500.00 | 17% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 1,137.36 | \$ 7,500.00 | 15% |

Hospitality Tax Fund

| Revenues/Expenses thru August 2020 | Actual | Budget | % Budget |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------|
| Operating Revenues | \$ 93,568.07 | \$ 452,000.00 | 21% |
| Operating Expenses | \$ 21,880.99 | \$ 452,000.00 | 5% |

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

POSSIBLE ACTIONS BY COUNCIL IN FOLLOW UP TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MONTH'S MEETING – October 12, 2020

A motion was made by Council Member Cain with a second by Council Member Mitchell to place Shirley Street on the agenda next month for discussion. After discussion, a vote was taken.


VOTE: 8 Approved 1 Denied – Council Member Hall

ADJOURNMENT

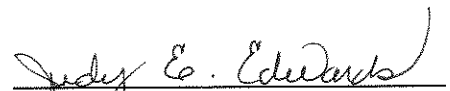
A motion was made by Council Member Hall with a second by Council Member Etheredge to adjourn at 8:22 P. M. With no discussion, a vote was taken.

VOTE: 9 Approved 0 Denied

Approved this 12th day of October 2020.


Lancer D. Shull, Mayor

ATTEST:


Judy E. Edwards, Town Clerk