

Minutes for a Public Hearing and a Regular Meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022, at 5:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Jim Darby asked Donnie Freeman to open with prayer. Chief Sutherland presented County Councilman Lynn Ballard a plaque showing South Greenville Fire District's appreciation of everything he had done for the District during his time serving as the County Councilman in our area.

Jim Darby opened the Public Hearing for the 2023 Budget. He asked three times if there was anyone present to speak in favor of the 2023 Budget. There was no reply. He then asked three times if there was anyone present to speak against the 2023 Budget. There was no reply. Jimmy Brashier motioned to close the Public Hearing for the 2023 Budget. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor.

Jim Darby opened the Regular Meeting. John Jennings motioned to approve the 2023 Budget as presented in the Public Hearing. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. He asked everyone if they had reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. John Jennings motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

The Financial Reports were not presented due to them not being completed by the meeting. They will be presented at the January 2023 meeting due to the statements not being released. This may also happen in January due to the bank not releasing the bank statements until the second Monday in the month and the meetings are early in both of those months.

Chief Sutherland said the Truck Committee for the new Rescue 80 will be going to Appleton, WI this week for the final inspection on the truck. Chief Sutherland is expecting that truck to be here and should be placed in service in January. Chief Sutherland thanked everyone for coming to the Christmas Dinner and making it a success. He said that there had been a lot of issues this year with our dinner and that Jennifer Adams has stepped up and taken care of everything to make the dinner a success. We are in the process of testing for promotions to fill the new positions we have for 2023. Some promotions have already been announced. Assistant Chief Finley will send out a list to the Commissioners and employees once all the testing is complete. Donnie Freeman asked John Jennings to make sure that Pastor Simmons of Reedy Fork Baptist Church, where the Christmas Dinner was held, knows all the Commissioners send their regards to him for allowing us to use the church and help us out.

Assistant Chief Finley said that the emissions problem was fixed on Quint 78, but it has some other issues and are waiting for parts. The call volume for November was 246 and the total for the year is now 3,233. We are still on track to reach 3,500 calls in 2022.

Chief Sutherland said that Jennifer Adams has set up the Audit for 2023 for February 6th through February 17th. They will do like they have done for the last several years and come to our station to gather information and review everything, then they will go back to their office and finish them up.

Old Business

1. Chief Sutherland said the concrete issues were tabled last month to allow us to get more information about what is included and if there is any type of warranty. Tommy Hopkins stated that his quote for \$76,810.00 includes all the dirt and gravel needed, but there is no warranty or testing done on the work. CoCon LLC was at \$60,160.00 that does not include extra gravel or dirt. The dirt and gravel are \$225.00 per yard. They will have a third party test the concrete for us, but it only guarantees the workmanship, not the actual concrete itself. The cost for the testing at Station 74 is \$3,200.00 and Headquarters is \$2,220.00. Donnie Freeman said that he missed last month's meeting and he wanted to know where the concrete will be replaced. Chief Sutherland said that the area at Headquarters is the area in front of the new bays where it is cracked so bad. It is 2,490 square feet, and goes from the building to the black top. The black top at Station 74 will be taken up behind the station and replaced with concrete. That is 3,850 square feet. The

original third bidder was Four C's and they gave a verbal quote and were going to submit it in writing. Chief Sutherland never received it in writing; therefore, they did not meet our procurement policy. Since their quote was not considered, Chief Sutherland received a quote from Southern Concrete. It was \$71,880.00 and did not include extra dirt or gravel. Those would be handled with a change order. The testing would be \$3,600.00 per site. John Jennings asked Chief Sutherland what his opinion was. Chief Sutherland said that Tommy Hopkins had already replaced the concrete at Headquarters so he knows what is wrong. He told us then that in order to fix it correctly, you need to replace the dirt and gravel and then put the concrete on top of that. Donnie Freeman asked why it was not done correctly before. Chief Sutherland said he could not answer that. John Jennings said that Tommy Hopkins lives in our District. Sabrina Bedingfield said that Tommy Hopkins had replaced it before and told us it was not fixed correctly and he will end up being the cheapest of all the quotes. Donnie Freeman asked what PSI it would be. Chief Sutherland said it would be 8-inch 4,000 PSI. Donnie Freeman asked why we did not ask for 6,000 PSI. Donnie Freeman said it is stronger concrete and may help prevent the cracks. He said that he thought we should go with Tommy Hopkins and ask him to quote 6,000 PSI concrete so we can see the difference in price. Chief Sutherland said if you want to change the PSI, we will have to rebid the project with all the companies. He said if that is what they want we need to table the issue until January. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to table the issue until January to get new quotes. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

New Business

- I. Chief Sutherland said that he needed to recuse himself from the next item on the agenda. He stated that there is a conflict of interest due to one of the vendors being an immediate family member. (See attached) Assistant Chief Finley received quotes from three vendors for our IT services. Atlantic Computers is our current vendor. Their quote was \$750.00 a month. We have used them since 2000. They include all the maintenance and our website. SafeIt quoted \$1,453.00 a month but it does not include our website. Teleco was \$1,650.00 and it did not include our website. Sabrina Bedingfield said why would we want to double our cost and not even get the services we are currently getting. John Jennings asked if we are pleased with our current vendor and Assistant Chief Finley said yes. Jimmy Brashier said if everything was good and it was cheaper why do we not just stay with Atlantic Computers. Jimmy Brashier motioned to accept the bid from Atlantic Computers as presented. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it.
- II. Jimmy Brashier motioned to go into Executive Session. Sabrina Bedingfield seconded it. All were in favor. Sabrina Bedingfield motioned to come out of Executive Session. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. There were no motions made after the Executive Session. Jim Darby said that he wanted to remind everyone to remember our firefighters. They see a lot of tragedy and we have a lot of good people working for us. Jimmy Brashier motioned to adjourn. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by: 
Jennifer Adams, Administrative Specialist