

July 1, 2019

The regular Council meeting was held at the M.S. Bailey Center at 6:00 PM with Mayor Bob Mclean presiding with Councilmembers Cook, Jenkins, Kuykendall, Neal, Roth, and Walsh. The City Attorney and the City Manager was also present. News media present was Randy Stevens from WLBG, Judith Brown from the Laurens Advertiser, Monty Dutton from GoLaurens. Com, and Vic McDonald from the Clinton Chronicle. Notice was emailed to local news media on June 26, 2019.

- INVOCATION** The invocation was given by Reverend Bob Tate from Victory Worship Church.
- PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE** Mayor McLean asked Council and the Audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- MINUTES** Mayor McLean asked Council to approve the minutes from June 3 and 24. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the June 3, 2019 Council minutes and June 24, 2019 Special Called Meeting minutes and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.
- SWEAR-IN MUNICIPAL JUDGES** Mayor Mclean asked the City Clerk to swear-in Robert S Link Jr as the Chief Municipal Judge, Josh Lindsay as a Municipal Judge, and Sheila Putnam as a Municipal Judge.
- CONTRACT MUNICIPAL JUDGES** Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of the Municipal Judge contract. Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to approve the Municipal Judge contract and seconded by Councilmember Walsh. The vote was unanimous.
- PROCLAMATIONS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of the Proclamation proclaiming Tuesday, August 6, 2019 as National Night Out in the City of Clinton. Motion was made by Councilmember Kuykendall to approve the Proclamation and seconded by Councilmember Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.
- CITY MANAGER'S REPORT RESOLUTION ALTEC TRUCK FINANCING** Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Bill Cannon, City Manager. Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Resolution approving the financing terms for a 2019 Altec Bucket Truck Lease Purchase. Mr. Cannon stated that the purchase of the Altec Bucket Truck was approved at the January 7, 2019 Council meeting. Mr. Cannon stated that the City solicited bids and the low bid was BB&T for a five-year lease payment of \$37,057.55 with an interest rate of 2.69%. Mr. Cannon stated that the total amount to be financed is \$172,683 which includes a \$40,000 down payment.

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Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the Resolution for the financing of the 2019 Altec Bucket Truck and seconded by Councilmember Kuykendall. The vote was unanimous.

**PURCHASE
TRACTOR/MOWER**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the purchase of one Kubota Terrain King Tractor and Mower from Parker Farm Equipment. Mr. Cannon recognized Mr. Meadors, Public Works Director, to discuss the purchase. Mr. Meadors stated that City staff looked at several pieces of equipment to find what staff needed to cut certain areas of Clinton. Mr. Meadors stated that this Kubota Tractor would allow the City to cut right of ways within the City as well as off the road right of ways. Councilmember Kuykendall asked what type of equipment is the City currently using and Mr. Meadors stated that the current mower is old and could not reach as far as this tractor. Mr. Meadors stated that this tractor could be used on Willard Road, Martha Dendy, and the Clinton Mill area. Mayor McLean asked if the tractor could be used on Bluford Street and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the City had equipment that would dig deeper ditches and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Councilmember Jenkins stated that many ditches in her Ward are not deep enough and overflow when it rains. Councilmember Jenkins stated that she would give Mr. Meadors a list. Motion was made by Councilmember Kuykendall to approve the purchase of a Kubota Tractor and Mower from Parker Farm Equipment for \$137,366 and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

**CONTRACT
WATER LINE REPAIRS
SUNSET BLVD**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Stutts and Williams for the repair of the water line on Sunset Blvd. Mr. Cannon stated that City staff made temporary repairs until a more permanent repair could be made. Mr. Cannon stated that the cost of the water line repair is \$73,211. Mr. Cannon stated that the repairs would be funded from the Rural Infrastructure Grant. Councilmember Roth asked the length of the water line and Mr. Meadors stated about 400 feet. Councilmember Walsh asked if this is a separate issue from the Consent Order and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Mr. Meadors stated that the DHEC Consent Order deals with the sewer lines and this is a water line. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the Rural Infrastructure Grant could be used in other areas of the City like Gary Street. Mr. Meadors stated that the City could not have two Infrastructure Grants going on at the same time. Mr. Meadors stated that once these repairs are made on Sunset Blvd then the City could apply for a Rural Infrastructure Grant for Gary Street.

Councilmember Roth asked how long does the grant give the City to make the repairs. Mr. Meadors stated that the City could apply for an Infrastructure Grant twice in one year and the City is given 24 months to complete the grant. Mr. Meadors stated that the Infrastructure Grant for Sunset Blvd is a 12 month grant because it was an emergency repair. Councilmember Neal asked how many more repairs does the City need to make and Mr. Meadors stated that he does not have a number. Councilmember Jenkins asked when would the City finish repairing the sewer lines on Gary Street. Mr. Meadors stated that the City had to stop repairs because the damaged lines run under the railroad and the City does not have permission to be on the Railroad's right of way. Mr. Meadors stated that the City would have to work around this issue which would take the City longer to make the repairs. Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to approve the contract with Stutts and Williams to repair the water lines on Sunset Blvd for a cost not to exceed \$73,211 and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

**REIMBURSEMENT
RESOLUTION**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is the approval of a Reimbursement Resolution to express the intention of the City of Clinton to cause the City to be reimbursed with the proceeds of Tax-Exempt Obligations. Mr. Cannon stated that the Resolution allows the City to pay itself back for costs associated with projects that require a bond issuance, loan or lease. Councilmember Jenkins asked if this Resolution is for the repairs to the Municipal Building and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Mr. Cannon stated that if the City has to pay the cost of repairs up front then the City could use the bond funds to pay the City back for the repair costs. Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the Reimbursement Resolution and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION
SANTEE COOPER
SPEC BLD**

Mr. Cannon stated that the next item on the agenda is approval of a Resolution supporting the Clinton Economic Development Corporation to secure a loan from Santee Cooper for the construction of a speculative building. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC would like to start the process of acquiring a loan for another speculative building from Santee Cooper. Mr. Cannon stated that the CEDC have four companies interested in the current speculative building. Mr. Cannon stated that the funding from Santee Cooper has allowed the City to build these speculative buildings. Mr. Cannon stated that Santee Cooper would not consider another loan until the current speculative building is sold but the CEDC would like to get the paperwork started for the next building.

Councilmember Jenkins asked which site would the City use for the speculative building and Mr. Cannon stated across the road from the current speculative buildings. Mayor Mclean stated that without Santee Cooper a lot of economic development would not have happened in the State. Mayor McLean stated that the loan Santee Cooper provides is an interest free four year loan. Mayor McLean stated that Santee Cooper provides this service to small Cities across the State. Councilmember Kuykendall stated that the future speculative building is 50,000 square feet which is smaller than the other two speculative buildings. Marvin Moss, Economic Development Director, stated that the 50,000 square foot building would minimize the City's cost but would also afford potential buyers to expand if they so wish. Motion was made by Councilmember Cook to approve the Resolution supporting the CEDC and seconded by Councilmember Roth. The vote was unanimous.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
BRIEFING
MARTHA DENDY**

Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is the City Manager's briefing. Mr. Cannon stated that the first item concerns the Martha Dendy Project. Mr. Cannon stated that several positive options have come from recent Council meetings and several entities have expressed interest in the Martha Dendy Building. Mr. Cannon stated that he would like for Council to have discussions with all interested parties and City staff is currently putting together a meeting. Mr. Cannon stated that Council and City staff are moving forward with this project. Mr. Cannon asked Mr. Meadors to address the South Broad Street Project. Mr. Meadors stated that eleven trees have been taken down on South Broad Street and the City would meet with the SCDOT next week to discuss sidewalk repairs and the tree stump removal. Mr. Meadors stated that the SCDOT have indicated that the paving on South Broad Street would be done in late July or August. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the City still had a list of trees that needed to be removed throughout the City and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Mayor Mclean stated that the City budgeted \$50,000 for tree removal this fiscal year. Mr. Meadors stated that the City would like to work with the SCDOT concerning any tree removal on their right of way to help offset the cost. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to see the lines put underground and decorative lighting on South Broad Street. Mr. Cannon stated that City staff is looking into the cost associated with this project. Councilmember Kuykendall stated that he would also like to see bike lanes on South Broad Street. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to see the City work with property owners on South Broad Street to replace some of the trees.

SOUTH BROAD ST

MUNICIPAL BLD

Councilmember Walsh asked if it is the SCDOT's responsibility to remove the tree stumps on South Broad Street and Mr. Meadors stated that the trees are on the SCDOT's right of way. Mr. Meadors stated that the City and the SCDOT would share the cost of the tree stump removal and sidewalk repairs on South Broad Street. Councilmember Neal stated that her Ward had several sidewalks and curbs in need of repair and Mr. Meadors stated that he would look into the matter. Mr. Cannon recognized Mr. Barnes, Building Official, to discuss the Municipal Building. Mr. Barnes stated that the Municipal building would need a new HVAC system as well as a new roof. Mr. Barnes stated that to replace the current HVAC would cost the City approximately \$140,000. Mr. Barnes stated it would cost about \$70,000 to replace part of the roof. Councilmember Walsh asked if the roof would be repaired or replaced and Mr. Barnes stated replaced. Mr. Barnes stated that the roof currently leaks inside the building when it rains. Mr. Barnes stated that the City has taken down six abandoned houses in June. Councilmember Walsh asked if the roof would be replaced with a tar and gravel roof and Mr. Barnes stated yes. Mayor McLean stated that the Municipal Building is a beautiful building and the City needs to maintain it. Councilmember Jenkins asked if the City was cutting the grass at vacant houses and Mr. Barnes stated yes. Councilmember Neal thanked Mr. Barnes for going out with her in her Ward to see all the issues. Councilmember Cook asked if the City was moving forward on the HVAC system and roof or would this come back before Council. Mr. Cannon stated that the City would move forward and take bids on these projects. Mr. Cannon stated that he would like to update Council on the Recreation Complex. Mr. Cannon asked the audience and Council to look at the Recreation Complex design he has on display. Mr. Cannon stated that the complex would have five baseball fields. Mr. Cannon stated that the Recreation Complex would be built in phases with the baseball fields and the infrastructure in Phase I. Mr. Cannon stated that the Recreation Complex would house restrooms, multi-purpose fields, and picnic areas. Mr. Cannon stated that the Recreation Complex has 2.6 miles of walking trails, bike trails, and mountain bike trails. Councilmember Walsh stated that Phase I would only have the baseball fields and Mr. Cannon stated yes. Councilmember Walsh stated that she would like to see the multi-purpose field ready. Councilmember Walsh asked how long would it take to complete Phase II and Mr. Cannon stated the year after Phase I. Mayor McLean stated that he would like to see the City bid the Recreation Complex out at one time and see if the City could sell naming rights to the fields. Councilmember Roth stated that he hopes the City would look at local contractors for this project and Mr. Cannon agreed.

RECREATION COMPLEX

Mr. Cannon stated that the new utility rates are available to the public. Mr. Cannon stated that the Water and Sewer rates went up 9% which is based on the Utility Rate Study the City conducted last year.

**CITIZENS ADDRESS
COUNCIL
ASHTON BARRINGTON
COUNCIL MEETING**

Mayor McLean stated that the next item on the agenda is public comment. Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Ashton Barrington. Mr. Barrington stated that he lives at 206 Elm Street and he is before Council regarding recent behavior at Council meetings. Mr. Barrington stated that the Council meetings are started with an invocation inviting GOD's spirit into the meeting so everyone needs to honor that request. Mr. Barrington stated that there will be disagreements about issues but everyone should be respectful of one another.

**SHERRI AMICK
LYDIA MILL**

Mayor Mclean recognized Ms. Sherri Amick. Ms. Amick stated that she lives at 139 Pine St and she is before Council about the Lydia Mill area. Ms. Amick stated that people go over to the Lydia Mil Park after dark and hang out and use vulgar language. Ms. Amick stated that the houses are not fine in Lydia Mill but the City does not do anything in this area. Ms. Amick stated that people speed down the streets and people buy and sell drugs in the area.

**COSTELL LITTLE
MARTHA DENDY**

Mayor Mclean recognized Mr. Costell Little. Mr. Little stated that he is before Council concerning the Martha Dendy Project. Mr. Little stated that he is before Council as part of the Concerned Citizens for the Preservation of Martha Dendy Group. Mr. Little stated that the organization has recently re-organized. Mr. Little stated that originally this group along with the City of Clinton and School District 56 came together to make Martha Dendy a Community Center. Mr. Little stated that the City of Clinton purchased the building in order to receive grants for the project. Mr. Little stated that recently the City had cut the concerned citizens out and was seeking to sell the Martha Dendy Building. Mr. Dendy stated that the Concerned Citizens for the Preservation of Martha Dendy are still active and is waiting for the City of Clinton to fulfill its obligation to the group.

**JUSTIN BRENT
BIKE LANE**

Mayor Mclean recognized Mr. Justin Brent. Mr. Brent stated that he lives at 808 E Carolina Ave and he is before Council concerning bike lanes on South Broad Street. Mr. Brent stated that the bike path would be good for the Community. Councilmember Walsh stated that the bike lane does bring up accessibility issues in that many citizens do not drive and the bike lane would help. Councilmember Walsh stated that she has been approached about the City getting a trolley or public transport.

**TREVOR DENDY
MARTHA DENDY**

Mayor McLean recognized Mr. Trevor Dendy. Mr. Dendy stated that he was before Council concerning the Martha Dendy property. Mr. Dendy stated that he would speak on behalf of his father, Mr. Young Dendy, about acquiring the Martha Dendy property. Mr. Dendy stated that Mr. Young Dendy would like to develop the Martha Dendy property into a Community Center for the youth as well as elderly citizens. Mr. Dendy stated that the Community Center would offer educational opportunities, recreational programs, and substance abuse awareness programs. Mr. Dendy stated that if his father could acquire the property the project would be a lasting endeavor. Mr. Dendy stated that Mr. Young Dendy would sell or trade his property on Highway 56 for the Martha Dendy property. Mr. Dendy stated that the Dendy family has contributed to many organizations including Presbyterian College, YMCA, and Piedmont Technical College. Mr. Dendy stated that Young Dendy is motivated and able to accomplish the task of converting Martha Dendy School into a Community Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Councilmember Jenkins to go into executive session to discuss one contractual matter relating to the Laurens County Fire Contract, one contractual matter relating to the purchase and sale of City owned property, one contractual matter relating to the sale and purchase of property relating to the Utility Billing Department, one personnel matter relating to Commissions and Boards, and one personnel matter relating to the Office of the City Manager and return to open session on the call of the chair and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor McLean declared Council back in open session. Mayor McLean stated that three contractual matters and two personnel matters were discussed and no action was taken.

**FIRST READING
ORDINANCE
PROPERTY
901-12-04-004**

Motion was made by Councilmember Walsh to approve the first reading of an Ordinance to approve the conveyance of real property tax map number 901-12-04-004 with conditions and seconded by Councilmember Kuykendall. The vote was unanimous.

**PURCHASE PROPERTY
901-12-002-009**

Motion was made by Councilmember Roth to approve and enter into a Real Estate Purchase Option Contract with Founders Credit Union for the purchase of real property located at 300 West Pitts Street for a purchase price of \$185,000 and further exercise the option of the City Manager to complete the transaction and close on the property with tax map number 901-12-02-009 and seconded by Councilmember Kuykendall. The vote was unanimous.

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Councilmember Jenkins asked the cost to make any changes to this building and Mr. Cannon stated about \$1,000. Councilmember Jenkins stated that the building has a drive-thru which would be accessible for the handicapped and Mr. Cannon agreed. Mayor McLean stated that it would cost the City more to upgrade the Municipal Building to house the Utility Department near the current drive-thru than purchase this building.

**COUNCILMEMBER'S
REPORT**

Councilmember Cook stated the construction at the Thornwell Charter School has caused damage to the roads. Councilmember Cook stated that he knows this is a State road but the potholes are causing problems for the citizens in that area.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that she still receives complaints about trucks going down Gary Street on the way to Sterilite. Councilmember Jenkins stated that there is a pothole at the railroad crossing of D Street and Gary Street. Councilmember Jenkins stated that Oak Street Park held an event last week and paid for a permit to hold the event. Councilmember Jenkins stated that recently a basketball tournament was held at the park. Councilmember Jenkins stated that she received several complaints about the crowds and the cars. Councilmember Jenkins stated that no Police Officers were present at the event. Councilmember Jenkins asked for the Police Department to make more rounds in the neighborhood especially if large crowds are at the park. Councilmember Jenkins stated that she would also like to see more of a Police presence at the Lydia Mill Park. Councilmember Jenkins stated that about a year ago a citizen requested the City put up a fence between the Oak Street Park and the railroad tracks. Councilmember Jenkins stated that the children do run toward the train and it would be a good safety measure to put up a fence. Councilmember Jenkins stated that she has also received complaints concerning the Gary Street paving and why only a certain section was paved. Councilmember Jenkins stated that is why she brought this matter up earlier in the meeting. Mr. Meadors stated that the funds used to pave Gary Street are from the Laurens County Transportation Committee and the funds must be spent by June 30, 2019. Mr. Meadors stated that the Transportation Committee also decides which roads would be funded.

Councilmember Neal stated that she has received complaints about cutting the grass and the trees in her Ward. Councilmember Neal wished everyone a safe and happy Fourth of July.

Councilmember Kuykendall stated that citizens are more aware of trees that pose a threat since the trees on South Broad were removed. Councilmember Kuykendall stated that the City has list of trees that are to be removed and he would like for the City to go ahead and mark the trees so citizens would be aware of the tree removal.

Councilmember Roth stated that on Shands Street and N Adair Street there are trees growing over the road. Councilmember Roth thanked the City crews for working hard to keep the streets clean especially after a storm. Councilmember Roth stated that N Holland is in bad shape from storm damage.

Councilmember Walsh wished everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July. Councilmember Walsh stated that she has received calls concerning the Recycling Center and where to put the cardboard. Mr. Meadors stated that the previous cardboard bin was an open top and citizens were putting more than just cardboard in the bin. Mr. Meadors stated that City changed the bin just to accommodate cardboard. Councilmember Walsh asked how often are the bins picked up and Mr. Meadors stated that Laurens County usually picks the bins up once a week. Councilmember Walsh asked if Council could get an update regarding the Laurens County transfer Station. Councilmember Walsh requested a map of which areas are affected by the Consent Order and how much of the Consent Order has been completed. Councilmember Walsh stated that the water runoff from the Thornwell Charter School parking lot is affecting the neighborhood. Councilmember Walsh stated that the water runoff is bad and needs to be addressed. Mr. Cannon stated that the parking lot should be designed to handle a certain amount of water runoff. Mr. Cannon stated that he would look into the matter. Councilmember Walsh requested a weekly update from City staff on what is taking place within the City.

**WORKER'S
COMPENSATION**

Mr. Cannon stated that the City's Worker's Compensation rating was reduced to a .79 rate which saves the City money. Mr. Cannon stated that due to this reduction the City has given City employees the day after the Fourth of July to show the City's appreciation.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mclean stated that he was happy Burger King was breaking ground in Clinton. Mayor Mclean stated that there have been negative comments about Burger King but the City needs commercial and industrial customers to help offset the PMPA bill. Mayor McLean thanked City employees for the low Worker's Compensation rating.

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Mayor McLean thanked the tree removal crew that took down the trees on South Broad. Mayor McLean stated that the company completed a five day job within two days. Mayor Mclean asked if City staff was aware of a pothole on Teakwood Drive and Mr. Meadors stated yes. Mr. Meadors stated that he spoke with the SCDOT about the matter. Mayor McLean stated that the contractor SCDOT used to make repairs in that area tore the road up with their heavy equipment.

ADJOURN

With there being no further business before Council motion was made by Councilmember Kuykendall to adjourn and seconded by Councilmember Neal. The vote was unanimous.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR