

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

Present: **Mayor:** The Honorable Ronnie Jackson
 Council Members: Councilman James L. Cohen
 Councilman James H. Grant
 Councilman Dawan Smith
 Council Lady Lee Harvey-Fitts
 Council Lady Lottie Lewis
 Council Lady Vernia Harney

Administration: Henry B. Youmans Jr., Town Administrator
 Attorney: Kenneth Davis, Esquire

Department Heads: Alan Stanley, Water & Sewer Superintendent
 Chief Robert Sullivan, Police Department
 Lonzado Badger, Street Supervisor

Absent: **Council Members:** Council Lady Lee Harvey-Fitts
 Department Heads: None

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jackson at 5:45 pm. Mayor Jackson asked for a motion to convene into Executive Session. Council Lady Vernia Harney made a motion to convene into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council approved.

Council Lady Vernia Harney made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council approved. No action taken during session, legal/personnel matters information only.

ROLL CALL

Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk did roll call of all Mayor and Council; Council Lady Fitts was absent.

PRAYER

Everyone stood while a prayer was offered by Councilman Smith and remained standing to salute the flag and recite the "Pledge of Allegiance."

APPROVAL OF TONIGHT'S AGENDA

Councilman Smith made a motion to approve tonight's agenda as outline with the corrections if any, is to be made and added the discussion about the extra holiday – December 26. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Grant made a motion to approve the minutes of December 10, 2019, regular Council Meeting as written, with any corrections, if there be any. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Grant Update
Final Updated notice has been accepted by Department of Commerce, release was done and publicized. All 3(three) projects are moving forward, should start them in the next several months.
- B. Dec. 26 – day after Christmas
Councilman Smith made a motion to approve add this to the agenda. Councilman Grant seconded the motion. Council approved. Councilman Cohen asked question how to prevent this from happening in the future. Mayor Jackson stated that Mr. Youmans will bring any issues such as this before council to sign off on.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Verizon Contract
They are still considering their options. Concerns about the maintenance of the building and property and the public having access. Mr. Youmans will make contact with them for an update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Departments – Chief Sullivan reported that everything is coming along. The department is coming along with some investigations. The new vehicles are being utilized. Councilman Grant compliment Chief Sullivan and his department on a job well done with the town.

Mechanic – Councilman Cohen asked Mr. Youmans where the process was at with the hiring of the mechanic. Mr. Youmans is waiting on some information that was requested from the individual that they are looking to hire. Mr. Youmans and the finance director are going over the cost of contracting out the vehicle repairs within the last year.

Splash Park

Mr. Youmans and the Attorney are doing a title search on the property that we are looking to purchase.

Finance

Henry B. Youmans gave the Finance Report, for current fiscal year. Mr. Youmans stated that we are 7(seven) months into the current fiscal year. A budget workshop will be planned to revise current budget.

Water and Sewer Department

Alan Stanley, Public Works Supervisor informed Council that they are in the process of finishing up all meter readings. Also trying to finish up some of the water leaks and sewer lines repairs. Councilman Smith address the issue of possibly needing more man power.

Sanitation

Lonzado Badger, Supervisor of Sanitation, informed the Council that they are picking up the bag leaves as quickly as they can. They are also about to start cutting the grass in the town area.

Personnel

Council Lady Harvey, informed and introduce the new Town Clerk to the council Belinda Owens. Council Lady Harney moved to have a motion of the signing off of the hiring of the Town Clerk. Council Grant second the motion. Council approved.

Community Development

Council Lady Lewis reported that they Medical unit will be returning to at least twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday) starting on February 10th. This will be free of charge.

Speaking with the school to have a vehicle come to the school to give free vaccinations and also a Technical bus to coming to the school, starting the first of the school year. This will be free of charge.

Meeting with Chief Sullivan to continue with Cops and Council. Starting February 18, we will have Community and Cops – going to different locations. On February 14 –Positive Tickets. Starting April 15 – Coffee and Cops, other dates for this event: August 19th & November 18th.

Al Sharpton's team provided the food that was given out the week before Christmas.

Mr. Johnson with Rev. Sharpton's team, is working on a packet for the community about black on black crime, also working on a food drive for food to be delivered once a month.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Randy Creech - What is the future of Allendale?

Horace Matthews – Topic: Growth & Development in 2020. Comments/Concerns: Follow-up:
What plans do you have for business development, affordable housing, and police protection for 2020?

ANNOUNCEMENT

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Cohen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council Approved.