

**CITY OF LIBERTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2010 - 6:00 P.M.
ROSEWOOD CENTER
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Deese called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present: CM Brian Petersen, CM Michael Sheriff, CM Dwight Yates, CM Josh Harrison, CM Walt McJunkin, and CM Rick Clark

INVOCATION

CM McJunkin gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE

Mayor Deese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes dated January 11th, 2010

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to approve the 01/11/10 City Council minutes
- CM Josh Harrison seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

Approval of Work Session Minutes dated February 1st, 2010

- CM Rick Clark made a motion to approve the 01/04/10 Work Session minutes
- CM Brian Petersen seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

TOPICS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Phillip Smith:

Phillip Smith stated he did not know how many of us have been keeping up with his website but he thought the Mayor reads it. He stated he has been publishing articles all this week about recycling. He stated he was close to the issue about the county fining municipalities about their recycling. He stated he had called and as of today, Liberty is at 14% and coming in March we would be fined for 11%, somewhere around 15 tons he believes. He stated he was doing his best to get the word out, but the city was not doing a good job of getting the word out. He stated he was aware that a committee was being formed among all the municipalities and that the Mayor could appoint himself or someone from the community to serve on regarding this matter. The Mayor responded he would be serving on that committee. Mr. Smith stated there was talk among the Chambers about a lawsuit against the county and he definitely thought we needed to pursue that if we are going to face fines, otherwise we would have to raise the water and sewer rates to pay for it. Mr. Smith stated he would like to talk with the Mayor in his office about some ideas he has on this issue.

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Drake Curry – Curry & Associates

Drake Curry, Auditor for the City of Liberty went over the financial statement for the year ending June 30, 2009. Mr. Curry stated the city is still in pretty good shape although this was not the best year we have had. He stated we will still need to tighten our belts for the upcoming year.

OLD BUSINESS:

2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 10-0101, An Ordinance Clarifying Unsafe Building Violations and Attaching the Code of Laws for Condemning and Demolishing Structures.

- *CM Rick Clark made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 10-0101.*
- *CM Walt McJunkin seconded the motion*
- *Discussion: Mayor Deese stated we did call other cities to see if they had guidelines they went by and they did not. It was the consensus of council to have a policy and procedures form or standard operating policy for following before this ordinance is passed. The City Clerk informed council that the city attorney was still looking over this ordinance. It was decided to table this motion until an opinion was heard on the ordinance from the city attorney.*
- *CM Clark rescinded his earlier motion and made a motion to table this issue until our attorney was present at the next council meeting.*
- *CM Yates seconded the motion.*
- *Vote: All in favor*

NEW BUSINESS: PICKENS COUNTY CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Mayor Deese even though we have some people who think the city is not doing enough about the recycling, we are basically the only city at this point and time that has worked with the county in establishing some procedures for recycling. He stated we had a meeting today about putting our recycling station at the Public Works shed. We are stressing the recycling issue in our newsletter. Mayor Deese read a letter from Chap Hurst on the issue and he was appreciative that Liberty was not pursuing the lawsuit. Mayor Deese stated he has been working with Chap in this matter and personally he did not see any fines coming our way. He stated as our citizens are continually educated we will see those percentages climb.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Police Department:

Chief Miller reported the following:

	<u>January</u>
Warnings Issued	105
Citations Issued	125
Juveniles Housed	17

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Total Fine Money	\$8,204.90
Total Arrested	11
Total Calls for Service	194
Patrol Activities	121
Public Service	43
Code Enforcement	27
Traffic Accidents	3

Chief Miller also related some events that had taken place with Detective, Adam Gilstrap. Mayor Deese reported that he and Chief Miller talked about his budget at staff meeting this morning and he was informed they may have to cut some of the funding for the middle school resource officer. He stated it is importance to keep a resource officer in the middle school, so if we loose some of that funding, we need to be thinking about how we are going to make that up.

Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Rowland reported the following:

Total calls for January 2009: 37
Total calls for January 2010: 21
City: 10
Rural Area: 11
Mutual Aid: 0

On Jan. 5th we conducted a class on reading smoke at a fire scene and Jan. 19th we had our yearly required training on Blood Borne Pathogens. We started testing the hydrants in town and the flow rates have greatly increased. We have tested all the 5" LDH with the exception of Ladder 1 and Engine 4 and will be testing those this week. Engine 4 arrived on Jan. 29th and most of the striping is complete. It will be placed it in service within a couple of weeks. Currently it is being housed at Station 1. All the equipment for Engine 4 has been paid for using the escrow account and the bank papers have been signed for payment to Brindlee Mountain Fire. Ladder 1 will be tested this month for its yearly certification. The rural district has purchased a 3000 gal. tanker and it arrived on Feb. 2nd. It still needs to be labeled but is in service at this time. Chief Sargent thanked the city for getting them the new fire truck.

Water and Sewer Department

Olen Hamlin reported sewer has been a major problem the last few weeks. He stated they have had 64 calls for service, had to replace 22 service mains, replaced 600 ft of 6" sewer main and it is getting worse as days go on because the system is getting older and older. He stated we really needed to work on getting some kind of grant for the sewer system. On water we have had 23 calls for service on small lines. Olen stated the city is going to have to do something regarding our storm water. This is mandated by DHEC and the EPA. Olen met with Land Planning Associates out of Easley who created the storm water manuals for Easley, and they are going to create our manuals. Our storm water ordinance needs to be revised.

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Public Works Department:

Mayor Deese read a report turned in by Barry Chappell, who was working in Recreation tonight, which read: "In addition to my usual duties, we will be starting on a block wall on Morris Field in order to fix a safety problem with the fence as well as fix a drainage issue. The county will lay the blocks for this project. We are taking bids for sidewalk repair of all bad sidewalks in the city, and for the concrete pad for the rec department. We are also working with the county on a plan for recycling. Mayor Deese stated we have also had a good many animal control calls.

Recreation Department: Mayor Deese reported basketball is winding down and we have flag football coming up, baseball signups, and volleyball signups. I am not sure about soccer. In volleyball we are probably going from 2 teams to about 10 teams. We have a good individual in mind to help Tony in the Recreation Department and I will discuss the position with this person next week.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

CM Michael Sheriff

The contract for the fire station edition was approved by the State on Friday. We will have the signing of the contract and the pre-construction meeting on Tuesday, the 23rd of February at the Rosewood Center beginning at 10:00 am.

CM Walt McJunkin

No report.

CM Brian Petersen

No report

CM Rick Clark

No report

CM Dwight Yates

No report

CM Harrison

No report

Mayor Deese reminded council the work retreat is March 6th and we will not have the work session in March because we will combine it with the work retreat.

ADJOURN

CM Rick Clark made the motion to adjourn.

CM Brian Petersen seconded the motion.

All voted in favor.

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V. Sue Woods, Clerk

Approval Date

Verification/Mayor