

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2020**

Present:

Mayor: The Honorable Ronnie Jackson

Council Members: Council Lady Vernie Harnie
Councilman James H. Grant
Councilman Dawan Smith
Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts
Council Lady Lottie Lewis
Councilman James L. Cohen

Administration: Henry B. Youmans Jr., Town Administrator
Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk

Attorney: Kenneth Davis, Esquire

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

Absent:

Council Members: None

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, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and receiving legal advice. Council Lady Fitts made a motion to convene into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council approved.

Council Lady Lewis made a motion to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved. Council approved.

Mayor Jackson asked for a motion at 6:07 pm, to convene back into Executive Session, for the purpose of discussing the Town Administrator Agreement. Council Lady Harney made a motion to convene back into Executive Session. Motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.

Council Lady Harney made a motion to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council Lady Harney made a motion to amend the tonight's agenda – under new business after Item #D to place – The Consideration for the Town Administrator agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council Members approved – Councilman Smith, Council Lady Lewis, Council Lady Fitts, and Council Lady Harney. Opposed Members – Councilman Grant and Councilman Cohen.

Action on Executive Session Items, if Any.

No actions were taken in Executive Session.

ROLL CALL

Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk did roll call of Mayor and all Council Members. All Council Members were present.

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

Council Lady Fitts made a motion to approve tonight's agenda as outlined with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Lady Fitts made a motion to approve the minutes of Council Meeting on **September 15, 2020**. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Lewis Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. **Contract – Red Stick Communications**

Mr. Youmans recommend that the Council Members agree and accept this contract. Council Lady Harney made a motion to agree and accept the Town of Allendale and Red Stick Communications Contract. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council Approved.

B. **New Billing Statement**

Mr. Youmans did the expatiation of the new Billing Statement to the citizens about the new Utility Billing Statement that would start in November.

NEW BUSINESS

A. **AFHS Beta Club/National Honor Society**

Mrs. Price and Mrs. Oswald, brought some students to introduce a blessing box to the Council Members. These students were asking if they are able to place this Blessing Box on Flat Street at a location near the Community Center- Freedom Park. This Blessing Box will benefit some of our citizens that are in need. The students along with citizens are able to place items such as clothing, hygiene items, food and other items that maybe needed. Council Lady Fitts made a motion that AFHS Beta Club/National Honor Society be able to place the Blessing Box there on Flat Street at the Community Center – Freedom Park Area. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council Approved.

- B. 1st Reading of Ordinance of Red Stick Communications.
Council Lady Fitts made a motion on the 1st Reading of this Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council Approved.
- C. FOIA/Ordinance Information Session
Attorney Davis presented an Information Handout for the citizens, explaining how an ordinance is adopted and the procedure.
- D. 2nd Reading Ordinance to Amend the Town of Allendale Code
Attorney Davis advised the citizens that this Ordinance is for the Town to have an agreement with the Town Administrator and approve it. Also, Council Lady Lewis made a motion to add the word Quorum to this Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council Members Approved – Council Lady Lewis, Council Lady Harney, Councilman Smith and Council Lady Fitts. Opposed Council Members – Councilman Grant. .
- E. Town Administrator Agreement
Council Lady Harney made a motion to approve the agreement with the Town Administrator. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council Members Approved – Council Lady Fitts, Councilman Smith, Council Lady Harney, and Council Lady Lewis. Opposed Council Members – Councilman Grant.
- F. Resolution of Trick or Treating – October 31, 2020
Per Mr. Youmans advised due to the Covid-10 Pandemic that is occurring, the Town of Allendale has taken into consideration the safety of our citizens. The Town of Allendale has banned door to door trick or treating and a curfew will be in place for minors 17 and under. Council Lady Fitts made a motion that the Halloween Resolution be approved. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance - Councilman Smith stated that he gave a big thank you to Mr. Youmans along with the personnel in the office for the great work they have done. Per Councilman Smith with the great work we have been able to get 1 new vehicle for the Water Department and 2 patrol vehicles for the Police Department.

Per Mr. Youmans we have exhausted 40% of our budget thus far and the majority of the expense has been due to the increase of our insurance coverage for our employees.

Police Departments – Captain Ford gave the report and stated that on September 25, 2020, Officer D. Badger graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. Officer Badger is now a Class 1 officer in the State of South Carolina. Captain Ford also stated that there are still 2 positions that are open at the Police Department. On October 5, 2020, all restrictions have been lifted off of the South Carolina Court System, they are looking to get all backed log case on the docket.

Personnel/Mechanics – Council Lady Harney stated that after long overdue, the council wishes to acknowledge that they have chosen, Mr. Henry Youmans, Jr. as the Town Administrator for The Town of Allendale.

Per Mr. Youmans, the position of the Mechanic is still on hold until the revision of the budget in January.

Water and Sewer Department - Alan Stanley, Water & Sewer Superintendent, stated that they are focusing on getting all meters read, the first of this month. Once all the reading of the meters are taken care of they will be focusing on fixing and repairing the water leaks throughout the town.

Sanitation – Lonzo Badger, stated that they are cutting the grass throughout the town and still picking up limbs. Also stated that the tree size is getting larger. Mr. Badger stated that the dumping of furniture has decreased lately.

Community Development – Council Lady Lewis, stated that she has been a part of a discussion about the renovations of the Allendale Primary School, turning it into a community center.

Two Grants were written this month for the purpose of landscaping and the painting of murals throughout the town.

The Palmetto Palace will continue to come to provide testing in the area, every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month. The location has changed, they will be at 398 Courthouse Square, here in Allendale.

A Coffee Connection will take place with the Police Department, Sheriff Department and the National Guard, in order to say “Thank You” to them. This event is hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Nate Hartley on October 31, 2020, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Emma House.

Cancer Walk will be on Saturday, October 24, 2020, the speaker will be Gail Grant. They will walk from the Courthouse to the Pink Garden.

Working with Southern Carolina Alliance in the new branding of the County and economical development.

Creative Connectors will be collecting interviews for the Dear Allendale Project and there will be a movie showing at the Flea Market.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Hattie Jackson – Mobile Homes Permitting

Question - If the Town has made changes the County needs to be informed.

Randy Creech - Two Questions

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Council Lady Fitts made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council Approved.