

**Minutes
Finance Committee
September 10, 2015
6:00 PM
1st Committee meeting**

Members present were Chairman Dale Black, Committee members Larry Goodson and Terry Merritt. Finance Director Holly Abercrombie and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order.- Chairman Black
2. Public Comment
3. Reading and approval of minutes- Councilman Goodson made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Merritt seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).
4. Reports or communications from city officers
 - a. Budget report- Holly reported everything looks good so far. Revenues are slow this time of the year. The fund balance gets us through the revenue shortfall. Chairman Black asked about the utility tax and what that is. Holly said she would check on it and get an email out tomorrow with an answer.
5. Unfinished business.
 - a. Alcohol policy- Trey asked George McLeer to give an overview of the policy. Councilman Merritt has brought this item because of some events coming up at the cultural center. Back at the June committee meetings, this policy was looked at again. Some concerns were raised, and the version today sees to address those concerns. The two major concerns voiced included large events having a lost and found and medical tent. The second was adjusting the layout for a buffer zone. Staff has addressed those concerns. We have added that the Chair of the Recreation Committee be added to the approval list and also that the council as a whole be apprised when there is an alcohol request.

Councilman Merritt said he personally doesn't need alcohol to have a good time, but that is a personal preference. He said he doesn't want to force his beliefs on everyone. The overriding opinion is the time has come to allow people to choose to have beer or wine at an event. Mauldin is unique as we

don't have fences or corrals to keep things delineated. George did an excellent job in putting together his thoughts on crowd control and other considerations. The first aid tent and lost and found areas will be visible and easy to access. Councilman Merritt says he feels strongly about a buffer area to allow access to the sports center. Some events will be small and we will not have to close city center drive. George has done a good job addressing different sized events. Councilman Merritt suggested a city-wide alcohol policy to allow alcohol at events at other city venues. These have been worked on and the logistical issues have been worked out. The Recreation Director asked that wording be inserted that no event with alcohol will take place at the same time youth sports events are going on.

Chairman Black said this would only apply to outdoor events. We already have a policy for the inside of the cultural center and senior center. Will the cultural center be open so people can go to the restroom? Can you allow alcohol to go indoors if someone else is in another room of the cultural center. George said that would have to be a part of the approval process or we need to have people put their drink down before they go inside. This is going to have to be addressed on a case by case basis. George said there is also a provision that portable facilities should be brought in for certain events.

Councilman Merritt asked why a class one or two was changed to say liability may be required instead of will be required. George said this policy was based on Fountain Inn's policy. It says liability insurance is not required for those small events. Ours can be tailored to each event. If it is a small chamber group that we know, we don't have to have insurance. If it is an event with people we do not know, we may require liability insurance.

Councilman Merritt made a motion to send this to council with Councilman Goodson seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0) . Chairman Black said he will not say either way on support until he hears what other council members think.

6. New business.

- a. Department head residency requirements- Councilman Merritt said we have a lot of pride in our City. Department heads should live in the City of Mauldin so they have more skin in the game. Councilman Merritt said this could be retroactive or for new hires. A lot of municipalities in the state have a residency requirement. With the research Councilman Merritt has done, the citizens support it. 40% of municipalities do it. Chairman Black would like something drafted for next the committee meeting. This would not be for department heads that live somewhere else, but if someone has to move anyway to take the job, they need to move to the City of Mauldin.

7. Public Comment

Leo Joyce: Two subjects. One is alcohol- John Doe comes to town and passes a private event with beer and wine, what stops John Doe from thinking we can drink beer all over Mauldin. If you are at Springfield Park and you want a beer, I know a guy who was foolish enough to do that and they arrested him.

Second, on all the department heads and employees to live in Mauldin that is well and good, if you have available and affordable housing. That should be considered too.

Chairman Black: We didn't say other employees, just department heads.

Councilman Merritt: I sat down with a lady and Mauldin is lacking in affordable housing and we need more. She did a radius for me. That is a good point.

8. Committee concerns.

Councilman Merritt: I have found what I considered violations of the credit card policy. I have compiled a list I will give to you.

9. Adjournment.- Chairman Black adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller
Municipal Clerk

NOTICE: A majority or quorum of City Council may attend a committee meeting