MINUTES
TOWN OF DUE WEST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023 – 6:00PM
TOWN HALL -- 103 MAIN STREET

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Jeannie Knight; Mayor Pro Tem Bob Mock; Council Members Gayle Beaudrot; Jay Lown; Chris Myers; Kitty Storey; and Sandy Totherow

COUNCIL ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Town Attorney Bishop; Town Administrator Krumweide; Patti Chasteen, Clerk/Treasurer; Police Chief David Maxwell; and Fire Chief Roy McClain

STAFF ABSENT: Utility Superintendent Lewis Saxton;

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 Council Member Storey to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting from February 13, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
B. A motion was made by Council Member Totherow and 2nd by Council Member Storey to approve the minutes of the Civic Events Committee Minutes of February 21, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
C. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending December 31, 2022—Financial Statements were not available.
D. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending January 31, 2023— Financial Statements were not available.
E. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending February 28, 2023—Financial Statements were not available. Mayor Pro Tem Mock renewed his suggestion of getting a new accounting firm. Mayor Knight said it’s tax season and she failed to called them. Mr. Krumwiede added that we would need to go out for bids. Mayor Pro Tem Mock thinks we can check with other municipalities.

V. LEGISLATION

VI. REPORTS
A. MAYOR’S REPORT—No Report Provided

1. Fiscal Year 2022-23 and Fiscal Year 2023-24 Important Budget Dates:
   • 4/17/23 Town Council Budget Work Session
   • 5/15/23 First Reading of Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Adjustments
   • 5/15/23 First Reading of Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget
   • 6/19/23 Public Hearing
   • 6/19/23 Second Reading and Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget
   • 6/19/23 Second Reading of Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Adjustments

   Mayor confirmed the budget calendar hasn’t changed much from previous years and opened the floor for questions. Hearing none, the Mayor added this budget year should be smooth and more open for discussion.

2. Zoning Board of Appeals Committee

   Mayor Knight confirmed part of the Zoning Code is to have a Zoning Board of Appeals Committee with overlapping four-year terms. Mayor introduced the names of five proposed members to serve on this Committee: Blake Foster, Gary Funderburk, Wanda Mann, Thelton Powell and John A. Simpson. Mayor asked for a motion. Council Member Lown made a motion to approve these five residents to serve on four-year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals Committee and 2nd by Council Member Totherow. Mayor added that several have served on this Committee before and opened the floor for comments. Hearing none, the motion carried unanimously. Mayor commented that this Committee won’t meet unless needed but it’s good to have in place. With construction at Dixie, some variances could be needed in the future.

3. Erskine College’s Pool

   Several met with Bobby Clarke, Erskine’s Vice President of Operations and Strategic Planning, about the use of their pool during summer months for the community. Attorney Bishop confirmed our agreement is technically still in effect until 2026. We renewed the agreement in 2021 for another 5 years. Mayor added that Erskine owns and operates the pool. They provide the life guards. They should announce the hours of the pool’s operation soon.

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B. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Mr. Krumwiede informed Council that the next ARPA reporting is due by April 30, 2023. Funds have to be expended in 2024.

C. ATTORNEY JOHN ANDREW BISHOP

D. FIRE—No Report Provided
1. **Zoning:** As far as the Zoning Board of Appeals Committee, Roy McClain suggests it’s time to go back to a zoning book. It would be easier to enforce. Mayor Knight asked how he would be able to get it together. Mr. McClain thinks it would need to go through the Planning Commission and then back to Council.

2. **Fire Department:** Fire Chief McClain reported the Department is running smoothly. They have seen an increase of 5-6 calls per day at The Renaissance to assist with falls. Mr. Krumwiede said Attorney Bishop will check into this. He thinks it’s too much. He asked if we send them a bill. Chief said we don’t by EMS does. Mayor Pro Tem Mock asked if they transport residents or put back in bed. He thinks this could be a risk for the Town and Attorney Bishop agrees. Mayor said she needs to talk to Jackie Owens about this. Fire Chief continued that they’re still waiting on hose testing. If we have upcoming needed repairs on the ladder truck, he will have to take it out of service. Council Member Beaudrot asked if he could fix it. Chief said he can, but he’s not certified to do the repairs. Mayor Pro Tem Mock asked what’s the cost, if this could be paid out of ARPA, and if we would be without a ladder truck. Mayor and Mr. Krumwiede both agreed that ARPA funds could be used to pay for the cost. Chief said last time the cost was around $4,000 and he hopes we would only be without the ladder truck for no longer than one week. If needed, we have access to Fire Departments in Greenwood, Honea Path, Ware Shoals and Anderson County. Abbeville City is still without their ladder truck. As far as grants, the Department received a $13,500 “S.C. Be Safe Grant” with no match that will be used for stabilization equipment. Mayor said she appreciates the Fire Department and the security they provide to residents.

E. POLICE—Report Provided
Chief Maxwell reported they’re in the process of revising SLED’s required department policies and just sent two more policies to them today. Isabella Tucker is in the fifth week at the Police Academy and giving Due West a good name. She’s doing good and her academics are great. This week should be a good week for her. After that, she has the driving and shooting portions remaining. Mr. Krumwiede asked if she has a chance to be top of her class. Chief said she’s in the top percentile. The new police vehicle is in and currently in Spartanburg getting detailed. They will have one vehicle for sale soon. He did pickup another part-time officer. He was able to work last Friday. When Isabella finishes the Academy, Mayor Pro Tem Mock said overtime should drop and we’ve looked at getting away from part-time officers. Chief reminded Council that our part-time officers have full-time jobs. It’s hard to find availability. The new part-time officer is self-employed. Without part-time employees, it doesn’t give time for vacation and sick time. Therefore, it’s not feasible. Part-time officers can pick up the slack.

F. UTILITIES—No Report Provided
In the absence of Superintendent Saxton, Mayor reported that we have put distributed significant information in the community on wipes. We’ll have a company coming in soon with sewer cameras.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. **Town Offices Will Be Closed for Good Friday on April 7th**
2. **Town’s Annual Spring Clean Up Will be Held on April 10th through April 20th at Noon**

X. ADJOURNMENT
Council Member Beaudrot made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., 2nd by Council Member Totherow; all were in favor.

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MAYOR

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CLERK/TREASURER