

**Allendale Town Council  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, July 14, 2020**

**Present:**                      **Mayor:**                      The Honorable Ronnie Jackson

**Council Members:**                      Councilman James L. Cohen  
                        Councilman James H. Grant  
                        Council Lady Vernie Harney  
                        Councilman Dawan Smith  
                        Council Lady Lee Harley-Fitts

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

**Attorney:**                      Kenneth Davis, Esquire **(By Phone)**

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

**Absent:**                      **Council Members:**                      Council Lady Lottie Lewis

**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. Council Lady Harney made a motion to convene into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.

Councilman Grant made a motion to come out of Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council approved. Mayor Jackson stated No Actions in Executive Sessions Information Only. Council approved.

**\*\*Councilman Cohen made a motion for the Actions on Executive Session Items to be placed behind Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Harney. Council approved.**

**\*\*Councilman Cohen also made a motion for Item 10 Section A to be changed from Mask Ordinance to Mask Resolution. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.**

**ROLL CALL**

Belinda R. Owens, Town Clerk did roll call of Mayor and all Council Members. Council Lady Lewis 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**

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

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilman Cohen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 9, 2020, regular Council Meeting, Special Called Meeting for the First Reading of the Budget on June 1, 2020, Special Called Meeting Minutes of OCAB on June 19, 2020, and Special Called Meeting Minutes of Budget Public Hearing on June 24, 2020 as written, with any corrections, if there be any. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.

## **Action on Executive Session Items, if Any.**

Council Lady Harney stated there was a discussion of a contract and there was some differences and a decisions was not made. Also another discussion concerning LJ, council decided to terminate the employee. Councilman Cohen made a motion to approve all the actions concerning these two discussion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Grant. Council approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Verizon Contract**

Council agreed to table this discussion. Council agreed.

### **B. Debris Pickup/Code Enforcement**

Mr. Youmans, discuss the Planning Commission Committee duties. Beginning August 1, 2020 all Commercial, Residential Property Owners will receive letters if they are not maintaining their properties.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Mask Resolutions**

Mr. Youmans, stated due to the increase in Covid-19 cases, we are putting in place a resolution requesting our citizens to wear mask in public places. Councilman Cohen made a motion to accept the resolution. The motion was seconded by Council Lady Fitts. Council approved.

**B. Chief Soku**

Chief Soku spoke with Council about an internet proposal between his business RedFi Broadband and the Town of Allendale. Chief Soku will be meeting with Mr. Youmans at a later date, to discuss further.

**C. Municipal Elections**

Mr. Youmans announced that the filing period for Elections will begin on August 3<sup>rd</sup> – August 17<sup>th</sup>.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance** - Councilman Smith gave the report.

**Police Departments** – Chief Sullivan reported that we have an officer that will start at the Criminal Justice Academy for training on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and will be there for the next 8 weeks. Chief also said that they are doing back ground checks on the resume that have been received and should be able to get 2 people hired out of them.

**Personnel/Mechanics**

Per Council Lady Harney, 2 officers are needed for the police department.

**Water and Sewer Department**

Mr. Alan Stanley, stated they are finish up the reading of the meters. Mr. Stanley went through the town area and identified all water leaks in the town. They will start repairing them on Monday morning. Ms. Owens read the list of the all the water leaks that we have identified and asked that if the citizens knew of a leak that was not on the list to please let her know after the meeting.

**Sanitation** Mr. Badger stated that they are now cutting grass throughout the town. They are picking up the limbs. On tomorrow they will be doing one last courtesy of picking up the furniture and debris from beside the roadway, after tomorrow Mr. Badger will be going around and tagging the citizen's door and giving them a time frame to move it.

**Community Development**

Council Lady Fitts gave the report. Stated that the demolition project is getting ready to begin in the Razor Road area. Covid-19 testing will be set up in the town, beginning on Monday, July 27, starting at 9am on Flat Street. On Tuesday, July 28, and Thursday, July 30 starting at 8am at the Swallow Savannah Church.

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Nate Hartley – Covid -19 - What is the Town doing besides posting on Facebook and the town website to educate the community on Covid-19, wearing masks and social distancing?

Randy Creech – Mr. Youmans contract? – Where is the town on his contract?

Margaret Maner – Having to wait for meeting to start?

Ida Morris – New Water Leaks

Mae Stoney Hartley – Being Fined for Debris on property – How will it be determined? The debris is the dumping being done by other not the owner. We are victims not the perpetrator.

Concern Citizen – Commercial & Residential Clean-Up – Please cite the section of the code for compliance with the Debris Code Enforcement

Zoning Ordinance – What are the town's plan to fill the vacant zoning ordinance officer's position as mandated in the zoning ordinance of 2013.

Ask the Chief – Do you think there will be push back from ATT, Verizon or the other top communications entities regarding your plans to install the Dish items throughout Allendale.

Covid-19 – How will the town Communicate the contents of the resolutions to the General Public of Allendale? What are the consequences for non-compliance? How much money did the town spend on Covid-19 since 2/2020?

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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