

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2022

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present. Council members in attendance were Mayor Howell, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee., and Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack.

Others in attendance were Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, Elijha Enoch-Smith (livestream operator), and Jeronell Bradley. Pamela Johnson and Pamela Prince of participated via zoom call.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion that the agenda be accepted as read. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 14, 2022, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman of the Egg Scramble Jamboree Committee, Jeronell Bradley, gave a post-event summary of the Egg Scramble Jamboree. Overall, the committee was very satisfied with the festival. They think that the trash collection could have been better and have requested that the Town of Lamar Public Works Department be available to assist in 2023. The committee would like to do something for the Town and will decide by June. Ms. Bradley stated that all "pop-up" festival events should go through the Egg Scramble Jamboree Committee.

Pamela Johnson and Pamela Prince of the Pee Dee Coalition gave an overview of the services that their organization provides to the public. They also spoke about Sexual Assault Awareness Month which is observed throughout the month of April. Denim Day will be observed on April 27, 2022, (the last Wednesday in the month) and citizens are asked to wear jeans to support sexual assault survivors; teal green ribbons can be worn as well. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Prince presented a Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation to council. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the proclamation. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell presented the written Financial Report submitted by Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA:
General Fund:

Receipts - \$41,253.35, Disbursements - \$35,828.82, Increase in cash - \$5,424.53, Ending cash balance - \$268,881.46 (\$180,028.61 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund:

Receipts - \$30,385.73, Disbursements - \$38,628.85, Increase in cash -\$1,928.75
Ending cash balance - \$80,590.82 (\$14,342.68 available for operations; remainder is grant funds)

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion that the Financial Report be received as information. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report and the Beautification Commission Report:

- Reported that there were no major water & sewer issues
- Beautification Commission working on a project and will share more information forthcoming.
- Conducted the second reading of the Grease Trap Ordinance. Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the ordinance. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack asked Mayor Howell about seeking infrastructure funds and capital improvement.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Stated that there has been an increase in debris collection.
- Town employees are only supposed to pick up average size limbs and branches, not trees.
- Council needs to publicize the debris information on the Town's website and in the newsletter.
- Debris Ordinance needs to be amended.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- No major incidence at the Egg Scramble Jamboree. Thanked the Darlington County Sheriff's Department and State Constables for their assistance.
- April 4-8, 2022, was Telecommunication Week. The Lamar Police Department provided lunch to the dispatchers to show their appreciation.
- The department applied for a Firehouse Subs Grant to purchase new radios.
- On March 31, 2022, an anonymous donor donated three patrol rifles to the Lamar Police Department.
- Recruitment – The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential Police Officers.
- Encouraged citizens to register for "TextMyGov."

Councilman Cook conducted the second reading of the Code Enforcement Ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the ordinance. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The ordinance carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business License Report:

- Codes -New business need to have backflow devices
- Business License - Customers need to have options for proving their gross income.
- Conducted the second reading of the Business License Ordinance. Councilwoman Lee made a motion to accept the ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell stated that the Town needs a debit card for administrative and public works purchases. The bank stated that the card would be tied to one of the Town's bank accounts and that there would be an option of a \$500 spending limit with \$200 cashback or \$1,000 spending limit with \$500 cashback. Only one person name would be on the card (the mayor). Councilwoman Mack and Bradley said that a credit card would be more effective and would present less of a chance for fraud. No action was taken on this item.

Tim Dargan – Past Events:

- Town of Lamar Food Giveaway March 24th, 2022. (Elim, Harvest Hope, Town of Lamar, Volunteers)
- Sesquicentennial Celebration (Community Worship Service April 3, 2022, History of the churches).

Tim Dargan – Future Events:

- Sesquicentennial Celebration – May First Responders Month
- Petty cash log and purchase order system
- Orange Frog Ambassadors Event (May 14, 2022)
- Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Training.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Administrative Manager
Town of Lamar