

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
5:45 p.m.**

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

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

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

ABSENT: **Council Member:** Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts
 Department Heads None

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jackson at 5:45 p.m. 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 Council lady Harley-Fitts. Council approved.

Councilman Smith made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 5:55p.m. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harley-Fitts. Council approved. No action taken during session, legal/ personnel matters information only.

Council Lady Harley-Fitts made a motion to amend the agenda to add to the Old Business the Ordinance to approve the Water tower lease agreement with Verizon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cohen. Council approved.

ROLL CALL

Henry B. Youmans, Town Administrator did a roll call of all Mayor and Council; all members of Council were presents, except for Council Lady Harney at tonight's Council meeting.

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 Harley-Fitts made a motion to approve tonight's agenda as outlined with the amendment to Old business for the Ordinance to approve the Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cohen. Council approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Lady Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 Regular Council Meeting as written, with any corrections, if there be any. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harley-Fitts. Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Grants Update

Town Administrator, Henry B. Youmans informed Council that the Waste Water Treatment Grant is moving forward. The engineering report has been approved and we are waiting on the last environmental notice to come in. Once this is received the contractor will be moving forward in the early part of 2020. The Razor Road/ Roosevelt Heights Grant Project all updates have been done on all of the properties. The contractors will be placing an ad to hire local help in the upcoming weeks. Any individual who is looking for works please help us spread the word? The ground water well repair on Spruce Street project should start January or February of 2020. The grant that we applied for in the amount of \$25,000 for the downtown area we are in the process of establishing the whole downtown area as an historical district. If you have any information in regards to the downtown area please get in touch with me so I can put the information in the presentation for this grant. The water tank repairs will begin tomorrow on Spruce Street area. The tank will go down for the repair of the inside of the tank. The citizens in the area will have low water pressure while this is underway.

B. Ordinance to approve Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon

Kenneth Wallace informed Council that Verizon Wireless is seeking to lease space from the Town of Allendale to improve the telecommunication service in the area. They will lease the space on the water tower for the next five years on the rate that is agreed upon within the agreement. They will maintain they own equipment. The amount will increase over the next 20 years. Council Lady Lewis made a motion for this to be the first reading for the Ordinance to approve the Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Cohen. Council approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE – Chief Sullivan reported that everything is coming along. There is an officer that will be leaving for the criminal justice academy over the next 8 weeks. We have had our yearly vehicles and equipment inspected by Phillips Rader out of Georgia that is required by the State. We have been activity looking for officers. Councilman Cohen wanted to know how where we looking for these employees. He suggested that he get with Mr. Youmans to get it on the world-

wide web. Chief Sullivan informed Councilman Cohen that there has been good response to the ads, but because of the testing that is required by the state the applicants. This is causing the continuous of requiring of advertising.

PERSONNEL – Mayor Jackson reported that they are actively looking for a Finance Director/Assistant Town Administrator to take care of Finances. We will be calling a Special Council Meeting in order to announce this position. The Police Department is actively looking for at least two officers for the Police Department.

WATER and SEWER DEPARTMENT – Alan Stanley, Public Works Supervisor informed Council that they have finish up all meter readings. We have been working on several water leaks around town. We have been working on the Spruce Street water tank will be put back on line in the next few days. American Tank will paint the outside of the tank in the next 2 weeks. We are still changing out meters. The meter readings have been catching individuals that have been obtaining water unlawfully. These individuals have been ticketed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Council Lady reported that they have been very busy over the last month with the following:

- ✓ Attended meeting on behalf of the Arts Commission in Beaufort. This was the 37th Annual Heritage Celebration. It was very nice we obtain a lot of information.
- ✓ The Rural Arts team has completed the Kites. The flags that you see around town is the beginning of Beautification for our town.
- ✓ We meet with Melvin Wallace of the Small Business Academy on Thursday of last week. The meetings will be held at the Allendale Community Church on Thursday at 6 pm.
- ✓ We had volunteers in for the weekend. They did jobs around town for different citizens.
- ✓ The Palmetto Unit has not been here for the past two weeks. They are working on getting a nurse to assist them with the dental work on patients.
- ✓ The CRC will be sponsoring a forum on campus on October 29, 2019. This will be held at the Brandt Building at 6:30 pm.
- ✓ The school has provided lunch for several seniors in the nursing home along with 150 bags of grocery to the citizens as well.

MECHANIC – Councilman Cohen reported that he had nothing on mechanics. He directed a question to Mr. Davis about the billable hours about the human affairs commission. Mr. Davis informed him that relate to the legal advice given to the town are subject to the attorney client privilege which belongs to the full Council. The Mayor advise Councilman Cohen that he would have to discuss that with Council in Executive Session.

SANITATION – Council Lady Harley-Fitts, informed Council that she was relishing her time over to the Supervisor. Lonzado Badger, Supervisor of Sanitation, informed Council that they have

been cutting grass around town. They have been collect leaves, limbs, and other household items. If the citizens see anything please call the ladies at the town hall and we will be out to collect these items. Councilman Cohen asked Mr. Badger to let the men know that they were doing a good job.

We have been busy cutting the grass in the following areas:

- ✓ Allendale Fairfax Hwy 278
- ✓ 301 South & North
- ✓ Railroad Avenue
- ✓ East and West Bay Street
- ✓ Razor Road
- ✓ Gum Street

FINANCE – Henry B. Youmans gave the following Finance Report for FY2019-20 Budget.

- See Attachment

MEDIA QUESTIONS AND ANSWER

No questions from the media.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Randy Creech, of Allendale SC 29810. Comments/Concerns Ask a Chief Sullivan a question about the ranking among the Country. Councilman Cohen informed him that maybe he is getting confused with the population. Chief Sullivan would get back to him about this.

Nathaniel Hartley, 271 Hampton Grove, Allendale SC 29042. Comments/Concerns about a town hall meeting. Why are the churches in the town being charge such a high water bill? Councilman Cohen, wanted to know if they are turning the water off?

H. Matthews Allendale SC 29810. Comments/Concerns about the schedule town clean up on October 19, 2016 around 8:30 am. He wanted to know about beautification around the main highway.

Patricia Johnson, 635 College St, Allendale SC 29810. Comments/Concerns about dilapidated houses and vacant lot.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Town Administrator, Henry B. Youmans, Jr. informed Council as well as citizens that there will be no door to door trick or treating in the town of Allendale. The town of Allendale will be

sponsoring a Trunk or Treat on Flat Street starting at 4pm to 6pm. There is an 8:00 pm curfew for everyone 17 or older. Fairfax is holding theirs from 6pm to 8pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Grant made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney-Fitts. Council Approved.