

# *City of Luthersville*

Council Minutes

June 8, 2021

## **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 5:30 p.m. with the Mayor and City Council discussing items on the agenda, and then the work session ended by 5:57 p.m. followed by the regular monthly council meeting.

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## **Call to Order:**

Mayor Cuttie called the June 8, 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 Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously, to adopt June 8, 2021, meeting agenda with no changes.

## **Public Hearing**

## **Routine Business**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie, and passed unanimously, to approve May 11, 2021, minutes.

### **Financial Reports:**

Ricky Amey made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey, and passed unanimously, to approve May 2021, Financial Reports for the Operational Fund and the Water Enterprise Fund.

## **Departmental Reports**

No Reports were given

## **Mayor's Report**

### **Mayor Cuttie Reported the Following During the Council Work session:**

1. That each council member should complete their annual Ethics Financial Disclosure Report and return it to the City Clerk.
2. That he has completed all forms supporting the funding of Federal Funds being issued through the State concerning the American Relief Act. The city should receive two deposits of \$130k, one in 2021, and the next in 2022. The only area the city qualifies to use the funds is for water infrastructure and broadband.
3. That the demolition of the A wing of the complex is just about complete. And after the final wall comes down, metal poles will be welded in place to support the awning.
4. That if you have noticed men in white pickup trucks digging and inspecting the electrical poles in the city, that they are contractors for Georgia Power.
5. That WTVM, a television station from Columbus, GA is looking for uplifting and inspiring stories around our area and he is meeting with them next week.
6. That the digital water meters have been slowed down on installation as there seems to be a shortage of computer chips to manufacture the units.
7. That the recreation playground equipment is underway. That the rainstorms have slowed the contractor down a little, and the City Park will be next as 811 has been notified to mark all utility lines.
8. That last fall, an application was submitted to Georgia Power for the replacement of the street lights to LED lighting, and that Georgia Power is currently inventorying the lights to later install.
9. That at last month's council meeting a request was made to open a tattoo parlor however, the address on the application was incorrect. It should have been 4 East Oak St. And at 4 East Oak, there currently is no plumbing or septic. And in addition, the city is going to have to look into where the old bank building's septic system is located as the county does not have a record of it.
10. That the excavating for the Family Dollar, the Southern Ready Mix Concrete Co., and the Wortham Road subdivision are all coming along nicely.
11. That he is still looking into the plan offered by HomeServe that will offer water customers leak insurance at a minimal price.

## **Unfinished Business**

### **1. Filming Permit – Resolution No. 2021-3:**

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that at last month's meeting the filming permit application was approved by the council, but that a resolution needs to be put into place to make it official. He then called for a motion to adopt the resolution.

Next, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to adopt Resolution No. 2021-3.

## **New Business**

### **1. Request of Wesley Bellamy, Jr. to Address the City Council Concerning Streets:**

Mr. Bellamy was not at the council meeting.

### **2. Alan Smith, Chief Meriwether County Fire Department – Dept. Update:**

Chief Alan Smith began by thanking the Mayor and Council for the use of two of the complex classroom to use for training on the first Monday of each month from 6:00 – 10:00 pm. The training will involve paid workers as well as volunteers to come together to get to know one another. And also, each additional Monday's of the month training will be offered in the other cities of Meriwether County and dividing the County into the Northern and Southern Battalions. In Addition, the training of the firefighters will help with the ISO rating for the county.

### **3. Lieutenant Worden – Meriwether Co. Sheriff's Office Revised Contract:**

Mayor Cuttie mentioned that the city's contract with the Sheriff's Department is up for renewal on July 1<sup>st</sup> and that a few changes have been made to the agreement of the following: 1.) an hourly pay increase of \$5.00 per hour for the deputies, 2.) If the deputies use their Meriwether Co. issued vehicles, the city will pay an additional \$5.00 per hour and, 3.) also to include the enforcement of the City's ordinances, primarily but not limited to Chapter 20 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions of the city's ordinances.

Next, Mayor Cuttie requested a motion to approve the contract changes and sign the agreement. Then, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Paul Parker and passed unanimously.

Lt. Worden was available for questions or concerns of citizens, and since there were none, he exited the meeting.

**4. Mike Robertson – Luthersville Recreation:**

Mr. Robertson introduced himself as the Chair of Meriwether County Recreation Department Advisory Board. And he went on to say that recreation is more than sports involvement, that it includes active and passive engagements. And one of the recent passive ways is through reading. He then introduced a program that the recreational department had begun to use called Bright from the Start and that it is a seven-week-long program and held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. He also mentioned that they have partnered with Barnes and Noble to provide books to children up to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Also, that the program needs resources such as the Luthersville Public Library to reach other children and parents.

**5. Request for a Business License by Abram Strickland and Located at 187 North Main Street:**

Mr. Abrams introduced himself to the council and explained what his plans were for the lot beside the 4-As at 187 North Main Street. He mentioned that he would be selling storage buildings and utility trailers.

Next, Paul Parker made a motion, seconded by Concetta Amey and passed unanimously, contingent upon Mr. Abrams maintaining the appearance around the structures that he is selling.

**6. Request for a Business License by Dedrick Alford and Located at 68 Mary Ellen Amey Street:**

Mr. Alford was not at the meeting, however, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Paul Parker and passed unanimously, to issue a business license to Mr. Alford contingent upon him not parking his equipment in the street or driveway of his resident.

**7. Request for a Business License by Ratnesh Sharma and Irina Khimani and Located at 64 North Main Street:**

Mr. Ratnesh introduced himself to the Mayor and Council and explained that he will be operating a package store selling beer, liquor, and wine and located in the suite where the Red Rooster restaurant had been located.

Next, Ricky Amey made a motion, seconded by Vallarie Cuttie and passed unanimously, to issue a business license to Mr. Ratnesh.

**8. Paul Parker – Recreation:**

Councilman Parker handed out a flyer with an image of a Recreational Pavilion that he thought would make a good example for the city should the Mayor and Council decide to utilize the concrete slab area left after the A-wing had been removed. He also mentioned that it would be a great way for the city to engage in other events involving the citizens of Luthersville. The general consensus of the

City Council was to move forward and plan on enhancing the space.

**9. Resolution No. 2021-4 Regarding High-Efficiency Plumbing:**

Mayor Cuttie explained that the purpose of the resolution was to move forward with the sewerage project that was begun last fall to provide sewerage coverage to the city and the citizens of Luthersville. And to be in compliance with GEFA for funding the agency must have a copy of the resolution

Then, Concetta Amey made a motion, seconded by Ricky Amey, and passed unanimously to adopt the resolution.

**10. Resolution No. 2021-5 Committing to Make an Application for Georgia Environmental Finance Authority's (GEFA) Septic to Sewer Program:**

Mayor Cuttie mentioned this resolution is needed to qualify for up to a 3 million dollar GEFA grant and to include the minutes of the meeting where the city council approved the resolution and agree to apply for the grant with GEFA. In addition, the Mayor will be meeting with the contractor on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, to work on the grant application that is due by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, 2021.

Next, Vallarie Cuttie made a motion, seconded by Paul Parker and passed unanimously, to adopt the resolution regarding GEFA Septic to Sewerage Program.

**11. Request of City Clerk to Update Employee Handbook:**

Mayor Cuttie asked the City Clerk if she would like to explain the request. And she went on to say that it was added benefits for the employees of the City of Luthersville to have the four additional holidays as the other state and federal government agencies recognize. And to increase the vacation/personal time off after 10 and 20 years of service.

Then, Councilman Parker said he needed additional information to make a decision therefore, Mayor Cuttie tabled the agenda item until next month's meeting.

**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 Vallarie Cuttie, and passed unanimously to end the meeting.

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