

City of Luthersville

Council Minutes

May 15, 2024

Council Members Present:

Mayor Leonard Sewell

Council Members: Concetta Amey, Ricky Amey, Melissa Wortham

Work Session:

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

Call to Order

Mayor Sewell called the May 15, 2024, council meeting to order.

Invocation

Council Member Concetta Amey gave the invocation.

Pledge Allegiance

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

Adopt Agenda

Ricky Amey made a motion, seconded by Melissa Wortham, and passed unanimously, to adopt the April meeting agenda.

Public Hearing

Routine Business

Approval of Minutes:

Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve the March, 2024.

Financial Reports:

Mayor Sewell asked if the council had questions concerning the financial reports, and as there were none, he moved on to the next agenda item.

Departmental Reports

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sewell Reported the Following:

1. That he mentioned that he had an inquiry concerning the leasing of the back portion of the city's old bank building.
2. That Finch Street had new gravel placed on the road by the Meriwether County Public Works Department, and that the city is responsible for the cost of the gravel.
3. That he had met with Ms. Kenyatta Bell concerning recreation for the city and she is on the agenda to give a presentation.
4. That he has reached out to the Three Rivers Commission concerning the Luthersville Senior Citizens and what is needed to receive assistance for the program.
5. That the Luthersville Complex kitchen and city hall have sprung a few leaks that were repaired by D&D Roofing.
6. That he attended a meeting at the Meriwether Chamber of Commerce with other Mayors and staff concerning helping the cities in Meriwether County to work toward unification.
7. That he has decided that the best way to communicate with the city council members is to use email.

Unfinished Business

1. **Request of Lauren Lucus for a Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance or Re-zoning to CG to Acquire an Auto Brokerage License for a Home-Based Business:**

City Attorney, Robert Trammell, presented Ordinance No. 2024-1, with the text modification of the following:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A (ZONING), ARTICLE 8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LUTHERSVILLE; TO ADOPT A SECTION 8.5-11 (28) PROVIDING FOR THE INTERNET SALE OF AUTOMOBILES NOT TO EXCEED TWO CARS ON THE PREMISES AT ANY TIME; TO AMEND SECTION 8.5-3 and SECTION 8.57 TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAME; TO AMEND AND CORRECT A REFERENCE UNDER HOME OCCUPATION IN TABLE 5.3; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Then, Mayor Sewell called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-1, and Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Melissa Wortham, and passed unanimously to adopt and amend the city's zoning code.

2. Request for a Business License by Lauren Lucus of 187 East Oak St. to Operate a Used Car Retailer Home-Based Business:

Attorney Trammell explained that the business license would have stipulations concerning the two-used vehicle limit for internet sales at the property.

Next, Mayor Sewell called for a motion to approve the request for a business license, and Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Mike Riesen, State Representative – GA House District 136

Mr. Riesen introduced himself to the citizens and City Council and mentioned the values he holds, represents, and plans to instill in his campaign for the Republican GA House District 136.

2. Jim Bennett, Georgia's 3rd Congressional District

Mr. Bennett introduced himself also to the City Council and citizens of Luthersville. He mentioned that he and his wife have worked in law enforcement for years, and he then spoke about what he represents for his Republican campaign party. And finished by asking for the citizen's votes.

3. Request of Kenyatta Bell to Address the Mayor and City Council:

Ms. Bell introduced herself to the city council and gave her background of history and services to the Meriwether County area. She mentioned that she would like to provide a hot supper for the children in the area through her culinary arts program. She also mentioned that she had certified chefs to prepare the meals. She then requested a site to prepare the meals and to re-introduce recreation to the Luthersville area through the culinary arts program. In addition, she has partnered with Mr. Palmer Williams, a playwright, to assist with teaching children in front of the camera and behind the scenes as a form of recreation/education.

4. Request of the Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church to Host a Juneteenth Parade:

Ms. Anita Williams, the point of contact for the church, submitted a letter requesting to hold a Juneteenth parade in Luthersville. And to rent the cafetorium and pavilion for use after the parade. The parade would begin at Unity Elementary School and proceed south turning on Wortham Road and ending at the Municipal Complex. The date for the parade is June 22, and beginning at 10 am.

Next, Ricky Amey made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously, to allow the church to hold the parade contingent upon GDOTS approval to stop traffic on Hwy. 41/27 during the event.

5. Results of the RFPs for the City's Grass Maintenance Services

Mayor Sewell during the work session reviewed the bids with the city council. And during the council meeting, he recommended awarding the streets to Say's Landscaping, and the complex and city park to Brooks Lawncare.

He then called for a motion to accept the bids and presented. Then, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously.

Public Comments:

Limited to Three Minutes

1.) Steve Young of 103 West Oak St. was following up on his complaint from last month's meeting concerning the trash on Opal and Cheryl Streets.

Mayor Sewell mentioned that he had viewed the trash and that he had been in touch with the Meriwether County Public Works Dept. He also said that the city is going to install no dumping signs and possibly cameras.

2.) Candace Barozzine of 12 Wortham Road had a complaint concerning the property at 56 South Main Street. She is concerned that the homeowner has abandoned the property and that lately she has experienced field mice at her property caused by all the debris at the site. And her question was, is there anything that the city can do to help the situation?

Mayor Sewell replied that he would get in touch with the building and zoning in Greenville to try and correct the problem.

Attorney Comments:

Council Member Comments:

Council Member Melissa Wortham mentioned that she and a friend had evaluated the snowflake Christmas pole decorations. And that many of the flakes just simply needed bulbs tightened or replaced, but on all accounts, the decorations are in very good shape. And that it would save the city money to replace bulbs with upgraded, blue-colored bulbs over the city purchasing new decorations.

Mayor Sewell mentioned that he appreciated Ms. Wortham taking on the project.

Mayor Sewell also mentioned the clean-up day of Saturday, April 27th, and that the city will be in touch with PPI to check on the start date for paving Westly, Church, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets.

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Melissa Wortham, that passed unanimously to end the meeting.