

Woodruff City Council Meeting
Monday, February 23, 2009
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting for the Woodruff City Council was held on Monday, February 23, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The agenda for the meeting was posted on the bulletin board at city hall and faxed to the media the week prior to the meeting.

Members of Council present were: Mayor Brad Burnett; Mayor Pro-tem Mattie Norman; Council members Toni Sloan, Toney Kennedy, Kenneth Gist and James Smith. Also present were City Attorney Terry Clark; Interim City Manager Herb Thompson; City Manager Stephen Steese and Billing Clerk Kay Lawson.

Mayor Burnett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Clarence Thomas, pastor of Cedar Grove Baptist Church led the group in a brief devotional.

The Mayor's Report was first on the agenda. Mayor Burnett requested the agenda be amended to include under New Business; (1) Ordinance for the Duke Energy Agreement; (2) Fines for fraudulent checks to remain inside the city limits. A motion was made by Council member Gist to amend the agenda to include these two additional ordinances with Council member Kennedy making a second to the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Minutes of the January 26, 2009 meeting was passed unanimously on a motion by council member Smith and a second by council member Gist.

Minutes of the February Special Meeting were passed unanimously as written on a motion by Mayor Pro-tem Norman with council member Kennedy making a second to the motion.

A request made at the last council meeting that a portion of the City's Hospitality Tax be given to the Visitors Bureau for advertising activities which occur inside the city limits of Woodruff. The original request was for a monthly fee. There are 13 cities inside the county of Spartanburg and currently 8 are participating in the activity. Council Member Sloan made a motion to donate a one time fee of \$2,000 to the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau to cover fees for advertising

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activities occurring inside the City of Woodruff for the 2009 year. Council member Gist made a second to the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Norman to eliminate the compensation currently being paid to Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment members. Council member Kennedy made a second to the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Jane Davisson was then recognized. Ms. Davisson stated that the Oversight Committee had met concerning the old High School. The Committee felt that the roof was the number one priority. Several studies have been done on the auditorium but a structural engineer study has not been done. The committee wanted to be sure a study was done that would show the roof would support this extra weight if three beams were removed from the auditorium. A motion was made by Council member Kennedy to appoint the city manager to get a structural engineer (not to exceed \$7,000) to check the roof and the east side of the building concerning settling around door jams, etc.) Council member Smith made a second to the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Teresa Foster, Chairperson of the Woodruff Historic Preservation Committee read her resignation into the record. Council accepted.

Mr. Robert McMath who was requesting to be appointed to the Board of Construction and Appeals, was not present.

Resignation of Mr. Chris Duncan from the PRT Committee was next on the agenda. Mr. Duncan is not going to resign. He said that he would complete his term.

Ms Jane Davisson submitted her resignation on the PRT Committee due to other obligations.

Ms. Liz Marcellino was to be re-appointed to the PRT Committee. Council Member Smith made a motion to reappoint Ms. Marcelleno. Council member Sloan made a second to the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mr. Donny Lewis was appointed to the PRT Committee on a motion by Council member Sloan with a second to the motion by Council member Smith. The vote was unanimous.

Kathy Burnett was appointed to the PRT Committee on a motion by Council member Sloan with a second to the motion made by Council member Kennedy and the vote was unanimous.

Ms Audrey Bettis of the Historic Preservation Committee was next on the agenda. Ms. Bettis wanted to know if the Preservation Committee or the Oversight Committee was in charge of the preservation of city property. She stated the Oversight Committee was not formed by an Ordinance by City Council where the Historic Preservation Committee was. Ms. Bettis said she was told by someone on the Oversight Committee that her committee had nothing to do with the old high school. She wanted clarification. Ms. Bettis was told that the two committees should work together and get these problems ironed out.

Next on the agenda was the first reading of an Ordinance concerning who gets the funding from bad checks who have court cases by city recorder, Ms. Vickie Rae Smith which occurred inside the city limits. This Ordinance will allow the funds to stay in the city budget instead of going to the county. A motion was made by Council member Gist to pass this ordinance (Section 1-6-7) on second reading. Council member Smith made a second to the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Next on the agenda discussion of a Franchise for Duke Power to operate inside the city limits of Woodruff. Council member Kennedy made a motion to accept this on first reading with council member Gist making as second to the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A request to waive the rental fees for the auditorium for the Ms. Woodruff Pageant was next on the agenda. Council member Gist mentioned that this had come up before and there was some type of state law about using tax payer money for special events. Attorney Clark said that all persons would have to be treated equally concerning fees and council had to be

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careful about setting a precedent. Mayor Burnett asked if can't waive the fee could it sponsor or support the pageant? It was consensus of council not to waive the fee.

Council was going to have a special meeting concerning the fire department.

Lauren Electric's franchise is due for renewal June 30, 2009.

The drapes were going to be installed in the auditorium on Tuesday and the lighting has been replaced in the hallways.

City Manager Steese asked if there were any questions concerning the department reports or anything else.

Interim City Manager Herb Thompson was thanked for his hard work for the benefit of the city these last few months. Mr. Thompson gave a brief response thanking the city, employees and council for their help during the last few months. He was very confident that he was leaving the city in good hands with council and the new city manager. Mr. Thompson will be going to the city of Pickens to work as interim for 6 weeks.

City Council's next meeting will be March 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

With no further business, Council member Smith made a motion to adjourn with Council member Sloan making a second to the motion. The vote was unanimous.