

City of Luthersville

Council Minutes
November 8, 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 6:00 p.m. followed by the regular monthly council meeting.

Call to Order:

Mayor Cuttie called the November 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 November agenda as presented.

Public Hearing

Routine Business

Approval of Minutes:

Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve the October 2022 minutes.

Financial Reports:

Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve the October Gen & Admin, and Water System's financial reports.

Departmental Reports

No Departmental Reports to give.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Cuttie Reported the Following:

1. That the city has ordered the emergency/tornado siren for downtown and everything has been received except the radio transmitter. Georgia Power should be installing the electrical pole then the siren should be installed the first week of December.
2. That about half of the AMI water meters have been installed on the Luthersville Water System.
3. That the December council meeting the Mayor will give a full water system report/presentation. And that last week the city experienced several water leaks in various areas due to the infrastructure.
4. That the state has made accessible to water systems of our size which have been negatively impacted by increased growth, available grants. And that the city submitted grant documents on the 9th of September, but the city has not received a response from the state.
5. That soon the city should put together by ordinance a maintenance guide/schedule for the infrastructure in the city such as the city park, sidewalks, the new pavilion, etc. In addition, the sidewalk grant requires that the city agrees to and provides a maintenance plan.
6. That the voting today at this precinct has been successful with more than 700 votes cast.
7. That this coming Saturday, the Enrichment Program will be holding registration from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for the school that will be managed out of the complex.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss during the council meeting.

New Business

1. John Stover of Carter & Sloope – Sewer Project update:

Mr. Stover began by giving an update on the city's sewer project.

The first step is to be able to move the sewerage north to the treatment facility by joining, per a 20-year agreement, with the Coweta County Water and Sewerage Authority, and working with the authority for the initial design and requirements.

Carter Sloope has performed the topographical study that is required by the Environmental Protection Agency and GDOT which has been cleared, and the city is currently waiting on the final clearance from the State of Georgia Historical Preservation Office.

Then, the different pump stations throughout the city, 4 to 5 each, will be placed in various locations to pump the sewerage to its final treatment site which will require the city to negotiate with property owners for the use of their land.

The project is scheduled to begin in early spring of 2023, which will also depend on the availability of supplies and can be slow in acquiring due to the recent Covid Pandemic.

And finally, the sewerage grant program requires an established rate structure, educational materials for the customers to help maintain the system, and the operation of the new sewerage system. Carter Sloope as the engineering firm will assist with these requirements.

2. City Park Improvements – Waste Stations, Pruning:

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that last month he and a Georgia Forestry Agent toured the city park and the Forester made several recommendations. Mayor Cuttie then contacted a certified arborist in Meriwether County and they walked over the city park again and he basically repeated the same recommendations as the first agent

Therefore, the city received a proposal from Campbell's Tree Experts that includes the removal of nine dead trees, stump grinding, pruning 50 trees and shrubs, cleaning up the butterfly garden, and the removal of all debris. And again, he mentioned that the city needs an ordinance in place as a guide for scheduling routine maintenance.

Also, Mayor Cuttie mentioned additional benches for the city park, and with more citizens walking their pets in the park, the park could use pet waste stations. Mayor Cuttie distributed a proposal of recommended bench/waste station combo sets for the city council to review.

Next, Mayor Cuttie called for a motion to accept Campbell's proposal of \$9,200, and for the purchase of two bench combos sets totaling \$999.10.

Then, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Paul Parker and passed unanimously, to move forward with the city park maintenance services and purchases.

3. Sidewalk Project – Safe Routes to School Report & Transportation Alternative Grant:

Mayor Cuttie explained to everyone present that this agenda item does not require a vote, but he shared updated information if the following:

That working with GDOT, concerning the intersection in town, the agency has agreed that the city could use a controlled left turn signal, and they acknowledged the right turn onto North Main St. of how the semi-trucks are damaging the old bank steps up to the sidewalk area and other right-of-way issues. Also, they sent a response to the city in June of this year, that they would like to take care of all of these issues in one big project, but with no current timeline for these upgrades.

In addition, the city submitted a grant last month to GDOT (Transportation Alternatives) for the extension of sidewalks in all four directions. Also, as part of the application, it stated that the city would be working with the Georgia Safe Routes to School program. And that October 18, a group met at Unity Elementary, the Mayor, GDOT, Bike-Ped Engineer, Eric Alson, United Elementary Principal, Nike Anderson, and Patti Pittman of SRTS (Safe Routes to School) East and West EOC, toured/walked the streets of Luthersville as shown by the map provided in the council packets. Afterward, the city received a response to the tour from GDOT, which gave several recommendations, for example, lowering the speed limits in residential areas that would require approval by GDOT, crosswalks, pedestrian lighting, etc. And the Mayor mentioned that working with the SRTS organization should assist the city with being awarded the grant by GDOT.

Public Comments:

Limited to Three Minutes

1. Judy Truskolaski was complaining about the water pressure at her home. And she asked about the sewerage project and whether would homeowners have to pay to connect to the system. Also, about the park maintenance as a part of the annual grass cutting, etc. agreement.

And the Mayor responded that the water pressure issue at her home is within her property boundaries, as the city has had several water technical companies test, change out the meter, etc., and the pressure at the meter is the same as it is throughout the city.

And that the sewerage system will be built in stages, and that at some point citizens will pay to connect to the system.

And, finally, the mayor reiterated, that an ordinance will be created to outline the maintenance of the city park.

2. Ricky Truskolaski commented on the intersection truck traffic and the bricks that are still in front of 4 East Oak Street.

Mayor Cuttie answered that during the tour with GDOT, they witnessed firsthand the semi-truck traffic at the intersection.

And that some of the buildings downtown were built in 1910, and that particular building needs additional support structures before moving forward, and the

bricks are still down as the owners are going to use the bricks in the renovation of the outside of the building.

Attorney Comments:

Council Member Comments:

Councilmember Paul Parker mentioned that he had received complaints concerning the garbage truck and damaged mailboxes, and he restated that citizens should place their containers away from the mailboxes.

Also, about Nall Street needing speed deterrents.

And finally, the bricks on the sidewalk downtown at 4 East Oak Street.

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

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