**Sandersville City Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**July 15, 2024- 5:00 p.m.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews Brianna Wiley, Finance Director

Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Council Member Ben Salter Alex Lowe, Water/Wastewater Director

Council Member Deborah Brown Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

Council Member Mayme Dennis

Council Member Danny Brown

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Mayor Andrews called the July 15, 2024, meeting of the Sandersville City Council to order.

Mayor Andrews, gave the invocation and City Clerk Hartley led the pledge to the American Flag.

**Recognitions**:

Chief Cuyler introduced new police officer Mackensey Campbell. Mayor Andrews administered the oath of office.

Chamber of Commerce President Katie Moncus gave an update on chamber memberships and events.

**Approval of Minutes: July 1, 2024 Minutes**

Council Member Deborah Brown made a motion to approve the July 1, 2024 minutes as written. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. (Attachment A)

City Manager Eveland discussed the proposed MLK paving project explaining in discussion with Engineer Tyre and Water Director Lowe that it has come to her understanding that the underground sewer infrastructure on MLK needs to be repaired before moving forward with the paving project on MLK. City Manager Eveland explained the financing options for the infrastructure project for MLK. The City Council had discussion and decided they wanted to hold off on the MLK paving project until the sewer project was completed. City Manager Eveland explained that she would continue to look at the financial options for the project and present the best option to the council. City Manager Eveland then had Water Wastewater Director Lowe explain that Well #10 went down. Director Lowe explained that he is getting a quote to get fixed. Council Member Dennis questioned if water restrictions would be put in place, Director Lowe stated that he would have more information in the morning. Director Lowe went on to explained that Well #11 also went down explaining this issue was a pipe issue not a pump issue.

Council Member Dennis stated that she has a concern with the new purchasing policy allowing the Finance Director to move funds between accounts. Mayor Andrews stated that since there were concerns that this ordinance and policy could be tabled for further review. City Manager Eveland explained that she needs to know what the questions and concerns are concerning the policy because she has not had any feedback since it was first presented last meeting. City Manager Eveland explained that City Attorney Howard has had the information to review and to explain the difference between legal concerns and policy and operations. City Manager Eveland explained that there are a lot of issues with the current policy and this new policy helps to be efficient and will be very helpful for staff. City Manager Eveland explained that the current job of the Finance Director is to be in charge of the city funds and making sure they are handled in the proper manner. City Manager Eveland then asked the council to please email her so that she can get the answers to the questions from the council going forward on the policy. Council Member Dennis explained that policy’s need to be discussed in detail at a sit down meeting before voting on them. Mayor Pro Tem Smith suggested dedicating a work session to discuss policies such as this purchasing policy before moving forward with them.

**Table Ordinance 2024-02:**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to table and waive the second reading of and adopt Ordinance 2024-02: An ordinance amending the City of Sandersville, Georgia municipal code regarding finance procedures related to procurement. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment B)

**Table Purchasing Policy**

The Purchasing and Procurement Policy was tabled. (Attachment C)

City Manager Eveland explained that the current ordinance concerning regulatory fees for transient merchants was very high and she is proposing that the fees be removed from the ordinance and a lower fee be adopted through the schedule of fees.

**Ordinance 2024-03:**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to suspend the rules and waive first and second reading of and adopt Ordinance 2024-03: An ordinance amending the City of Sandersville, Georgia municipal code regarding regulatory fee amounts. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment D)

**Resolution 2024-16: Schedule of Fees**

Council Member Salter made a motion to Adopt Resolution 2024-16: A Resolution of the City of Sandersville, Georgia amending the schedule of fees and charges for the City of Sandersville. Mayor Pro Tem Smith seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment E)

City Manager Eveland explained she has been through the bids for the strategic plan consulting companies and would like to recommend Allyson Brunette Consulting, City Manager Eveland then explained the bid process and how she came to that decision.

**Strategic Plan Consulting:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Allyson Brunette Consulting for the development of a strategic plan at a cost not to exceed $25,500. Council Member Dennis seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment F)

City Manager Eveland explained the bids for the compensation study explaining that she is recommending Evergreen Solutions LLC since they gave a true cost of what the entire project would be.

**Compensation Study:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Evergreen Solutions for a Compensation Study at a cost not to exceed $30,500. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment G)

City Manager Eveland explained that the airport authority has asked help from the city to purchase a mower for the Airport Authority explaining it would be purchased with transportation funds. Council Member Deborah Brown questioned if the county was going to help with the purchase. Council Member Dennis stated that the county should be responsible for more input than the city.

**Airport Authority**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to authorize $35,050 to the Airport Authority for the purchase of a tractor, mower, and sprayer. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment H)

Council Member Dennis questioned if the sidewalk would go all the way to the hospital stating that she would make a motion with the clarification that the sidewalk needed to go to the hospital. City Manager Eveland stated she would confirm with the public works director but that information would have been provided when the bid was initially presented.

**M. Friedman Sidewalk**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to award bid to HD Construction, in the amount of $414,425 for the M. Friedman sidewalk project. Council Member Deborah Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment I)

City Manager Eveland explained that she is recommending an adjustment on the pay scale for the public works director position, going on to say that recruiting at this pay grade may be difficult. The pay grade was previously changed when the job description of the public works director was changed to remove water director duties the pay scale was changed, but I feel like the duties are still there to justify the original pay grade.

**Resolution 2024-15:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-15: A Resolution of the City of Sandersville, Georgia amending the job position classification and compensation plan to provide for a classification change in the Public Works Department. Council Member Salter seconded and the motion passed unanimously adjourned. (Attachment J)

**Public Comment**

Cassandra Jackson stated that she didn’t know there was a called meeting last week and questioned if going forward it could be posted on facebook.

Citizen Hazzie Brown stated that the airport should kill the grass on the runway at the airport to keep from having to mow the grass.

**Adjournment:**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Deborah Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously adjourned.

Jimmy Andrews, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date