

**Sandersville City Council  
Working Session Minutes  
December 16, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews

Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith

Council Member Mayme Dennis

Council Member Deborah Brown

Council Member Danny Brown

Council Member Ben Salter

Sharon Eveland, City Manager

Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

Leslie Williams, Finance Director

Victor Cuyler, Police Chief

Brian Shelton, Deputy Chief of Police

Dave Larson, Community Development-phone

Alex Lowe, Water/Wastewater Director

Mayor Andrews called the December 16, 2024 Working Session of the Sandersville City Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Andrews presented the annual sign bounty bonus to employee Ricky Phillips and Adrian Johnson for collecting the most signs on the city right of ways.

Chamber President Katie Moncus passed out information for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter and reviewed the 2024 statistics of membership and projects over the past year.

Cody Deal, Project Manager for Washington County Regional Medical Center shared with the council the plans for the new emergency room addition. Deal went on to explain that these changes and upgrades and shared pictures of the new renovations with the council. Deal explained this project would require new electrical distribution components including a new transformer. Deal asked the council to please consider helping cover the cost of the new electrical distribution requirements needed for the new emergency room. Council Member Dennis questioned Deal about the layout and the different changes that would take place at the ER. Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated we wouldn't waive the fees but maybe could consider a donation to the project. Mayor Andrews explained that the city already gave funds to the hospital during COVID and that there was also a mill added to the county tax bills to pay a hospital bond and that mill was still being collected. Deal stated he would look into the mill that was on the county tax bill for the hospital authority. The Mayor thanked Deal for coming and advised the council would discuss and review the proposal and get back to them.

Department Reports:

Water Director Alex Lowe stated that there was an invoice on the agenda for approval of the engineering services to Turnipseed Engineers for the jailhouse and the laurel acres lift stations.

Police Chief Cuyler gave an update on staffing and the police department new structure.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith questioned why were there so many new vehicles throughout the city and what were we doing to get rid of some of the old ones. City Manager Eveland explained the new lease program that the city was apart of with Enterprise is the reason for the new vehicles and finance Director Leslie Williams stated that the old ones would be put on the gov deals website.

Community Development Director Larson via phone conference explained that there was a recommendation to reappoint members to the P&Z board on the regular agenda. Larson explained that board member Benji English is coming off the board due to conflicts and there would be a new recommendation in January to fill his spot.

City Manager Eveland explained the changes that have been made to the budget and presented the council with packets of the changes. Council Member Dennis questioned why could the ARPA funds not be used for repairing homes throughout the city and improving the neighborhood parks. City Manager Eveland explained that the rules for the ARPA funds have changed over time and they had to go with the projects that have previously been approved. City Manager Eveland explained that the council would need to formally make a motion on the regular agenda to obligate the remaining ARPA funds that is not used for the water lift station projects to the Linton Park project. City Manger Eveland went on to explain that she has had conversations with Archway to have students to assist in updating neighborhood parks and that hopefully it would be something that could be looked at doing in 2025/2026. City Manager Eveland then reviewed the council travel budgets for 2025. Council Member Dennis stated that these amounts were not enough to cover but one conference. The council had discussion. Mayor Pro Tem Smith requested the City Manager to adjust the amounts and bring back to the next meeting. Mayor Andrews stated that this item would be removed from the consent agenda and tabled. Council Member Dennis requested that the P & Z Board Members compensation be increased. City Manager Eveland explained that is something that we could look into doing for 2026 budget. City Manager Eveland stated the council meeting schedule is on the agenda for approval but asked the council if they would be interested in moving to Tuesday meetings instead of Monday meetings since there are so many holidays on Monday. The Council unanimously stated they wanted to keep meetings the way they were on Mondays. City Manager Eveland explained that there is an invoice and contract agreement with Axon on the regular agenda for in-car video and body worn camera upgrades for the police department. City Manager Eveland stated this will be a big improvement for the Police Department and is needed. Council Members asked questions concerning warranty.

**Sandersville City Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 16, 2024- 5:00 p.m.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews	Kandice Hartley, City Clerk
Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith	Leslie Williams, Finance Director
Council Member Mayme Dennis	Victor Cuyler, Police Chief
Council Member Deborah Brown	Brian Shelton, Deputy Chief of Police
Council Member Danny Brown	Dave Larson, Community Development
Council Member Ben Salter	Alex Lowe, Water/Wastewater Director
Sharon Eveland, City Manager	

Mayor Andrews called the December 16, 2024, meeting of the Sandersville City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Danny Brown, gave the invocation and Chamber President Katie Moncus led the pledge to the American Flag.

**Recognitions:**

Mayor Andrews announced that Teresa Hines with the Sandersville Progress was retiring at the end of December. Mayor Andrews read a resolution to Hines and thanked her for her years of service with the paper and her dedication over the past 24 years to our community. Council Members, City Staff, and Community leaders then expressed words of appreciation and memories of her service over the past 24 years.

Mayor Andrews asked City Manger and Council if they had reports they would like to give that was not finished from the working session.

City Manager Eveland announced the new public works director has been selected and she would send an email with his information after she has a chance to announce to the Staff. City Manager Eveland explained that she would introduce the candidate at the next council meeting.

City Manager Eveland updated the council on the recent speed hump application and explained that the applicant would need to have all the residents sign it appears that the application was found but there were not enough signatures. Council Member Dennis stated that she has tried to get in touch with the City Manager regarding the property owned by Chris Gilbert on Hines Street expressing her concern that something needed to be done with the uncovered hole on Mr. Gilberts property. City Manager stated that she would follow up with him. City Manger Eveland also updated the council on the draining issues at 312 N Harris Street explaining that the DOT will either need to fix it as it is owned by them or deed it over to the city so that the city can maintain but currently this is a DOT issue.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Council Member Deborah Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- a. Approval of Minutes: December 2, 2024. (Attachment A)
- b. Resolution #2024-25: A Resolution Adopting Financial Policies for the City of Sandersville. (Attachment B)

- c. Resolution # 2024-26: A Resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget for each fund of the City of Sandersville, Georgia appropriating the amounts shown in each budget as expenditures/expenses, adopting the several items of revenue anticipations, and prohibiting expenditures or expenses from exceeding actual funding available for. (Attachment C)
- d. Motion to obligate \$290,433.23 of ARPA funds to Washington County for the development of Linton Park and to authorize the City Manager to reallocate any excess funds from the lift station project to the Linton Park project.
- e. Motion to pay an invoice in the amount of \$61,965 to Turnipseed Engineers for the survey and design of plans and specifications for the laurel acres and jail lift stations. (Attachment D)
- f. Motion to reappoint Carolyn Bloodsaw, Dorothy Tucker, Sid Cheatham and to appoint new member Vivian Jones to the P&Z Board for a term beginning January 1, 2025 thru December 31, 2027.
- g. Motion to approve the 2025 Council meeting schedule. (Attachment F)

**TABLE COUNCIL TRAINING ALLOCATIONS**

Council Member Dennis made a motion to table the 2025 Council training expense allocations. Council Member Deborah Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**AXON ENTERPRISE, INC**

Council Member Salter made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign a service agreement, pending attorney review and approval, with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for in-car video and body worn camera upgrades in the amount of \$489,287. Council Member Danny Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Attachment G)

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment:**

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

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James W. Andrews, Mayor

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Kandice Hartley, City Clerk

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Date