

# *City of Luthersville*

Council Minutes

April 11, 2023

## **Council Members Present:**

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

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## **Work Session:**

The work session began at 5:45 p.m. with the Mayor and City Council discussing the items on the agenda; the work session ended at 6:00 p.m., followed by the regular monthly council meeting.

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## **Call to Order:**

Mayor Cuttie called the April 2023 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**

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie, and passed unanimously to amend the agenda by adding item No. 5 below.

## **Public Hearing**

Mayor Cuttie called for a motion to exit the regular council meeting and enter the public hearing.

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously.

Mr. Gabe Morris of Carter Sloope began by discussing the CDBG application for the septic system. He explained that the Dept. of Community Affairs provided the program to assist in areas with low to moderate income.

He further mentioned that the program has many requirements that must be met before the grant is awarded, and he then reviewed the requirements with the audience. The requirements include fair housing and income specifications verified through the Census Bureau.

The project's goal is to provide services in the Opal - Mann area of the City as these lots are undersized for septic systems per the current building codes; creating a sewerage system would eliminate current sewage overflow problems.

The deadline for the grant application is June, and Mr. Morris elaborated on the scoring process of the GDCA to issue the award.

Next, he called for questions from the city council or the public.

Council Member Parker asked Mr. Morris to introduce himself and the company he works with. And Mr. Morris mentioned that he works with Carter & Sloope, an engineering firm and that he is the funding expert for grant writing projects of the firm; he has been doing this type of work for the past 15 years and that Carter & Sloope has been in the engineering sector for over 30 years.

Then, Council Member Vallarie Cuttie asked about the process of the application status.

Mr. Morris explained that the DCA initially reviewed the application to check for insufficient data and to determine if the local government needed other items. DCA has 30 days to complete the request, then it is scored by the DCA before the application is passed onto the other agencies for approval. If approved, a letter of award or score will be issued to the applicant.

Finally, he finished the public hearing by answering questions from the public present at the meeting.

Paul Parker then made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to return to the regular council meeting.

### **Routine Business**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve the March minutes.

#### **Financial Reports:**

Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve the financial reports with one correction to the general fund.

### **Departmental Reports**

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that he placed copies of the quarterly report from the Sheriff's Dept. on the table for everyone's review and that he hopes to have a deputy review the information with the city council at next month's meeting.

## **Mayor's Report**

### **Mayor Cuttie Reported the Following:**

1. The Head Start Program ran into issues with asbestos and will be working to bring the building up to code. And the items that were shipped to city hall and stored in the cafetorium will be moved to the downtown fire station for storage until needed.
2. He met with a representative from GDOT concerning the entryway signage that the City has had in storage for some time now, and that the signs have to be approved by GDOT before they can be installed in their right-of-ways.
3. That the GDOT detour during the repair of the bridge on Highway 41, which should have begun today, has been pushed back a week.
4. A couple of April dates of note; the 15<sup>th</sup> is the Total Faith Missionary Church's BBQ cook-off, the 22<sup>nd</sup> is Meriwether Co. clean-up day; the 25<sup>th</sup>, Meriwether Co. School System job fair; and tomorrow, the cities will begin to work with the county to update its comprehensive plan.
5. The 12 new picnic tables have been delivered, and assembly will begin on Wednesday, with 8 for the pavilion complex and 4 for the city park.

## **Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business at this time.

## **New Business**

### **1. Resolution No. 2023-1, Certified City of Ethics, a Georgia Municipal Association Program:**

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

### **2. Grass and Landscape Maintenance Contract Awards:**

Mayor Cuttie distributed and reviewed the grass-cutting proposal results with the city council and mentioned that it is obvious the company to choose is J&T Environmental Services, Inc. He then called for a motion to approve the award.

Next, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously.

### **3. Discussion on Speed Limits within the City:**

Mayor Cuttie explained the process to lower the speed limits in Luthersville on various streets requires the adoption of a resolution. And that at 25 miles per hour, speed-dampening devices may be installed to deter speeding. He then called for a motion to pursue the outline of a resolution to reduce the speed on Opal, Cheryl,

and other non-state-maintained streets within the City.

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie, which passed unanimously.

**4. Discussion on Livestock within the City:**

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that the current zoning ordinance requires chickens to be allowed on property zoned rural development. However, more people in the city limits own chickens. He then asked the council does the City enforce the current ordinance or move to create an ordinance with new guidelines. And after the discussion, the consensus of the council was to work on an ordinance to set simple rules for owning chickens inside the city limits.

**5. CDBG Contract Award:**

Mayor Cuttie explained that the City advertised its RFPs for the sewer system-related Community Development Block Grant at City Hall and on its website. In addition, the City emailed the Engineering Services RFPs to 11 engineering firms and the Grant Writing and Administration RFPs to nine grant services firms. As a result, the City received three proposals for Engineering but only one for grant administration. The Selection Committee, headed up by the Mayor, who did not have a vote, and consisting of two Council members and the Planning Commission's Vice-Chair, evaluated and scored each proposal to include the single grant administration proposal. The Selection Committee unanimously recommended Carter and Sloope for both awards. Mayor Cuttie advised that the scoring sheets submitted by each committee member are available for review.

Then, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey and passed unanimously, to approve Carter & Sloope for both the Engineering and Grant Administration portions of the City's CBDG application.

**Public Comments:**

Limited to Three Minutes

**Attorney Comments:**

**Council Member Comments:**

Paul Parker mentioned that the City should expand its camera system to record additional complex areas to deter damages, especially to the pavilion area.

**Executive Session:**

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss, Ricky Amey made a motion, which was seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously to end the meeting.