

**Sandersville City Council**

**Working Session Minutes**

**February 20, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.**

Council Members and City Employees present:

Mayor Jimmy Andrews	Brianna Wiley, Finance Director
Mayor Pro Tem Jeffery Smith	Carson Daley, DDA/ Mainstreet
Council Member Deborah Brown	Kandice Hartley, City Clerk
Council Member Mayme Dennis	Robert Eubanks, Public Works Director
Council Member Danny Brown	Nathan Riner, Interim Fire Chief
Judy McCorkle, City Administrator	Dave Larson, Community Development
Keenan Howard, City Attorney	

Mayor Andrews called the February 20, 2024 Working Session of the Sandersville City Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

Recognitions:

Mayor Andrews announced Jason Boatright as the appointed Fire Chief for the Sandersville Fire Department. Mayor Andrews read the Fire Chief oath of office to Jason Boatright. Fire Chief Boatright stated it is an honor to be appointed as Fire Chief and he looks forward to serving Sandersville in this new role. Chief Boatright announced Nathan Riner would be Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief. Chief Boatright also announced that Engineer Ben Avant is being promoted to Captain at the Fire Department.

Chamber President Katie Moncus passed out a Chamber Report and reviewed upcoming events. Council Member Dennis questioned how far the DDA district extended out on East McCarty St. Council Member Dennis stated that the DDA needs to extend the boundaries to include E. McCarty St. all the way to Dollar General. President Moncus stated that would be a question for Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor Andrews stated citizens requested to be on the agenda to speak on issues concerning Hunters Run Apartments. The Citizens were not at the working session, but Chief Cuyler and staff members spoke of the issues at Hunters Run. Chief Cuyler stated meetings have been had with the residents and staff there. Chief Cuyler stated there are ongoing concerns about drug activity at the complex. Risk Manager Brian Shelton explained to the council the difference of Hemp and THC and the guidelines set by the GBI concerning testing. Shelton went on to explain what the police department could and couldn't do as far as enforcement.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Cuyler stated that he has bid for councils approval concerning speed cameras in the school zones. Mayor Pro Tem Smith stated that although the speed cameras in school zones would help, the city really needed the mobile cameras that could be placed in different areas around town to deter speeding and illegal activity. Risk Manager Shelton explained how the speed cameras in the school zones would work and stated that this company also had mobile units available.

Electric Director Bryan Long stated there was an invoice for damaged fiber from a wreck that happened a couple of weeks ago. Director Long stating that IT Director Waddell was not there to speak about the invoice. Council Member Dennis stated that IT Director Waddell was suppose to be working on fiber options for residential customers as well and it still had not be done. Director Long went on to state he has an invoice that needs approval for the purchase of extra power poles for the inventory stock at the electric department.

Public Works Director Eubanks stated that there is a proposal from Turnipseed Engineers for lead service line inventory. Mayor Pro Tem Smith questioned how the inventory would work and if was using our employees to complete the task or contract help. Director Eubanks could not answer the questions so Council Member Dennis suggested having David Tyre to come and speak the logistics of the project. Director Eubanks stated that he had two invoices that just came in that he needed the council to approve under other business.

Finance Director Wiley stated there was a budget amendment on the regular agenda. Director Wiley reviewed the amendment to the council. Director Wiley went on to state that ARPA funds would need to be spent by the end of this year and currently there is around \$500,000 remaining to spend. Council Member Deborah Brown questioned if more paving of roads could be done with the funds. Director Wiley stated that the paving project was already complete. Council Member Dennis stated there are several neighborhood parks that could use improvements and the funds could help pay for these improvements.

Administrator McCorkle stated that the City of Sandersville would host the MEAG Board Meeting March 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> .

Mayor Andrews adjourned the working session.