

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, JULY 12, 2004 AT 5:30 P.M AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Alton McCollum.

COUNCILPERSONS: Buddy Sandifer, Frances Johnson, David Walker, Betty Wells, Betty Mack, and Nancy Foster. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Phyllis Overstreet, James Smoak, Curtis Mizzell, Sammie Bamberg, Leroy Chapman, Karen Proveaux, and Johnnie Smoak.

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

Clerk Watson took the roll with everyone being present.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilperson Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson informed Council that Mr. Ridge was not present and that Mr. Proveaux had decided to have the revival at his church.

Councilman Walker made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2004 meeting as received. Councilperson Wells made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Foster made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2004 meeting held at 6:00 p.m. to include the amendment to read that Councilperson Johnson entered the meeting a few minutes later and not Councilperson Foster. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Wells made the motion to approve the minutes of June 28, 2004 meeting held at 6:15 p.m. as received. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Councilperson Johnson made the motion to approve the Budget and Finance Report as presented. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that the year ended with revenues exceeding expenses by \$41,352.00. He explained the report in detail to Council.

Under Commission Reports:

Councilman Sandifer informed Council that this year's baseball program was the best ever despite a few problems. He said the Pony League Team would be going to Seneca to play for the State Title.

Councilman Sandifer told Council that the addition of the Police Department was under way.

He informed Council that he had talked to Mrs. Hammett of the Bamberg Rescue Squad next door to see if the City might enter into an agreement with them to develop their property next to City Hall for a parking lot. He explained that the lot would be shared by both parties. Councilman Sandifer told Council that during City Court the extra parking spaces were needed. He said the area could hold around 40 to 50 parking spaces.

Mayor McCollum asked Councilman Sandifer to pursue the project.

Councilman Sandifer informed Council that the Bamberg City Economic Development Commission met today and was saddened to learn of the sudden death of Mr. Charles Morgan who served on the Commission. Councilman Sandifer said Mr. Morgan was a good man. He informed Council that no actions were taken by the Commission today.

Councilperson Mack asked about the status of the USA Enterprise Building.

Councilman Sandifer explained that the Mungo Casket Company had moved some equipment into the building but that they were seeking funds to make the needed repairs to the building before they could start operations.

Councilperson Johnson asked the members of the Police Department present to introduce themselves to Council. Leroy Chapman, Curtis Mizzell, James Smoak, Karen Proveaux, Johnnie Smoak and Sammie Bamberg introduced themselves and told Council how long they had been with the City. Councilperson Johnson thanked them for coming and referred to the employees as Bamberg's finest.

Councilperson Johnson informed Council that during court today there were several cases of people who owned dogs but were not aware they were required to purchase a \$5.00 tag each year. She told Council that she had asked Clerk Watson to highlight the Dog Ordinance in the local paper in order to inform the public more about the requirements of the Dog Ordinance.

Councilperson Wells thanked Mr. Sweatman and his crew for the great job performed during the July 4th Celebration. She informed Council that there have been no complaints concerning the youth workers this summer.

Councilperson Mack informed Council that Clerk Watson was still pursuing available medical insurance coverages for the City employees.

Clerk Watson explained that he had to ask for more detailed information concerning the available insurance coverages.

Councilperson Foster informed Council that renewals for business licenses have been mailed out.

Under New Business:

After some discussion on the placement of a UPS drop box at the Heritage Parking Lot on the birm, Council agreed that the placement of the box would be setting a precedent and decided not to allow it.

After Clerk Watson explained the bid proposals from SCB&T and Enterprise Bank, Councilperson Sandifer made the motion to go with Enterprise Bank's proposal even though it cost a little more in the long run since it contained less requirements. Councilperson Johnson made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that he had received permission from Mayor McCollum and Insurance Commissioner Betty Mack to notify the SC Insurance Reserve Fund that the City would be declining insurance coverage on property, tort and vehicles effective August 24th due to their 45% increase in premiums. He explained that they had decided to go with the MASC's SCMIRF program which would save the City around 15 to 20 thousand dollars per year. Clerk Watson informed Council that they would have to pass a resolution at the next meeting in order to join SCMIRF. Council felt this was a good move.

Clerk Watson explained the GASB 34 requirements and the need for a Fixed Asset Management Program. He informed Council that he had been contacted by RCI Technologies, Inc. who presented him with a proposal to do the necessary work which would run between \$5,500.00 and \$6,500.00. Clerk Watson told Council that Auditor Dell Brown had been involved in the process to review the proposal by RCI.

Councilperson Foster made the motion to have RCI Technologies do the Fixed Asset Management work necessary to comply with GASB 34. Councilman Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mayor McCollum and Clerk Watson explained to Council that they wanted them to be informed that the City had been deeded property and facilities at the Barnwell SCAT Park by the Bamberg BPW. They explained that the property and facilities included a water tank, a wastewater treatment plant and a water treatment plant. They explained to Council the process in which the grant was secured in the City of Bamberg's name in order for the BPW to be involved in the project in order to move the SCAT Park forward. Council was told that an agreement was also signed in which the BPW would now operate the facilities.

Councilperson Foster said she saw no problem with the arrangements but felt the City should be aware ahead of time when they are securing grant funds in their name. She asked if the BPW Chairman's signature should not have been on the deed. Councilperson Foster said she would like more details concerning the arrangement.

Clerk Watson explained that the BPW were the operators of the facilities and would bear all expenses associated with the operation of the facilities.

Mayor McCollum informed Council that he would have Manager Ellis come and explain the details of the arrangement.

Under Old Business:

Mayor McCollum explained to Council that Manager Ellis had informed him that if the City would contribute \$25,000.00 that the BPW would furnish the Wren Street area with the fire hydrants that were needed.

Councilperson Foster asked if any grants were available for the project. Mayor McCollum informed Council that he and Manager Ellis had discussed the grants and went nowhere.

Councilman Sandifer said he wanted to see a proposed plan in order to justify what the City's share would be.

Mayor McCollum told Council he would ask Manager Ellis to come and explain the proposed project.

During the announcements, Mayor McCollum thanked everyone for their help with the July 4th Celebration.

Councilperson Johnson voiced that she felt the City should not be paying for water, sodas and candy bars for employees on the job for one department and not the other departments. She told Council that she was seeing bills in the Police Department for dog food, candy bars, and Havoline motor oil. She also mentioned that bills for mileage for James Smoak and Ben Hay who worked drug busts were also included in the bills. Councilperson Johnson said some of the bills would not get paid.

Mayor McCollum informed Council that he had some of the same problems with another department but that he had taken care of the problem.

Councilman Sandifer voiced that he felt it was ridiculous to bring this before Council. He told Councilperson Johnson that as the Police Commissioner she should take care of the problem. He assured her that Council would approve of any decisions she made.

Councilperson Mack informed Council that they would be receiving invitations to the Job Corps Graduation to be held on the last Friday in July which would take place at 1:00 p.m.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that he had learned that the County of Bamberg had no other economic development incentives to offer to prospective industries except for what the State of SC was now offering.

Phyllis Overstreet said some areas offered fees in lieu of taxes which she felt was unfair to the school districts in those areas.

With no further business, Councilman Sandifer made the motion to adjourn. Councilperson Wells made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk

Mayor