MINUTES
TOWN OF DUE WEST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023 – 6:00PM
TOWN HALL -- 103 MAIN STREET

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Jeannie Knight; Mayor Pro Tem Bob Mock; Council Members Jay Lown and Kitty Storey and Sandy Totherow
COUNCIL ABSENT: Council Members Gayle Beaudrot and Chris Myers
STAFF PRESENT: Town Attorney Bishop; Town Administrator David Krumwiede; Patti Chasteen, Clerk/Treasurer; Police Chief David Maxwell; Utility Superintendent Lewis Saxton; and Fire Chief Roy McClain

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER—Mayor Knight at 6:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION
Mayor Knight led in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

IV. REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS
A. A motion was made by Council Member Lown and 2nd by Mayor Pro Tem Mock to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting from December 19, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.
B. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending September 30, 2022--no changes were noted. Mr. Krumwiede reviewed the financials received today and they were emailed to Council Members prior to tonight’s meeting. Mayor Knight said she is glad we have financials and budgets may need to be amended. The floor was opened for comments. After hearing none, A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and seconded by Council Member Storey to approve the financial reports as information. The motion passed unanimously.
C. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending October 31, 2022—Financial Statements were not available.
D. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending November 30, 2022—Financial Statements were not available.

V. LEGISLATION

VI. REPORTS
A. MAYOR’S REPORT—Report Provided
Mayor Knight provided an overview of the year ahead as follows:
- The S.C. RIA Grant was awarded to us in 2022. It will serve to update and expand our Wastewater Treatment Plant in 2023.
- We are hoping to be awarded the TAPS Grant through the SCDOT that would allow for an extended sidewalk along College Street and end at the new Dollar General. Part of that project will also extend the sidewalk on Haynes Street to the end of College Street.
- A new budget will be presented for the fiscal year 2023-2024. This will be by ordinance and will require two readings—one in May and the second in June. The new fiscal year will begin on July 1, 2023.
- The Civic Events Committee will plan the Fourth of July Event, Fall Festival and Christmas Parade.
- The Town will work with Erskine College to improve lighting along the streets where students have crosswalks.
- The Police Department will send Isabella Tucker to the Police Academy for her certification as a Police Officer. This could be completed in the spring.
- There will be some Council Members and the Mayor’s positions up for election/re-election this November. Signup will begin soon to be on the ballot for these positions.
- So, Happy New Year, to all. Hoping this year will be safe and eventful in good ways for our citizens and those who visit our Town.

B. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Mr. Krumwiede informed Council that he’ll be attending MASC’s Hometown Legislative Action Day in Columbia on February 7, 2023. It’s his 51st time attending.

C. ATTORNEY JOHN ANDREW BISHOP

D. FIRE—Report Provided
Fire Chief McClain reported everything is going well and ladder testing will begin in the next couple of months. The Donalds Fire Department had to test their hoses in Due West. At the end of 2022, they had almost 440 calls—300
were medical and 150 were fire calls. Back when he started, calls have almost tripled. Other than that, two engines will be out of service for repairs in Sumter. Mr. Krumwiede congratulated Chief McClain for being named Abbeville County’s Fire Chief of the Year. He questioned Chief McClain about driving the trucks to Sumter and asked if they would be taking the hoses off before they go. Chief McClain said they might take the hoses off or strap them down. He added that they had to have a truck towed last week.

E. POLICE—Report Provided
Chief Maxwell updated Council that Isabella Tucker is in the long training process. She had four blocks to go through and she’s completed all four blocks now. She has to be certified in NCIC before she goes. If she passes two tests on Wednesday, she’ll get dates for the academy. Mayor Pro Tem asked if she’s completed firearm training. Chief confirmed she has completed the firearm training—it’s a long process and has pitfalls. Mayor Knight asked if the process changes based on gender—Chief Maxwell said it doesn’t. Chief announced they’ve received an award in the amount of $9,100 for new body cams. The body cams are in and waiting on programming. The cams will have cloud storage and approximately $400 yearly fees. It’s a five-year investment and they’ll have to reapply in four years. Mayor asked if they’ll wear the cams on duty. Chief said it’s a nice system and they’ll wear the cams while on duty. Mr. Krumwiede asked about the status of the communication systems and if they’ve changed over. He also asked about the Town’s siren. Fire Chief McClain said he has half of the Fire Department’s radios changed over. As far as the siren, it’s questionable. If they keep up with what they say, we should have no problems. Although they had no choice, Chief Maxwell said the new communication system has good and bad points. Chief Maxwell reported that the new vehicle is being made this week and hopes to have by the end of February, 2023. Mayor Knight announced today is “National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.” She expressed her appreciation for the Chief and our officers. Chief Maxwell said they will do a lot of appreciation for officers in May, 2023.

F. UTILITIES—No Report Provided
Other than the rain impacting the sewer system, Superintendent Lewis Saxton reported everything is running smoothly. Mayor Knight inquired if he’d noticed a difference with Erskine’s students gone and she reported a pothole on Brownlee Street. He will put the pothole on his list and did see a difference with the students gone; however, a heavy downpour hurts the sewer system.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. Town Offices Will Be Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on January 16th
2. Town Offices Will Be Closed for Presidents’ Day on February 20th
Mayor Knight added that our next meeting will be on the second Monday (February 13th). We will go back to the third Monday in March (March 20th).

X. ADJOURNMENT
Mayor Pro Tem Mock made a motion to adjourn at 6:57 p.m., 2nd by Council Member Storey; all were in favor.

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MAYOR

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CLERK/TREASURER