

NO MASK NO ENTRY

TOWN OF BOWMAN COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2020

Mission Statement: The Town of Bowman government delivers essential services that contribute to the well-being, safety, and quality of life of its citizens. In doing so, we seek to meet the collective needs of our citizens in a cost-effective manner. We strive to provide “Quality Service and Solutions: Mutual Respect and Unity with the Community to reach a positive and productive goal for a common cause.”

The Bowman Town Council will meet in regular session on the first Tuesday of each month and due to COVID-19 – they will meet for July 2020

Invocation was given by Councilman Michael Void

- I. **Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2020** – Councilman I. Carter requested that he have the meeting minutes from March 3, 2020 to be sent (resent) to him for him to review before he will vote on approving or disapproving the prior meeting minutes. Councilman I. Carter was reassured that if he chooses to disagree with the state prior meeting minutes that it will be documented that he disagreed.

II. Departmental Reports

1. Administrative Updates

Mayor Patsy Rhett

- Councilman Michael Void has been announced as the Pro-Tem for the Bowman Town Council
- Mario Davis represent the Bowman Seminal Team to present before the Town Council on behalf of the Bowman Little League Football Team
- Mr. Davis asked that the Community donate to purchasing helmets and should pads for the team – he did reemphasize that his was requesting the donation from the community to assist 60 kids with should pads (for each shoulder) and helmets – the estimate of cost would be \$9500.00
- Councilman I. Carter wanted to know the ratio of inner youth and out of the city youth participating, he suggested that Mr. Davis request funds from the County and other Town organization. Mayor Rhett reiterates that Mr. Davis was asking for assistance from the community not from the Town and Councilman I. Carter did offer to do a \$100.00 donation to the Bowman Seminal Football Team.

2. Finance Report

Antoinette Glover, Clerk

- General Fund – Beginning Balance - \$117,837.55 Ending Balance - \$98,203.89
- Municipal Fund - Beginning Balance - \$5,121.16 Ending Balance - \$4,623.79
- Sewer Operations – Beginning Balance - \$15,182.60 Ending Balance - \$20,871.19

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- Councilman M. Void for the Financial Report to be accepted and stored for future record; financial report was accepted and will be stored for future reference.

3. Water/Sewer Report

Councilman Leroy Harley

- Councilman L. Harley provided a report given to him by the Town of Bowman Water and Sewer Operator – Cedric Hudson
 - The Town of Bowman has changed over 2 of the chlorine cylinders and added lime to the lagoons to ensure that they remained within their PH Balance; Mr. Hudson staffed gauges and recalibrated flow meters and work at the lift stations.
 - The report from Councilman L. Harley was received and properly moved with no objections by the Bowman Town Council

4. Police Department

Councilman Michael Void

- Councilman M. Void provided a report from Chief of Police Kevin Pendarvis
 - 1 Murder
 - 1 Attempted Murder
 - 1 Grand Larceny
 - 1 Petit Larceny
 - 1 Assist Other Agency
 - 1 Civil Dispute
 - 1 MVA (motor vehicle accident)
 - 1 Shots Fired
 - 3 M.I.P.P (malicious injury to personal property)
 - 3 Loud Music Complaints

The Police Department purchased a 2005 Ford F-150 with funds from the Police Department account to be used for patrol; the vehicle has already been outfitted and placed on patrol; the Dodge Charger has is out of service due to mechanical issues.

- The Police Department is asking for the Town Council to review the verbal (and forthcoming official written request) for the funds/monies to replace/update body cameras on officers as soon as possible.
- The In-Car Video System needs to be installed in both the Ford F-150 and the Chevy Tahoe.
- It was properly motioned by Councilman I. Carter for Councilman M. Void to supervisor/assist the Bowman Police to with ensuring that they received the needed funds and equipment to serve the citizens of the Town of Bowman effectively in a timely manner and properly second
- Councilman I. Carter asked if there were any grants from the town for a grant to improve the Police Department; Councilman I. Carter did offer to assist with seeking and reviewing with the Mayor any proposals brought forth to assist the Town of Bowman Police Department that are approved through proper protocol.
- Councilman I. Carter requested to have an update from the Mayor, Council M. Void and the Bowman Police Dept. in reference to what progress is being made in reference to obtaining grants to assist the Police Department.

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- Councilman M. Void gave recognition to the Bowman Police Department for their hard work and long hours that were given during the recent incident that occurred on May 26, 2020.
- Councilman I. Carter request for the Mayor along with any other needed local authorities to make a request to Orangeburg County, S.L.E.D. and D.E.A. to assist with our local Police Department in the deterrents of violent crimes. The Mayor did update the Council that she has already reached out to the Sheriff of Orangeburg County to request arranging a meeting to discuss ways to have law enforcement more visible in and around the Bowman Community.
- Councilman I. Carter shared concerns in reference to the response time for local law enforcement to respond to a 911 call. Councilman I. Carter requested that an update be given at the July Council meeting from Councilman M. Void in reference to ways to improve the response time for 911 calls that are routed to Orangeburg County Sheriff's Office.
- Properly moved by Councilman I. Carter and second by Councilman M. Void and approved by the Council for the equipment to be purchased for the local Police Department vehicles.

5. Parks & Recreation

Council Person Shaquetta Pelzer

- Due to COVID-19 Bowman parks, museum and banquet hall will remain closed for safety measures.
- Citizens stated that they saw no trash receptor(s) in the Inner City Park and requested for the Bowman Council to ensure a trash receptor is placed there and that the gate remains secure until the park is able to officially reopen.

6. Streets

Councilman Ike Carter

- Councilman I. Carter stated that he is waiting on a response back from Dominion Energy in reference to when and if they will be able to replace the lights throughout the community with LED lights
- Councilman I. Carter requested that the Town Council derive with a plan for maintaining the walkways and drainage issues for citizens
- Councilman I. Carter shared some concerns that he had in reference to the process used for requesting encroachments – clarification on the process was provided by Town Hall Office Manager Yvonne Lewis. It was clarified that Bowman has been following the proper protocol for encroachment process.

III. Old Business

Mayor Patsy Rhett

- Update on the Town of Bowman purchasing the old Dime store from Mr. Boland; Orangeburg County Council has agreed to tear down the building for the Town of Bowman; due to COVID-19 a specific time frame has not been established
- Update on the Town future Library; due to COVID-19 a specific time frame has not been established for the projected start date of building the library will begin.

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IV. New Business

Mayor Patsy Rhett

- Mayor P. Rhett stated that the Town of Bowman refund back to citizen approximately \$2000.00 for deposit and advance payments for rental facilities; at this time we do not have a specific date or timeframe for when we can start collecting those funds. Once we are able to start back renting Town of Bowman Public facilities, new measurements will be put into place in reference to sanitizing the various locations on a regular basis.
- Bowman citizen shared concerned in reference to the Town purchasing new equipment for the Inner city playground (i.e. – the sliding board)
- Bowman citizen had concerns of why the Town is moving forward with purchasing the old dime store verses fixing up some of the buildings that are already owned by the Town.
- Bowman citizen shared concern of how the sidewalks and two of the entrances into Bowman (from Orangeburg and Branchville) need to be better manicured; she also shared concerns on why the Town is hiring contractors to assist the water and sewer department instead of hiring more staff.
- Mr. Mario Davis offered the assistance of his team coaches and himself to cut the grass and pick up trash at the Inner City Park.
- The Town of Bowman did use some funds from the Penny tax to upgrade the sewer at Charter Oaks at a cost of \$17,412.78
- Mr. Johnson stated that he has been trying to get sewer and additional fire hydrant on Mohawk St; clarification was provided by Yvonne Lewis - The Town of Bowman requested that Mr. Johnson submit his request to the town in writing and in turn the Town of Bowman Operator Mr. Hudson will do an evaluation to see if a fire hydrant is able to and/or necessary for the location in question on Mohawk St.
- The packets that were disseminated to the Council by Councilman I. Carter will be reviewed and voted on at the next Council meeting in July.
- Due to the Town Council not being able to meeting for the month of April and May, there will be a Town Council meeting in July.

IV. Adjournment – Motioned by Councilman M. Void and second by Councilman L. Harley