

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, December 08, 2020**

Present: **Mayor:** The Honorable Larry Cohen

Council Members: Councilman Dawan Smith
 Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts
 Council Lady Lottie Lewis
 Councilman Earl Morell, Jr.
 Council Lady Hattie Jackson

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
 Lonzo Badger, Street Superintendent

Absent: **Council Members:** None

Department Heads: None

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Cohen at 5:45 pm. Mayor Cohen suggested that made a motion to make item #4 on the agenda, as item #2. Councilman Morell made a motion to amend the Agenda, moving Item #4, to Item #2. Council Lady Jackson seconded the motion. Council Approved.

Mayor Cohen asked for a roll call of the council to insure that there was a quorum.

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Cohen asked for a motion to convene into Executive Session, for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and receiving legal advice. Councilman Smith made a motion to enter Executive Session. The motion was second by Council Lady Jackson. Council Approved.

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

Action on Executive Session Items, if Any.

Council Lady Fitts made a motion to extend the Town of Allendale’s Mask Resolution until April 30, 2021. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Jackson. Council approved.

PRAYER

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

Councilman Smith is asking for a motion to add, under New Business the election of a Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Cohen stated that the General Election is not finalized, due to the Special Election that has not occurred. Per Mayor Cohen until the council has clarification from the Elections Commission, the motion is denied

APPROVAL OF TONIGHT'S AGENDA

Council Lady Jackson made a motion to approve tonight's agenda as outlined with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Mayor Cohen requested a vote from each council member: Councilman Smith – opposed, Council Lady Jackson – Yes, Council Lady Fitts – Yes, Councilman Morell – Yes, and Council Lady Lewis – Yes. Four Council Members approved and One Opposed. Council approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Lady Fitts made a motion to approve the minutes of Council Meeting on **November 10, 2020**. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Jackson. Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. 2nd Reading of the Ordinance for Red Stick Communications.

Mayor Cohen asked if there were any questions pertaining to this ordinance before the voting of the second reading. No Council Members had any questions.

Council Lady Fitts made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of the Ordinance for Red Stick Communications. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morell. Council approved.

NEW BUSINESS

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance - Mr. Henry Youmans, Town Administrator as of November we have exhausted 42% of our budget for the Municipal year 2020. We have received reimbursement from Barnwell County for one of our officers (E. Mcrae)

Police Departments – Chief Sullivan stated the Police Department has increased patrol due to the Christmas Holidays. They will also be increasing vehicle safety checkpoints throughout the town. They will be putting more attention to the business, especially the ones that are open late. Chief Sullivan is asking the citizens to please be aware of their surroundings. Please be sure to secure their property. The Council will receive a copy of their performance for the year.

Council Lady Jackson is asking about the card that was once put in the doors of the business as they were checked. Also, requesting for the officers to walk through the Local stores, making their presence known.

Council Lady Lewis also asked the Chief to let the citizens know about the advisory board that was created by the Police Department, Sheriff Department and some of the citizens. Also, requesting to ride through the parking lots of the stores due to citizens parking illegally.

Personnel/Mechanics – Mr. Henry Youmans, Town Administrator stated that we have a potential hire as soon as his office receives all of the necessary paperwork.

Water and Sewer Department - Alan Stanley, Water & Sewer Superintendent, stated that the department has almost completed reading of the meters. The department will be coming up with a list of meters that have a defect, so that we will know how many to order. Aware of all the leaks throughout the Town, trying to complete them as soon as they can.

Sanitation – Lonzo Badger, stated that they are removing trees and debris from throughout the Town. The Town's Flatbed Truck is out being repaired.

Council Lady Lewis is requesting a schedule from the streets and sanitation department.

Community Development – Mr. Henry Youmans, let the citizens know that there will be a Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 12 @ 4:30pm at the Town of Allendale Farmers Market. We have some Covid-19 testing sites going on throughout the Town. Council Lady Lewis let the citizens know that they will also be giving away bicycles at the event.

Mayor Cohen also let the council members know that Mrs. Shirley Cave is asking if any of the Council Members are interested in giving a short Christmas video to our citizens.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Randy Creech – Two Questions

Patricia Johnson – Christmas Tree – Explanation of the form of government.

Nate Hartley – Garbage Contract – When is Republic's contract up? Will it be renewed? Why can't the Town utilize our equipment and hire some of our local folk to collect the garbage?

ANNOUNCEMENT

Passing of Steven Flowers mother.

ADJOURNMENT

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