

City of Luthersville

Council Minutes

August 9, 2022

Council Members Present:

Mayor Donald Cuttie,
Concetta Amey, Ricky Amey, Vallarie Cuttie, Paul Parker

Work Session:

The work session began at 5:45 p.m. with the Mayor and City Council discussing the items on the agenda, and then the work session ended at 5:55 p.m. followed by the regular monthly council meeting.

Call to Order:

Mayor Cuttie called the August 2022, council meeting to order.

Invocation

Council Member Concetta Amey gave the invocation.

Pledge Allegiance

Mayor Cuttie led everyone present at the meeting with the pledge to the American flag.

Adopt Agenda

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to adopt the August agenda as presented.

Public Hearing

Routine Business

Approval of Minutes:

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie, and passed unanimously, to approve the July 12, 2022 minutes.

Financial Reports:

Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Paul Parker, and passed unanimously, to approve the July Gen & Admin financial report then, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously to approve the July Water System financial reports.

Departmental Reports

No Departmental Reports to make.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cuttie Reported the Following:

1. That the City will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, September 29th from 2 – 7 pm.
2. That the next Keep Meriwether Beautiful/Clean Up Day, will be held on Saturday, September, 24th.
3. That the branch of Colony Bank located in the city has officially closed. He is not sure about the signage being removed and that there are five offers to buy the building. Also, the city not only lost its bank, but lost the business license revenue also.
4. That he met with the Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority last week and that the project is in process. Also, the city has gotten approval from the Army Corps of Engineers for the project with one additional approval needed by GDOT.
5. That the HeadStart Program construction is moving slowly due to efforts to find contractors, employees, and supplies for the project. However, the fire marshall was on site today inspecting for fire safety.
6. That the heat and air unit for the cafetorium has stopped working, and one quote stated 50 days out to get a certain part for the equipment.
7. That the city received the millage rate information from the tax commissioner and the digest and five-year history will be posted in the paper and on the website notifying the adoption date for the millage rate on September 13th.
8. That the city is trying to buy two days a month of public works service from Meriwether County to assist the city with street maintenance. The county buys five days a week from Harris County which uses its inmates for the service.
9. That Georgia Power will need to install a new power pole at the fire station for the placement of the alert siren.
10. That he met with a representative from Utility Management. A company that specializes in reviewing utility bills of municipalities with different agencies and looking for discrepancies or billing issues. The city does not pay the company a fee unless discrepancies are found. The representatives will be at the September council meeting through Zoom streaming to explain the process.
11. That he was thinking of the city holding a Thanksgiving or Christmas Parade or both this year. In addition, the city could recognize its 150-year sesquicentennial. He will add this item to the agenda next month.

Unfinished Business

New Business

1. Danny Stephens – Meriwether Co. Fire and Rescue:

Mr. Stephens mentioned that two weeks ago Chief Allen Smith resigned his position and as his assistant, he stepped up to be the next Meriwether Co. Fire Chief.

That he has lived in Meriwether Co. his entire life as he was born in Warm Springs, and he currently lives in Woodbury. And that he has been serving the county as a volunteer fireman for 25 years before going to the academy for his official training.

He explained that the fire department is crossing training all of its paid employees to serve as EMTs and Firemen, also, that nine applicants are currently enrolled in a level 1 firefighter class and should test on September 23rd, then the fire department will have nine new firefighters. In addition, six Meriwether Co. Fire Fighters and four Coweta County Fire Fighters are attending an advanced EMT class with the fire department securing grants to pay for the education.

An ongoing project of the Meriwether Co. Fire and Rescue this summer has been attending summer camps and vacation bible schools to teach children about fire safety and fire escape plans. In addition, public relations help with the county's ISO rating.

As an official report, he mentioned that the fire department was called out to 51 requests for service in Luthersville and 466 in the county, and that July was a busy month. Also, mentioned was that when the fire department has adequate staff that the paint supplied by the city will be used to paint the fire hydrants for the water system.

Next, Mayor Cuttie asked what did he see in the relationship between volunteer firefighters in the cities of Meriwether County.

He answered that he sees the group working together as one whole department and that the volunteers on the roster must have at least six hours a year of continuing education to serve.

Finally, Councilman Parker inquired about a fibulator for the Luthersville fire truck. And Mr. Parker mentioned that the city could get quotes to purchase the machine and then donate it to the Luthersville fire station.

Mr. Stephens mentioned that Woodbury had done the same by donating a machine.

2. Meriwether County Tax Commissioner – Property Tax Collection Intergovernmental Agreement:

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that it would be to the city’s advantage to have the county collect its taxes. The print and billing costs would be lower and the statements would be due on the same date as Meriwether County’s.

Then, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to approve the agreement.

3. Transportation Alternatives Funding Application:

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that the application is for an 80/20 match. The funds would be used to extend the city’s sidewalks by 2.4 miles on the Oaks and Main Streets.

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously, to approve the submission of the application to the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Public Comments:

Limited to Three Minutes

Attorney Comments:

Council Member Comments:

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously to end the meeting.