MINUTES
TOWN OF DUE WEST
PUBLIC HEARING
MUNICIPAL BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
103 MAIN STREET

Mayor Knight opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. She asked if there were any residents that would like to speak or ask questions regarding the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 balanced Budgets. Hearing none, the Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023 – 6:05 P.M.

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

COUNCIL ABSENT: Council Members Chris Myers and Sandy Totherow

STAFF PRESENT: Attorney John Andrew Bishop; Patti Chasteen, Clerk/Treasurer; Police Sergeant Stephen Phillips; Fire Chief Roy McClain and Utility Superintendent Lewis Saxton

STAFF ABSENT: Police Chief David Maxwell and Town Administrator David Krumwiede

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER—Mayor Knight at 6:05 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION
Mayor Knight led in the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation was offered by Council Member Beaudrot.

III. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
Mayor Knight welcomed Marty Yannarella to tonight’s Council Meeting.

IV. REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL BUSINESS ITEMS
A. A motion was made by Council Member Lown and 2nd by Council Member Beaudrot to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting from May 15, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

B. A motion was made by Council Member Storey and 2nd by Council Member Lown to approve the minutes of the Called Council Meeting from June 5, 2023.

C. A motion was made by Council Member Beaudrot and 2nd by Council Member Storey to approve the minutes of the Civic Events Committee Meeting of June 6, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Monthly Financial Statements for the Period Ending April 30, 2023—no changes were noted. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and 2nd by Council Member Lown to accept the financial statements as information. The motion carried unanimously.

V. 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 Storey to approve going into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

   Mayor Pro Tem Mock made a motion and 2nd by Council Member Beaudrot to approve coming out of Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. motion carried.

VI. LEGISLATION
A. ORDINANCE NO. 06-2023
Second Reading of Ordinance No. 06-2023 – An ordinance of the Town of Due West, S.C., authorizing budget amendments to Ordinance No. 01-2022, the Town’s Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget, in the General Fund, Enterprise Fund and the Final 50% distribution allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund signed into law establishing the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, as presented in Exhibit A to the Ordinance.

   After no further discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and 2nd by Council Member Storey. The motion carried to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 06-2023.

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B. ORDINANCE NO. 07-2023
Second Reading of Ordinance No. 07-2023 -- An ordinance to adopt the Fiscal Year Budget beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, for the General Fund, Enterprise Fund and ARPA Fund to provide for the collection of funds that are necessary for operational and capital expenditures, to provide for the receipt and expenditure of funds and other matters related thereto.

After coming out of Executive Session, Mayor Knight announced that Council proposes adjustments in salaries. In addition, amending the ordinance to accept the adjustments Council has seen. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and 2nd by Council Member Beaudrot to amend the 3% cost of living salary adjustment and replace with the salary adjustments. Mayor opened the floor for any discussion. Since you changed the budget, Marty Yannarella asked how can the public have input. Mayor Pro Tem Mock explained the change was due to the initial 3% cost of living wasn't competitive enough. Council Member Beaudrot added that they took out the 3% cost of living and all salary adjustments aren't the same. Mayor Knight asked all in favor as amended and the motion carried unanimously to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 07-2023.

C. ORDINANCE NO. 08-2023
Second Reading on Ordinance No. 08-2023—An ordinance to adopt stating candidates desiring entry in any nonpartisan General Election shall file with the Abbeville Registration and Elections Commission, by delivering to such Commission in Abbeville, S.C., a standardized petition not later than noon, August fifteenth. If August fifteenth falls on a Saturday or Sunday, then not later than noon on the following Monday. Petitions must be signed by at least five percent (5%) of the voters in the Town of Due West.

After no further discussion, a motion was made by Council Member Lown and 2nd by Mayor Pro Tem Mock. The motion carried to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 08-2023.

VII. REPORTS
A. MAYOR'S REPORT
The July 4th celebration will begin at 4:30 p.m. with a parade in the Erskine Mall. There will be decorations, games, a cookie contest, swimming and music. In addition, hot dogs will be served. Fireworks will begin a dusk.

B. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

C. ATTORNEY JOHN ANDREW BISHOP

D. FIRE—No Report Provided
Fire Chief McClain showed Council an award received for the S.C. Safe Community Award. He reported that May was a slow month with low fire calls. Mayor Pro Tem Mock inquired on how many calls were out of town. Chief McCall said they had one wreck on Anderson Drive. They also had several wrecks and one structure fire out of town. Council Member Beaudrot commented that she appreciates their service.

E. POLICE—No Report Provided
Police Sergeant Stephen Phillips represented the Department in Chief Maxwell’s absence. He was instrumental in providing Council with significant information on the continuing problems with dogs running loose in Town.

F. UTILITIES—No Report Provided
Superintendent Saxton updated Council on the sewer lines being tested in Town. Testing is going well and they’ve found several issues. Davey Tree is under contract with Duke Energy going around pulling power poles. For every pole they pull, they get paid by Duke Energy. There was an incident at the Carver School with the land owners blaming them and said they had pictures. Police Chief Maxwell has the information and it wasn’t them.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS
1. Zoning Codes
Council has decided to enlist the help of the Planning Commission to update the Zoning Codes in Town. If properties in Town are not up to code for condition of their homes and upkeep of their lawns, they will be addressed for action. Roy McClain reported that he has been working on property codes. Residents need to keep up their properties. Attorney Bishop said to feel free to contact him and he gave recommendations on code enforcement. Mayor Pro Tem Mock asked Mr. McClain if he’s sent out letters. Yes, replied Mr. McClain. The Zoning Code for dogs running loose and threatening citizens was also addressed. According to our Town Code, dogs must be leased or in containment of yard fencing. Infractions will result in calls to the County Animal Control’s Agent to remove the dogs from the Town and will be assisted by the Due West Police Department.
IX. NEW BUSINESS
1. Mayor Pro Tem Mock reported that it is time to reappoint Helen Phillips’ Judgeship for the at the same current rate of $10,490.00 annually. S.C. Law requires not less than two years and not more than four years. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mock and 2nd by Council Member Lown to renew Judge Phillips for four-year period of June 19, 2023 through June 19, 2027, at the current rate of $10,490.00 annually. The motion carried unanimously. Attorney Bishop confirmed that Council has the duty to reappoint and Court Administration should be notified that she has been reappointed.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS
1. July 4th Celebration Will Begin at 4:30 p.m. on July 2nd at the Erskine Pool and Pavilion.
3. Civic Events Committee Meeting will be Held on August 1, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Mock made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m., 2nd by Council Member Storey; all were in favor.

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MAYOR

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CLERK/TREASURER