

CITY OF SUMPTER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 24, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – 4:00pm

- a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- b. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – Mayor Wise, Councilor Demaris, Councilor Briscoe, Councilor Brandt. Councilor Smith was absent excused.
- c. VISITORS – Skip Duffin, John Young, Rebecca Patterson, Jon Patterson, Kathy Valentine, Terry Valentine.

APPROVE MINUTES

- a. MSP: To accept the August 13, 2024, Council Meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Brandt/Councilor Demaris. All Councilors approved.
- b. MSP: To accept the September 10, 2024, Council Meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe. All Councilors approved.
- c. MSP: To accept the September 16, 2024, Special Session minutes as presented. Councilor Brandt/Councilor Demaris. All Councilors approved.

REPORTS

- a. City Recorder, Matt Armstrong – PPT deck attached.
  - a) Presented a spreadsheet showing monthly receipts vs. expenses. Year to date, the city is trending in the red.
  - b) Presented status of utility activities for August/September including new customers, hook ups, delinquent accounts, etc.
  - c) Highlights of other activities in city hall and the city at large: library roof, OSFM grant status, results of the ODOT speed reduction investigation and other topics.
- b. Fire Department, John Young
  - (1) The public needs to be aware that fire season is not over yet. No ground fires allowed. Some folks become complacent, i.e., a camper reportedly left their site with the fire still smoldering and a citizen put it out.
  - (2) The Granite fire is done.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Grounds Rental, Bicycling Tour Group – a small group of cyclists wish to tent camp on two dates in 2025. They will have a support vehicle, and the group will be less than 35 participants. The city has allowed tent camping in the past for a cycling group. The council will consider their request when a completed application is received.
- b. Sumpter Cemetery, Committee Chairperson – Terry Valentine has volunteered to run the committee. He has already begun reaching out to various individuals for assistance to get the cemetery going, including donations of equipment to continue development of the property. Going forward Terry will work with city hall to develop funding; there is \$5000 in the city cemetery budget.
- c. Flea Market Vendor, Valene Davis – this vendor broke her leg on the morning of the first day and had to leave. She requests if she can roll her reservation to Memorial Day 2025. The council discussed it and felt it would better to issue a refund. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve a full refund for Valene Davis. All Councilors approved.

OLD BUSINESS

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- a. ODOT Speed Zone Investigation – ODOT recommends reducing speed to 45 MPH from approximately the RV park to Sawmill Gulch Road and 35 MPH from there to Traders Outpost. After review of the findings, the council discussed approving the proposal to move forward. MSP: Councilors Brandt/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve the investigation’s proposals as presented. All Councilors approved.

COUNCIL COMMENT

- a. Councilor Demaris – brought up the subject of upcoming city events. The Volunteers will be doing the Christmas events including the bazaar; the first or second Saturday of December. Laramie Shanks will coordinate the Halloween Trunk or Treat, but the haunted Dredge may not happen. There may be TLT funds available for the events but could be an issue with timing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Jon Patterson – Thanked the city recorder for the report. Mr. Patterson asked if Volunteer Park is available for use by the Merchants? They would use it for events that could include setting up games for children, etc. The park does need some work to get it into shape: clean up the grass and knapweed. The council stated that there are plans to remove the current play equipment due to safety concerns. An Oktoberfest was in the plans for this year, however the merchants felt it was too short of lead time to pull it together; they are planning for next year. Mr. Patterson continued with statements that the city is “dying” due to various reasons including running people off. The city needs a makeover.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:47 PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Briscoe /Councilor Demaris. All Councilors approved.

Approved by the City Council this 8th day of October 2024.

Approved: 

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_