

MINUTES  
**SPECIAL CALLED MAULDIN CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Members present were Mayor Dennis Raines, Council members Bob Cook, Taft Matney, Gabe Hunter, Scott Crosby, Dale Black and Larry Goodson. City Administrator Trey Eubanks and City Attorney John Duggan were also present.

1. CALL TO ORDER- Mayor Raines

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON SEWER FEE ORDINANCE-

Councilman Crosby made a motion to approve this on second and final reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. Councilman Black asked what sewer repairs have been done in the last three years. He is wondering about sewer lining, cameraing, etc. He asked also where the excess salary money goes? Who are we direct billing for sewer? Is capital equipment that was purchased being used? Do we know how to use it? Why is PW always targeted for our revenue sources? First Pay as you Throw, now a sewer fee. Also why the difference in sewer personnel numbers?

Trey responded to the questions. Two positions are vacant and that accounts for the excess salary. We do bill for multi-family. Councilman Black asked why Greenville Water is not billing those. Trey said that is a decision that was made years ago. Capital equipment is updated every year based on our needs. We have purchased some and the financial model has a five year projection for equipment needs. Councilman Black said we have a camera, and equipment for sewer maintenance to keep it in house and not rely on a contractor. Trey said we spent \$134,000 on a sewer camera and a van several years ago. Some work still does need to be done by a contractor. Trey answered there has been a few memos about staffing level. Mike has worked with our Sewer Supervisors and put together an estimate of the amount of work done by public works employee on the sewer. There is a detailed layout of this and it equates to about 8.3 people.

Trey said the answer to the question regarding the rehab work includes issuing a bond, which reduces a lot of the rehab work expense. Councilman Black asked about sewer employee benefits and would that money be rolled back into sewer maintenance? Trey said no money flows into or out of the sewer fund from any other fund. The sewer fund is stand-alone. Any leftover money stays with the sewer fund.

Councilman Goodson asked out of the \$3.4 million bond, how much is for relining the pipes? Ron said that whatever is found will be taken care of as priority one repairs. Trey said a work plan will be developed and brought back to the public works committee.

Councilman Crosby commented on some of the questions that have been raised on this issue. This increase when proposed last year was \$9.50. This year the increase is \$10.16. The delay has cost money. This needs to be done. Even with the increase, except for one year, will still be lower than any municipality in the County. This year, Greenville will be lower, but will go back up. The estimate of \$3.5 million addresses the most severe problems. Someone raised the question of sewer versus the sports center. The Sports Center is available to anyone who chooses to join. We need to pay for what we get. We are not asking someone else to pay our way. Council went into executive session because of attorney-client privilege. The general fund is \$6 million because we just received most of our income. By the middle of the year, that will be down to 2-3 million dollars. Someone asked about a fixed fee versus user fee. This is a user fee based on the size of the sewer pipe. Tax deduction was brought up and this cannot be an itemized deduction.

Councilman Matney said he hates that we are in this position. But it is a reality. Things are not getting cheaper, they are getting more expensive. If we wait longer, the amount of the increase will go up as well as the amount of repairs.

The sewer fee increase ordinance passed 5-2 with Councilman Black and Goodson dissenting.

3. ADJOURNMENT- Mayor Raines adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller  
Municipal Clerk