MINUTES
TOWN OF DUE WEST
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 – 6:00PM
TOWN HALL -- 103 MAIN STREET

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

COUNCIL ABSENT: Council Member Chris Myers

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

STAFF ABSENT: Town Administrator David Krumwiede and 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 the invocation.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

IV. REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS
A. A motion was made by Council Member Storey and 2nd by Council Member Beaudrot to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting from September 15, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.
B. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending August 31, 2022-- no changes were noted. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and 2nd by Council Member Storey to accept the financial statements as information. The motion carried unanimously.
C. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending September 30, 2022—Financial Statements were not available.

V. LEGISLATION
A. ORDINANCE NO. 03-2022
First Reading of Ordinance No. 03-2022 – An ordinance of the Town of Due West, S.C., authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract for the collection of household garbage within the Town with Michael Gambrell, DBA M&R Enterprises, for a period of twenty-four (24) months.

Council Member Beaudrot made a motion and 2nd by Council Member Totherow to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 03-2022; motion carried.

VI. REPORTS
A. MAYOR'S REPORT
1. The Civic Events Committee will meet on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and is open to everyone. They'll have a report on the Fall Festival, upcoming Christmas parade and Tree for Life.
2. We’ve had a representative from AirMedCare stop by. If we do a subscription with Council and employees before an upcoming price increase, it would be $65.00 each. The price will be $80.00 beginning in January, 2023. If you are picked up by a helicopter, the cost is approximately $20,000 to $25,000. Chief McClain said the Fire Department buys a subscription and they get a lower price. If the Council would like, the representative can come and talk to us.

B. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

C. ATTORNEY JOHN ANDREW BISHOP
Attorney Bishop had no information to share with Council. Mayor Knight asked about annexation protocol when land lies both within Town limits and outside as county property. Bobby Clarke, Vice President at Erskine College, came by to talk to them. Town Attorney Bishop cited regulations to address this when requested. Annexation is a complex process with much attention to the neighborhood and with detailed instruction to be followed. However, it can be done. Roy McClain said his home is about 500’ outside the Town Limit and it’s 76 acres. He said his address is wrong. Attorney Bishop said he thinks he can write a letter and he’ll check with code. He will get back with Council next month.

D. FIRE—Report Provided
Fire Chief Roy McClain reported an average month. He applied for a new 100% matching grant with no match They could ask for more equipment yearly instead of every three years. They might ask for new struts or fire hoses. He
hopes our prices will be close. He expects to receive a letter from FEMA turning us down for a new fire truck. They would like to dispose of two fire trucks for a new one costing $750,000. The grant would be 5% matching and our portion would be $35,000. They are handing out a lot of fire truck grants lately.

E. POLICE—Report Provided
Chief Maxwell introduced our new Police Officer Isabella Tucker whose first day is today. She’s from Ohio and has lived in Hawaii. She worked at Subway. We’ve put her through the ringer and she’s done well. Chief thinks she’ll be a real asset to the Department. She’ll go through four blocks of training in Due West. When she finishes, she will go to the academy for training and testing. They’re hopefully she’ll be ready to come back to Due West in March or April.

Mayor Pro Tem Mock inquired about our part-time officers. Chief said we only use as needed. Mayor Knight welcomed Bella and informed Council she has wanted to be a policeman since she was 10 years old.

F. UTILITIES—No Report Provided

VII. OLD BUSINESS
Mayor Knight reported that we have committees in place to act as liaisons for Our Department Heads. On the Fire Department Committee, she would like to put Council Members Beaudrot and Totherow. Council Member Beaudrot said she was previously the Chaplain for Honea Path.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
A. Approval Request for a Pony and/or Horse at 6 Overholt Lane
Mayor Knight said resident Blake Foster has asked for approval to have a pony or horse on his 5 acres at 6 Overholt Lane. Mayor Pro Tem Mock said you don’t want to have odor and inquired if it will be fenced. He thinks it needs to be tabled until next month. Mayor confirmed they will have fencing in place. Attorney Bishop said a formal request needs to be submitted to Council. Roy McClain said neighbors need to be surveyed. He agrees with Mr. Mock that this needs to be tabled until next month. Attorney Bishop agrees we need to table until we have more information.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION
1. Matters Related to Town Personnel. Upon Returning to Open Session, Council May Take Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Pro Tem Mock made a motion and 2nd by Council Member Beaudrot to approve going into Executive Session; motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Mock made a motion and 2nd by Council Member Storey to approve coming out of Executive Session; motion carried.

Mayor Knight made a motion to increase the salaries for three Utility Department Positions. Lewis Saxton and Roy McClain will make $2.00 more per hour each and Bill Shirley, a part-time position, will be increased by .50 cents per hour. The position that has been left open since the retirement of Carlton Brock will be raised from the current amount of $18 to $19 per hour. Council Member Beaudrot 2nd the motion; the motion carried.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. Civic Events Committee Will Meet on October 20th at 10:00 a.m. in Council Chambers
2. Town Hall Will be Closed for Veterans Day on November 11th and Thanksgiving on November 24th-25th
3. Fall Trash Pickup Will Begin on November 14th and will End at Noon on November 17th

XI. ADJOURNMENT
Council Member Beaudrot made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m., 2nd by Mayor Pro Tem Mock; all were in favor.

________________________
MAYOR

________________________
CLERK/TREASURER