

City of Luthersville

Council Minutes

July 13, 2021

Council Members Present:

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

Work Session:

The work session began at 5:20 p.m. with the Mayor and City Council discussing the cities zoning map issues and followed by items on the agenda, and then the work session ended by 5:55 p.m. followed by the regular monthly council meeting.

Call to Order:

Mayor Cuttie called the July 13, 2021, council meeting to order.

Invocation

Council Member Concetta Amey gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Adopt Agenda

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously, to adopt July 13, 2021, meeting agenda with the amendment of agenda item **No. 10, Request of the Luthersville Social Club's Back to School Event.**

Public Hearing

Routine Business

Approval of Minutes:

Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie, and passed unanimously, to approve June 08, 2021, minutes.

Financial Reports:

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve June 2021, Operational Fund report, then Paul Parker motioned, and seconded by Vallerie Cuttie, and passed unanimously approve June 2021, Water Enterprise Fund report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cuttie Reported the Following During the Council Work session:

1. That Mary Ellen Amey Street will be striped on Thursday, July 15th.
2. That East Oak Street's final paving should begin in September of this year.
3. That the Water Systems fire hydrants are soon to be repainted.
4. That the contract between Meriwether County's Sheriff Department and the City has gone into effect. And the major changes this year are the addition of the department enforcing the city's local behavioral ordinances and the use of county vehicles for patrolling in the city.
5. That he will meet with SafeBuilt Wednesday, July 14th, and the newly hired employee to discuss code enforcement in the city.
6. That he is seeking bids for heating and air condition, and electrical upgrades concerning the city's bank building.
7. That this past weekend several groups of people were burning debris in the city, and he asked one group to put their fire out and they complied, and the other one, a contractor, said that he had a burn permit however, to find out later from Georgia Forestry that he did not.
8. That the month of July has several events to mention and that Thursday, July 15, Commissioner Hines will conduct a town hall meeting in the cafetorium, and that Mia Amey will host her Pop-up Shops event in the ball field on July 31st.
9. That the County is having a Back-to-School Bash on July 31, and that also on the 31st, a Walk-a-Thon will be held for donations to help provide recreational activities for the children of the county. And in addition, on August 7th, the Luthersville Social Club will host a Back-to-School supply event at the Luthersville Complex.
10. That the LED lighting for the city's street lights began back in December of 2020, and finally, the city's street lights are being audited by Georgia Power to start the change over from incandescent to light-emitting diode (LED).
11. That the Automated Meter Information (AMI) has been put on hold due to the shortage of component chips. Currently, the water system has access to around 60 meters that may be installed as the old ones go bad, but read manually until all of the meters are installed and then begin digitally read every 15 minutes.

Unfinished Business

1. Request to Update Employee Handbook:

Councilman Parker made a request and a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to table this item until the August Council Meeting.

New Business

1. Request of Melissa Wortham to Address the City Council:

Ms. Wortham spoke to the city council and citizens present concerning 1) the city's ordinances being reviewed, and 2) the growth of Luthersville and the traffic and the traffic light needs to be updated to add turn arrows, and 3) the city needs a police department, and 4) the city can use its American Relief Funds to connect city water lines to county water, and 5) the Meriwether Co. School Wrap Around Program is coming to Luthersville at Unity Elementary School.

And in response, Mayor Cuttie answered her concerns about Luthersville.

2. Request for a Business License by Priscilla Amey and Located at 121 Wortham Road:

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously, for the city to grant a business license to Mrs. Amey to operate an in-home childcare center.

3. Request for a Business License by William Carter and Located at 5 West Oak Street:

Ricky Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, for the city to grant a business license to Mr. Carter for his home-based e-commerce business.

4. Adoption of the Operational Budget FY 2022 - \$558,700:

Mayor Cuttie asked if the council had any questions concerning the Operational Budget and everyone was fine with the budget as it was presented. Therefore, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to adopt the Operation Budget for FY 2022

5. Adoption of the Utilities Budget FY 2022 - \$327,689.54:

Mayor Cuttie asked if the city council had any concerns about the Utilities Budget as it was presented, and none did so, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey and passed unanimously, to adopt the FY 2022 Utilities Budget.

6. Adoption of the Capital Improvement Budget FY 2022 - \$379,549:

City Council had no questions concerning the Capital Improvement Budget. Next, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to adopt the FY 2022 budget as presented.

7. Adoption of the FY 2022 Budget Ordinance No. 2021 - 1:

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously, to adopt the ordinance approving the budgets for the upcoming year.

8. Review and Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021 – 2 for Jake Braking:

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey and passed unanimously, that the city adopts the ordinance concerning jake braking in the city limits.

9. Zoning Ordinance Amendment:

Mayor Cuttie explained that the section of the zoning ordinance concerning solid foundations and underpinning for mobile homes and homes in the city needed updating and that ordinance No. 2021 – 3 amends the zoning ordinance of April 10, 2001, to include this information.

Next, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously, to adopt the ordinance concerning foundational structures.

Amended Agenda Item No. 10

10. Request of the Luthersville Social Club to Host a Back-to-School Event at the Luthersville Municipal Complex on August 7, 2021:

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that on August 7th the Luthersville Social Club will hold a back to school event giving away school supplies and other items to needy families and that it will be held at the municipal complex and that he would like the city to donate \$500 toward the occasion.

Next, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, for the city to allow the event at the complex and to donate \$500 towards supplies.

Public Comments:

Limited to Three Minutes

1. Tracy Mitchell of 160 Opal Street wanted the city council to know about the noise pollution that she and her neighbors had been enduring lately from a resident next door to her property by playing his music too loud and all times during the day and night. And also an orange-colored Dodge Charger speeds down the street and plays its music too loud as well. And she asked if the city had a noise ordinance.

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that the city does have a noise ordinance and that he would look into the matter.

2. Zelda Davenport of 127 Wortham Road wanted to make the city council aware that when there is a baseball game being played, that the citizens are not paying attention to the no parking sign as they continue to park on both sides of the road making it difficult to pass through the street. And that she has a noise issue as well with a vehicle driving by late at night with its music blaring.
3. Kenny Oliver, a non-resident of Luthersville, but a friend of Melissa Wortham of 9 Wesley Drive, mentioned that Luthersville is growing and that the Mayor and Council should seek an industry to come to our area.

Mayor Cuttie thanked him for his interest in the city.

4. Candace Barozzini of 12 Wortham Road mentioned to the council that she moved from a congested area to quiet Luthersville and she doesn't want to see traffic become a big issue. Also, she asked about fire safety coverage in the city as her home insurance is high. And finally, the new subdivision on Wortham Road, what effect will it have on the city's watershed?

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that the city has a new fire station with firemen 24 hours a day. And that the subdivision will not affect the watershed as the plans for the property were studied and engineer approved. And he mentioned that the city is working on a sewerage system grant.

5. Ricky Truskolaski of 28 First Street agreed with Mrs. Mitchell that he too can hear the loud music at his property location. He went on to say that all-terrain vehicles are constantly riding on the streets in his area. Also, that the tree limbs are so low on his street that his RV is struck by the limbs and that the street needs to be two-lane accessible.

Mayor Cuttie mentioned to Mr. Truskolaski that the county is short-staffed to help the city with this situation and that he and our street maintenance contractor road together and looked over College, 1st, and other streets in the city and noted the streets that needed tree limb trimming.

6. Charles Hanna of Flying In Estates that is accessed by College Street said that he also was inquiring about tree limb trimming for College Street, but that Mayor Cuttie answered his question prior with Mr. Truskolaski.
7. Gerilene Clemons, city librarian, mentioned that the library was slow last month. And that the July reading program has begun with Concetta Amey reading to children on July 8th. And July 15th storytime will be at Unity Elementary with Loma Malone reading to the kids. On July 22nd storytime will be held at the Kid Kountry Daycare Center with Menlia Trammell reading to the kids. And the final storytime will be at Unity again with Gayle Truitt reading. She mentioned that she decided to take the program to these children at these locations who wanted to participate, but who have no transportation to bring the kids to the library.

Attorney Comments:

Council Member Comments:

Councilmember Vallarie Cuttie said she wanted to give a shout-out (thank you) to Mayor Cuttie for the new playground equipment and the walking trail in the park providing an area for the children to play.

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

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