

Sandersville City Council

Working Session Minutes

March 4, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews	Victor Cuyler, Chief SPD
Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith	Russell Riner, Chief SFD
Council Member Mayme Dennis	Wayne Poole, Electric Department Director
Council Member Henry Watts	Robert Eubanks, Public Works Director
Council Member Danny Brown	Dave Larson, Building Official
Council Member Jason Davis	Brianna Wiley, Finance Director
Keenan Howard, City Attorney	Karrie Brown, City Clerk
Judy McCorkle, City Administrator	

Mayor Andrews called the working session to order at 4:00 p.m.

Department Reports:

Police Chief Cuyler presented the Mayor and Council Members with a copy of the Police Department's 2018 Annual Report. Chief Cuyler went over highlights from the report. The Council Members discussed the process of monitoring locations where an increase in crime activity has occurred. Chief Cuyler stated that patrol has increased in areas where crime has increased. Also, the Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) can set up special details in affected areas. Chief Cuyler thanked Certification Manager Lieutenant Wanda Peacock for organizing and keeping up with the records for the Police Department.

Fire Chief Riner stated there was a severe weather event yesterday near the City of Oconee and also on the south side of Washington County. He reminded everyone to register for the Code Red Weather Warning system. Chief Riner added the Georgia Fire Academy will hold a training class in Sandersville this Wednesday. He noted they have started to do more training out in the field, recognizing that volunteers can't always travel to Forsyth for training.

Council Member Dennis asked if the Fire Department offered CPR training to the public. Fire Chief Riner replied they do not offer training to the public but Oconee Fall Line Technical College does offer CPR classes to the public.

Electric Director Poole stated that we are fortunate that Sandersville did not have bad weather yesterday like some other areas in Washington County. He noted that there were no power outages in the City.

Public Works Director Eubanks thanked the Mayor and Council Members for allowing him and Finance Officer Wiley to complete the LEP Certification classes and said they should get their test results soon. Public Works Director Eubanks stated there are grant funds available from the GA DOT through the LMIG program. The City can apply for up to \$50,000 for striping and signage. The grant would require a 5% match of \$5,000 that can be paid with TSPLOST funds and the deadline for the grant application is April 1st. Public Works Director Eubanks asked if this could be added to the regular agenda for approval. Mayor Andrews stated that Smith Street, East Church Street, and Kaolin Road all need striping. Mayor Pro Tem Smith added that East Haynes Street, and the area of Linton Road in front of the middle school also need striping.

Council Member Watts discussed placing a red light at the intersection of Hospital Road and Sunhill Road. Public Works Director stated that GA DOT conducted a traffic study a few years ago and they indicated that a red light was not warranted. Council Member Watts asked about making this intersection a four way stop. Public Works Director Eubanks will check into this.

Building Official Larson gave an update on the Downtown Café project. He noted that as soon as it dries out, the contractor should be able to finish the project. Also, the work at the Boys and Girls Club is still underway.

Council Member Dennis asked about the mobile home ordinance draft and Building Official Larson stated that he hoped to have it soon. He noted the moratorium on mobile homes is still currently in place.

City Clerk Brown reminded everyone that City property taxes are due March 31st, 2019. City Clerk Brown stated that on the regular agenda is a motion to approve all non-essential City Departments to close at 12:00 noon on Friday, May 24th, 2019 for the annual employee's picnic and family day.

City Attorney Report:

City Attorney Howard stated the mutual aid agreement with the Washington County Sheriff's Office that is on the regular agenda for approval, is similar to the one that the City already has in place with the City of Tennesse. The Council Members and Police Chief Cuyler discussed the proposed mutual aid agreement in more detail and specifically discussed who would be designated to make decisions about an officer leaving the jurisdiction.

Council Reports:

Council Member Dennis stated that she has received a lot of positive feedback on the Black History Month banners.

City Administrator Report:

City Administrator McCorkle stated the disc golf tournament in May already has 66 players registered. City Administrator McCorkle stated the Animal Control Agreement with the County is not on the regular agenda. The previous consensus of the Council Members is for the County to pay 60% of the costs. The County has since offered to pay 57% of the costs. After the Council discussed the agreement, the consensus was to accept the County's offer of 57% for now. They will revisit this while working on the service delivery strategy.

Mayor Andrews adjourned the Working Session at 5:05 p.m.