

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 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 Vernie 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 Vernie Harney
 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. Councilman Grant made a motion to convene into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Council approved.

Councilman Grant made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 6:50 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved. Mayor Jackson asked to amend the agenda for the actions out of executive session, to be placed under New Business, Section E. Council Lady Fitts made a motion to approve this amendment made to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Council approved.

ROLL CALL

Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk did roll call of all Mayor and Council. Council Lady Vernie Harney 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 Cohen 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 actions from Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of January 14, 2020, regular Council Meeting as written, with any corrections, if there be any. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Verizon Contract
Certain language in the contract was asked by council. Verizon is not agreeing to these terms. Attorney Davis will maintain communication with them and advise the council.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Special Recognition
Javarius Youmans (Scholar Athlete –Border Bowl) - Council Lady Lewis presented the citizenship award to Javarius. Present was Ms. Katrina Youmans (mom), Dr. Margaret Gilmore, Allendale County School Superintendent.
- B. SC Primary Presentation – Democratic Party
Ms. Wilda Robinson passed out a handout and briefly reviewed some information about voting and the new voting machines.
- C. Frist Reading of Revised Budget – Mr. Youmans explained the outcome of the Budget Workshop that was completed on January 31, 2020. Motion was made to approve the first reading of the revised budget by Council Lady Lewis. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.
- D. Notice of Public Hearing – Revised Budget 2020 – Will be on March 2, 2020 @12:30pm here at the Town Hall.
- E. Actions in the Executive Sessions - Approval of the Closing of Town Hall @ 3pm on February 6, 2020. Approval of the 2020 Holiday Schedule. Motion was made to approve both of these items by Councilman Cohen. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council Approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance - Mr. Youmans gave the Finance Report, for the current fiscal year. Mr. Youmans stated that as of January we have exhausted 58% of our budget for fiscal year 2020. Per Mr. Youmans funds that were received from the state have been deposited in the correct accounts and that we are now caught up on all delinquent accounts. The vehicles that were purchased through the grants have been completely paid for.

Police Departments – Chief Sullivan reported that over the pass and have been able to address some complaints the citizens have made. Chief Sullivan reported that one officer will be going for what is called the entrance exam and have another officer that will start in house training. This past week he was able to attend the Chief's Association. The Criminal Justice Academy notified the Chief to say they are caught up on the back log and now they are able to take officers faster than what they were before.

Personnel

Per Mr. Cohen until the end of the fiscal year that we continue to outsource our mechanical issues. It was not included in the budget to hire a mechanic. Mr. Cohen stated that Mr. Youmans and Ms. Owens are to move forward on the policy addendum that we are looking into.

Water and Sewer Department

Alan Stanley, Public Works Supervisor informed Council that they are in the process of finishing up all meter readings and service orders. Also trying to finish up some of the water leaks and sewer lines repairs. Per Mr. Stanley they have ordered over 24 new meters and they came into today, they will start back on them as soon as they can. Mr. Cohen stated that the calculation of the water bill was off, Mr. Youmans spoke on that in January there was a glitch in the system during the update. If the citizens feel as there was a problem with their water bill, to come to the Town Hall to discuss their bill.

Sanitation

Council Lady Fitts, spoke about the concern of the citizens putting items beside the road for pick up. Making sure that all items are put inside the trash container and the top is closed. Lonzo Badger, Supervisor of Sanitation, informed the citizens any household furniture they will not be picking up at all. They are concentrating on getting the grass cut. Also they are giving the citizens some time to pick up the items that are placed in front of their residence, Council Lady Fitts and Mr. Badger will come up with a time frame.

Community Development

Council Lady Lewis reported that she attended an advance budget finance class this week and one of the things she got from the class, is that we must be totally transparent with our finance.

Dollar Tree is on its way, hopefully they will be opening soon. Also on February 14th the Rite Aid will become Walgreens.

The Mobile Unit is providing additional services for men & women. CBS out of New York City, came and film the whole entire day and will be back again sometime in the future. The Mobile Unit will be there every Monday from 10am-4pm. The services are free of charge.

Also she is working closely with the ARTS, they attended an area in Eastover.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Nate Harley 1st - Does the Town Administrator have a contract? If not why not?

2nd – What is being done to repair the benches around Town Hall?

3rd – Also who is responsible for policing the area around Town Hall?

Kara N. Troy – Topic: Recognition & Signage. Comments/Concerns: Public recognition of achievement with signage in and throughout the county.

ANNOUNCEMENT

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Lewis. Council Approved.