

**Allendale Town Council
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 09, 2021
5:45 PM**

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

Council Members: Councilman Dawan Smith
 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:** Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts

Department Heads: None

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Cohen at 5:45 pm.

ROLL CALL

Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk did roll call of Mayor and all Council Members. Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts was absent, all other Council Members were present.

Mayor Cohen addressed Mrs. Beth Gooding to advise her that we would not be able to speak with her in our Executive Session due to the advice of the Town of Allendale's Attorney. Mrs. Gooding's matter has no reference to the Executive Session's protocols. Mrs. Gooding ask the council if they would be willing to revise the Agenda, to hear her matter. Council Lady Jackson made a motion to amend, tonight's agenda to allow Mrs. Beth Gooding to speak with the Council during open session. Councilman Smith second the motion. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Beth Gooding is concern about the amount of the water bill for the Masonic Hall. Mrs. Gooding presented how the Masonic Hall is a charitable organization. She also spoke of how the other counties accommodate these type of businesses. Mrs. Gooding shared with the Council a memo that Mr. Youmans, the Town Administrator had given her and the conversation that they had. Mayor Cohen asked Mrs. Gooding if she would, schedule an appointment with him by contacting the Town Clerk.

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

Councilman Smith made a motion to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Jackson. The Council Approved.

Action on Executive Session Items, if Any.

Mayor Cohen advised that No Actions were taken in Executive Session.

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 Jackson made a motion to approve tonight's agenda as outlined with any corrections. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morell. Council Approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Lady Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes of Council Meeting on **January 12, 2021**. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith. Council approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. 2nd Reading of Ordinance – Late Fee

Council Lady Jackson made a motion that council accept this as the 2nd Reading of the Ordinance stating that if the 15th of the month falls on a weekend the late fee will not be applied until that following Tuesday. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Lewis. The Council Approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Palmetto Pride Grant – Mr. Youmans advised the citizens that the Town of Allendale submitted an application in regards to Code Enforcement and Litter Control. Mr. Youmans advised the citizens that the Town of Allendale was granted the maximum amount of \$10,000.
- B. Recognize Employee of the Month – Mr. Youmans advised the citizens of the Employees that are being recognized as the Employee of the Quarter and the Service Awards.
- a. 5yrs of Service with the Water Department – James Williams
 - b. 5yrs of Service with the Water Department – Willie Joe Washington
 - c. 15yrs of Service with the Public Works – Valerie Tarter
 - d. 35yrs of Service with Water Department – Bobby Elmore
 - e. Employee of the Quarter – Administration Office – Mary Penn
 - f. Employee of the Quarter – Police Department – Jacob Linder
 - g. Employee of the Quarter – Streets and Sanitation – Leon Greyheart
 - h. Employee of the Quarter – Water Department – Rodetrell White

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – Mr. Youmans, stated that as of the end of December we have exhausted 50% of our budget. The Town is operating in the black since 2019.

Police Departments – Chief Sullivan stated that they have increased patrol as much as they can. They also have had more check points as possible. Chief Sullivan also introduced our new Officer Marcus Broadnax that has joined the department. Mr. Youmans also stated that Officer Broadnax qualified as an expert on his firing requirements.

Chief Sullivan also introduced the Community Relations Officer/Recruiter as Officer D. Badger. She will be keeping the Police Department Web Page updated as well as, communicating with the citizens.

Chief Sullivan also went over the stats report that he has prepared for council.

Personnel/Mechanics – None

Water and Sewer Department – Mr. Alan Stanley stated that the department is in the process of completing the reading of the meters. They have had to repair 2 unforeseen leaks that occurred. The leak by the Police Department is in a section that has the old concrete there, in the process of trying to find a company that is able to help.

Mr. Stanley stated that during this time of year that Grease is the biggest issue. If the citizens could prevent from dumping grease down the drain and rinse the pots and pans.

Sanitation – Mr. Lonzado Badger stated that they are picking up the limbs and the bag of leaves. Mr. Badger also let the citizens know that we cannot pick any furniture. We are not allowed to.

Mr. Badger also stated that if there is something the citizens need to let them know, please contact the Town Hall.

Community Development – None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Citizen: Nate Hartley – 271 Hampton Grove, (803)-573-7069

Topic: Handicap Parking at IGA

Comments/Concerns: What can be done to stop folks from parking in handicapped parking spots and fire lanes at the IGA.

Citizen: Randy Creech

Topic: Two Questions

Comments/Concerns: Grants for more people

Citizen: Patricia Johnson – 635 College Street, (803)-571-7223

Topic: FB Post, Demolition Grant, Streaming of Meetings, Mobile while Building

ANNOUNCEMENT

ADJOURNMENT

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