

A MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2010 AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Alton McCollum. COUNCILPERSONS: Bo Griffin, Ella Bamberg, Janeth Walker, Buzzy Bunch, Teresa Hannibal, and Nancy Foster. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Chief George Morris and Jerry Halmon.

Mayor McCollum called the meeting to order and Councilperson Bamberg gave the invocation.

Clerk Watson took the roll with everyone being present except Councilman Bunch.

Councilperson Bamberg made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilperson Foster made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilman Bunch entered the meeting in progress.

Councilman Griffin made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2010 meeting as received. Councilperson Walker made the necessary second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilman Griffin made the motion to accept the budget and finance report as information. Councilperson Hannibal made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Under Commission Reports:

Commissioner Griffin reported that the Bamberg County Chamber of Commerce was doing things to bring the communities of Denmark and Bamberg together which he applauded. Commissioner Griffin reported that the Salkehatchie Stew Event was very successful. He had no Sanitation report at that time.

Councilperson Foster told Council tickets were available for the Garden Tour which would be held this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. She told Council the Salkehatchie Stew Event was a very successful event.

Commissioner Bamberg reported that licensing was going very well and reminded them that it was almost time to begin the renewal process. Clerk Watson told Council they had issued three or four licenses for new businesses last week. Chief Morris reported that he was now up to date with most of the past due licenses.

Commissioner Walker had no report at that time and asked Clerk Watson if he had received any news concerning the rate increase for health insurance this year.

Clerk Watson informed Council that he had not received and further news but that they were being told the increase could be five to six percent. He said he did not know how much of the increase would go towards the employees as compared to the employer.

Commissioner Bunch reported that things were rather quiet in the Police Department with nothing pressing at this time.

Commissioner Hannibal, telling Council that everything was going well in the Fire Department, said she had nothing to report at that time.

Commissioner Foster reported that things were running smoothly with the Buildings, Parks and Recreation Department. She informed Council that the baseball program started tonight with the jamboree being held on this Saturday. Commissioner Foster said Foster Park and Frog Park looked ok but said straw needed to be placed at Foster Park. She reported that the BCEDC had met today and that since the school referendum had passed that the school district was now looking at a site for the new school. Commissioner Foster reported that the hospital was presently running in the black and that an OBGYN clinic would be locating at the hospital in the future.

Under New Business:

Mayor McCollum appointed Councilperson Foster, Griffin and Hannibal to the 2010-2011 Budget Committee and asked Councilperson Foster to chair the committee.

Under Old Business:

Councilperson Walker informed Council that the July 4th Celebration Committee had met several times to discuss the July 4th Celebration for this year. She told Council they recognized that Tobul Accumulators and Phoenix Specialties may be experiencing budget cuts this year but learned from them that they are willing to once again furnish the fireworks at no cost to the City. She reminded Council that July 4th falls on a Sunday this year and that Phoenix and Tobul agreed that they had rather have the event on Saturday instead of Sunday. Councilperson Walker told Council the Committee met again today and agreed to pay \$1,200.00 for a stage and sound system which they felt was a great price. Councilperson Walker said the Committee recommended that Council proceed with the July 4th Celebration as planned.

Councilperson Walker made the motion to proceed with the July 4th Celebration as recommended by the July 4th Committee. Councilman Griffin made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mayor McCollum read the recommendations from the Recreation Committee concerning the basketball courts at the Ness Complex. The recommendations stated that Mr. Williams was requesting additions to the basketball court that had been accomplished some time ago and that they had installed a water fountain, fenced the area, installed lighting, padded the goal posts, and when there was organized play made the bathrooms available. It was the Committee's finding that Mr. Williams had not been at the Basketball Court in some time or he would have observed the improvements. The

Committee voiced that Mr. Williams continues to come before Council with accusations and arguing and naming things that needed to be done.

The Recreation Committee recommended that Mr. Williams not be allowed to address Council at anytime in the future on this issue saying it did not matter what has been done at the basketball courts there was always some other request. The Committee stated that they had found that Mr. Williams was not a resident of the City of Bamberg but a resident of Orangeburg County and that he had a criminal record. The Committee recommended that Mr. Williams or any group he represented not be allowed to speak or recommend on behalf of the City of Bamberg concerning this issue in the future. The Committee further recommended that Mr. Williams not represent the City at any function or in any capacity saying the City of Bamberg only engages reputable individuals to run the sport's programs.

Mayor McCollum told Council they had heard the Committee's recommendations.

Councilman Griffin made the motion to accept the recommendations from the Recreation Committee and for Council to approve the recommendations that were made by the Committee. Councilman Bunch made the second. Councilpersons Foster, Bunch and Griffin voted in favor of the motion. Councilpersons Walker, Hannibal and Bamberg opposed the motion. Mayor McCollum voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

During the questions from the press and audience, Jerry Halmon asked if the July 4th Celebration would be held on Saturday.

Councilperson Walker informed him they were looking at Saturday since July 4th fell on Sunday this year which was a worship day. She said it would likely be held on July 3rd.

Councilperson Bamberg thanked everyone for the cards, letters and prayers during the passing of her mother.

With no further business, Councilperson Bamberg made the motion to adjourn. Councilperson Hannibal made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk

Mayor