

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, JULY 14, 2003 AT 5:30 P.M. AT CITY HALL. MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Alton McCollum. COUNCILPERSONS: Buddy Sandifer, David Walker, Betty Wells, Betty Mack, and Nancy Foster. CLERK: Bruce Watson. VISITORS: Phyllis Overstreet, Cindy Nichols, Jim Reed, and Chief George Morris.

Mayor McCollum called the meeting to order and Mrs. Foster gave the invocation.

Clerk Watson took the roll with everyone being present except Mrs. Johnson who he said had called to say she had a medical emergency.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to approve the agenda as received. Mrs. Wells made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Mack made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2003 meeting as received. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Wells made the motion to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2003 meeting as received. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Walker made the motion to approve the Budget and Finance Reports as received. Mrs. Mack made the necessary second. All approved. The motion carried.

Clerk Watson explained that if the City had received its sales tax revenues of \$54,000.00 from the State in June and its reimbursement of \$70,000.00 from the SCDOT for the Parking Lot Project that the City would have ended the year with revenues exceeding expenditures by \$93,000.00. He explained that the City had a very good year even though some departments were over budget in some line items.

Under Commission Reports:

Mr. Sandifer reported that the sports program had calmed down and that two teams had made it to the playoffs before being beaten out. Mr. Sandifer told Council that 576 kids had participated in the baseball program this year. He thanked Jerry Durgan for his article concerning the vandalism at the Ness Park and explained that the problems had been corrected. Mr. Sandifer informed Council that a Denmark business man had donated \$200.00 to help with the repairs at the Ness Park.

Mr. Sandifer informed Council that the 4th of July Celebration was great. He thanked Tobul Accumulators and Phoenix Specialties for providing the fireworks program.

Chief Morris presented Council with the new assignment list for his police officers. He informed Council that the program to have the officers visit the merchants once a month was not going very well. He explained that some businesses were not being visited by his officers. Chief Morris said some officers were doing the visiting and some were not

doing the visiting. Chief Morris told Council that the officers being paid the most were doing less visits.

Chief Morris presented a paper which he said showed the number of incident reports and traffic tickets written by each officer doing the year. He once again said the officers being paid the most were doing less work.

Mr. Sandifer said he felt a second report was needed in order to compare the present figures to in order to see if the officers improve at all.

Chief Morris said his department was running pretty well but that the office was in a terrible mess. He informed Council that SCLED reports were suppose to be sent by internet by now but that the records were still being sent by hand. He said he had given the office help sixty days to begin the new process. Chief Morris went on to say that internet access was put in the office but that his help had never used the internet before.

Mayor McCollum voiced that he would have to look into the problem.

Mrs. Foster asked if SCLED would give them more time.

Chief Morris explained that the time had run out. He voiced that he needed a room in which to put the equipment with no phone access and in which no visitation would be allowed.

Mrs. Wells asked if his office help was willing to be trained.

Chief Morris said they were.

Mayor McCollum said he would get right on the problem. He asked if there was any improvement after the meeting.

Chief Morris said some improvements had been made concerning the time taken for lunch and reporting to work on time.

Mr. Walker infomed Council that only one bid had been received for the 77 GMC Tanker Truck which was for \$5,126.00. He explained that one bid was not received because it came in late.

Mr. Sandifer made the motion to award the \$5,126.00 bid to Orangeburg County Fire District. Mrs. Foster made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Walker went on to say that everything in the Fire Department was running smoothly and he commended the department for their work during the July 4th Celebration.

Mrs. Mack commented that everyone has told her how great the Fire Department's equipment looked at all times.

Mrs. Wells informed Council that the Sanitation Department was running well in spite of the wet weather.

Mr. Walker asked Chief Morris to please look at the property in front of his house which had become overgrown.

Mrs. Foster reported that business license renewals were mailed out today.

Under Old Business:

Mrs. Wells made the motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 03-07 to annex 1.5 acres of property owned by National Rental Alliance into the City of Bamberg. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Under New Business:

Mrs. Foster made the motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 03-08 to close a section of Railroad Avenue from New Bridge Street running westward for 900 feet to become a part of Heritage Park. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mr. Walker asked if the land had been surveyed next to the Jones property.

Clerk Watson informed Council that if a problem occurred with the Jones property that it would have to be settled between the developer and Mr. Jones now since the City no longer owned the property.

Council questioned the unkept property of the developer next to the Jones property. Mayor McCollum said he felt sure the developer would address the problem once the project was completed.

Clerk Watson explained to Council that the City must maintain that the Heritage Park is City Property and therefore treat it like City owned property.

Mayor McCollum said that any advertising signs which Piggly Wiggly had placed on the birm must be taken down after the grand opening period.

Mr. Sandifer said he felt the Mayor needed to talk to the manager of Piggly Wiggly before any actions were taken.

Mayor McCollum said he would handle the situation.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to go into executive session to discuss negotiations incident to an extension of a contract and to discuss the compensation of an employee. Mrs. Mack made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mrs. Foster made the motion to come out of the executive session. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

Mayor McCollum announced that no actions had been taken in executive session.

During the announcements, Mr. Sandifer asked Chief Morris to look into the problem with an individual draining his pool and allowing the water to flow into his neighbor's yard. He explained that the pool was located at 236 Lacey Street.

Cindy Nichols asked if the pool next to the Wedertz property had been drained.

Chief Morrissaid he had looked at the pool but said he could not require the people to drain it.

Mrs. Foster said the pool had been drained by the owners.

Mrs. Mack informed Council that Job Corps would be holding their graduation on Friday, August 4th. She invited Council to the graduation.

Mayor McCollum announced that Council would meet at 5:30 p.m.a week from tonight to discuss the compensation of an employee. He asked Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Wells and Mr. Walker to come back to Council with a recommendation.

With no further business, Mrs. Mack made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Walker made the second. All approved. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk

Mayor