

**CITY OF LIBERTY COUNCIL MEETING  
ROSEWOOD CENTER  
NOVEMBER 12, 2007 - 6:00 P.M.  
MINUTES**

Before the meeting began Mayor Deese opened the swearing in ceremony for new councilman, Josh Harrison and welcomed back councilmen Michael Sheriff and Brian Petersen. Ken Roper, Municipal Judge, performed the swearing in and the wives of each councilman held the bible for their husbands. Each council repeated the oath of office and signed their oaths.

**Call to Order**

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

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

Absent: CM Rick Clark

**Invocation**

Fire Chief Mike Sargent

**Pledge of Allegiance**

CM Brian Petersen led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes**

*Approval of October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007 City Council Minutes*

- CM Dwight Yates made motion to approve 09/10/07 City Council minutes
- CM Brian Petersen seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor
- Mayor Deese did not vote on the minutes due to his absence from this meeting.

*Approval of November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Work Session minutes*

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to approve 10/01/07 WS minutes
- CM Dwight Yates seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor

**Topics From The Public:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business :**

*Election of a Mayor Pro Tem*

- CM Dwight Yates made motion to elect CM Michael Sheriff as Mayor *Pro Tem*

**THE CITY OF LIBERTY COMPLIES WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IN  
SCHEDULING AND CONDUCTING MEETINGS.**

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- CM Walt McJunkin seconded the motion
- Vote: All in favor
- Mayor Deese did not vote in the election of a Mayor *Pro Tem*

***1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1101, An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Liberty, South Carolina, Traffic and Vehicles Ordinance, Article IV, Bicycles and Other Vehicles, Section 50-91, Adding Section (b)***

- CM Walt McJunkin made motion to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1101
- CM Dwight Yates seconded the motion.
- Discussion: CM Michael Sheriff stated he had questions regarding this ordinance and would like to be able to discuss those at the next work session.
- All voted in favor.

***1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1102 – An Ordinance to Add A Surcharge To The Sewer Bill Each Month In The Amount of \$2.90 To Pay For The Upgrade of The Roper Lagoon System and The Construction of the Cramer Waste Water Treatment Plant***

- CM Brian Petersen made motion to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1101
- CM Michael Sheriff seconded the motion.
- Discussion: Mayor Deese explained due to our agreement with the County, any time they did an upgrade or construction pertaining to sewer, those costs are passed to Liberty. The total cost of this project is about 4 and one-half million dollars at a 3 and ½ % interest rate over 20 years. It comes to about \$2.90 per household to cover this cost. Unfortunately, this is something we have to pass on. The City cannot afford to pay that on its own. CM McJunkin stated that the Roper Lagoon has about 10 acres there. He asked if all the ten acres were deeded over to the county. Mayor Deese stated we would look over the deed to make sure that it was. He instructed the Clerk to pull the deed so they could look over it. CM McJunkin stated if we did, that was a bad decision. CM Petersen stated he was only voting for this due to the fact that the City does not have a choice. This is unfortunate, but we have a responsibility to the town and to our citizens and we have no choice but to pass this cost on. Mayor Deese stated most of us feel the same way. CM Yates asked would any new development in Liberty that came under our sewer be charged this fee. Mayor Deese stated they would be. CM Yates stated as this goes on there is a good possibility that this could be paid off in less than 20 years. Mayor Deese stated it could and it could be reviewed every year to see where we are. CM Petersen stated for the public's clarification, upon

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expiration of this debt, the fee would drop off. CM Sheriff stated all councilmen echo the statements CM Petersen made. Since the County has taken over the sewer and waste water treatment, we do not have a lot of control over it.

- All voted in favor.

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1103 – An Ordinance To Amend Article II, Collection and Disposal, Section 41-31, Collection of Garbage, Refuse and Bulk Items*

- CM Michael Sheriff made motion to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. 07-1101
- CM Dwight Yates seconded the motion.
- Discussion: CM McJunkin asked if we were going to alert the citizens that this ordinance was now in place. Mayor Deese stated yes, we would not put this in place until January and we will be placing this information in the city newsletter. CM Yates stated he did not think there had been any discussion on council's part specifying the kind of containers to use. Mayor Deese stated council could address it at the work session before the second reading of this ordinance.
- All voted in favor.

*Resolution No. 2007-01, A Resolution to Purchase a 1974 Tele-Squirt Ladder Truck from the City of Easley, South Carolina Fire Department for \$15,000*

- All voted in favor.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

**Police Department**

Police Chief Miller reported the following:

OCTOBER	
Warnings Issued:	42
Citations Issued:	77
Calls for Service:	129
Auto Accidents:	13
Juveniles Housed:	39
Arrests	9

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Code Enforcement	7
Public Service Calls	37
Total Fines Collected	\$7,058.91

Chief Miller explained some of the items on the above list. He reported the 800 MHZ Radios are in. Motorola is in the process of programming the radios and will be installing them shortly. Officer Shockley is in his third week of Basic Law Enforcement at the Criminal Justice Academy. Officer Ticknor has completed his SRO training at the Academy. Officer Ticknor is assigned to the high school. Trick or Treating on Halloween went over well and without any problems. The Police Department has an opening for a Patrol Officer. The Police Department will be having its Christmas party December 13, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. The Mayor and all councilmen are invited.

**Fire Department**

OCTOBER	
City:	8
County:	22

Chief Sargent reported our cascade system was repaired in September but is down again due to a check valve being defective. It will be repaired as soon as NAFCO is in the area to save us some travel expense. If breathing air is needed we will rely on Easley and Pickens for help. We have one firefighter in the 80 hr. Basic Interior Structural Firefighting Class. We have four firefighters in the 60 hr. Firefighter 1 Class for national certification. We will have ten firefighters in the 16 hr. Incident Safety Officer Class this Saturday and Sunday. Three of us traveled to the Fire Academy to take a 6 hr. ventilation class and attend the quarterly business meeting. Chris Rowland and I performed a yearly fire inspection at St. Jude on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the entire department went back that evening to tour the facility and enjoyed a hot dog supper. We also performed a yearly SCBA mask fit test on all firefighters including the volunteers. Also, all the SCBA air packs passed the yearly flow test. We purchased accountability tags for all firefighters with their names and Liberty Fire Department on each tag. There will be one tag on the helmet which will be used when they arrive on scene to be logged in. The other tag will be on their gear or around their neck. This will be used for identification purposes in the event they are burned up on scene. I performed a new business inspection on Cannon Family Practice. We conducted Fire Prevention at the elementary school on the 18<sup>th</sup> and the second day was postponed until November 4<sup>th</sup> due to rain. We are now pressure testing all hand lines (1 3/4" – 3") on the trucks. Still to be tested is the 5" Large Diameter Hose on each pumper. The Mayor and all City Council and their wives are invited to the Fire Department Christmas dinner on Saturday night, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. This will be at Eastside Baptist Gym. I need to know how many will be attending.

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**Public Works Department**

Director, Ray Clark reported 35 cut-offs, 25 new services, 20 finalized and 1 new tap.

**Recreation Department**

Mayor Deese reported that Tony was busy with ball games and could not attend the meeting, but everything was going well.

**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

**CM Walt McJunkin**

CM McJunkin stated he would like to compliment the Public Works and Fire Department on the good job they did on the fire hydrants.

**CM Brian Petersen**

CM Petersen he would like to thank the Public Works Department, Fire Department, Police Department and all others who were involved with Halloween downtown. Everyone did a great job. He also thanked former councilman, Dr. Lewis Wilson for his service to the City and congratulated new councilman, Josh Harrison. He congratulated CM Michael Sheriff on being reelected to city council and to being elected Mayor *Pro Tem*.

**CM Michael Sheriff**

CM Sheriff reiterated CM Petersen's congratulations to new councilman Josh Harrison and stated he was looking forward to working with him in the future. CM Sheriff stated there were a lot of good things going on in Liberty now and everything is working well. He stated all departments were doing a great job and he stated that work does not go unnoticed and all the work was appreciated. He congratulated CM Brian Petersen on being reelected to city council. He thanks his fellow councilmen for the faith they placed in him by electing him Mayor *Pro Tem*.

**CM Dwight Yates**

CM Yates stated his thoughts were with the veterans on this Veterans Day. He wanted us to remember all the men and women who are in the midst of service to their country now and stated how much that dedication and service is appreciated. We could not be here tonight without their service.

**CM Rick Clark**

Absent.

**CM Josh Harrison**

CM Harrison thanked council and the city clerk for accepting him, helping him out and getting him started. He stated he appreciated all the congratulation calls he received.

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Mayor Deese stated he appreciated Josh stepping up to the plate and running to serve on council. It is great to have young people in our community willing to serve because you are the future of Liberty. We have a productive council and we all share pretty much the same vision and we hope that you join us in that. Mayor Deese also thanked CM Petersen and CM Sheriff for being willing to serve again. Mayor Deese advised everyone that he and CM Sheriff would be in Charleston the latter part of the week with the Mayor's Institute Design Committee. He stated they would be gathering ideas for our downtown streetscape. He stated the time and effort put in by this design committee was free to the City. Mayor Deese reminded everyone that the Liberty Christmas parade will be December 4, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. He wished everyone a blessed and happy Thanksgiving. He stated he really appreciated the thoughts and prayers when he and Gerri were out of the country. He reminded everyone of the Pickens County Municipal Association Christmas banquet on November 26, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. at Ramada Inn in Clemson.

**Adjourn**

- CM Brian Petersen made motion to adjourn.
- CM Michael Sheriff seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor.

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V. Sue Woods, Clerk

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Approval Date

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Verification/Mayor