



## Mayor and Council Meeting Business Session Minutes January 28, 2013 7PM

The Riverdale Mayor and City Council met on January 28, 2013 at 7:10PM for the purpose of conducting a Business Session. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 7200 Church Street, Riverdale, Georgia 30274.

### **Call to Order and Welcome**

With a quorum present, Mayor Evelyn Wynn-Dixon called the meeting to order at 7:10PM.

### **ROLL CALL:**

All members of the governing body were present at the meeting at 7:10PM.

### **INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Invocation & Pledge was led by Joseph Russian, Riverdale Fire Services.

### **OFFICER IN ARMS TO READ RULES OF CONDUCT:**

Rules of Conduct read by Officer L. Stevenson.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:**

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

**Addition(s):** None.

**Deletion(s):** None.

**Tabled:** None.

**Postponed:** None.

**Motion:** Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to approve the agenda as published. Council Member An'cel Davis moved to second the motion. The measure was approved unanimously by a vote of 4/0.

### **PRESENTATION(S):**

#### **Presentation by Fire Department Thanking Mayor/Council for Support**

Fire Chief, Nishiyama Willis, came before the Board to thank them for supporting Fire Services and allowing for the purchase of a new fire engine. She said that Fire Services had been featured in the HME calendar. She issued each member of Mayor/Council a calendar.

Mayor Dixon thanked Chief Willis and her staff for all of the work it does in the community: *Toys for Tots*, mentoring youth and senior citizens' outreach.

Council Member Stamps-Jones thanked Fire Services.

Council Member Davis thanked the staff and commended them for their willingness to serve.

Council Member Wallace thanked Chief Willis for the hard work of Fire Services, as well as the great efforts to boost morale. She asked for an update of the report for the fire house renovations.

Chief Willis advised that there was a letter that had gone out to local businesses and they are making attempts to schedule meetings with the businesses that were solicited.

Council Member Wallace asked if Fire Services were eligible for grants to renovate its facilities.

Chief Willis advised that she had recently received a publishing which has several grants listed that Fire Services could possibly apply to receive federal, state and private funding.

Council Member Wallace asked City Manager, Iris Jessie, if monies from the CDBG could be used to renovate the fire station.

Ms. Jessie advised that that could have been considered a public service project, but the City had opted to use the grant for the construction of other phases of Riverdale Regional Park. She further advised that the City should do as it has been by putting money in the Capitol Savings budget; that this should be done along with Chief Willis and Mayor Dixon's continued soliciting efforts in the local business community.

Council Member Wallace if the City could ask for support outside of the local businesses.

Ms. Jessie advised that the process takes time, but that the rapport Chief Willis has established with other businesses and organizations has buoyed those efforts.

Council Member Ruffin thanked Fire Services for being a safe house. He remarked that the public perception of fireman is always positive and encouraged them to keep up the good work.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Adoption of the January 14, 2013 Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes.**

**Resolution No. 01-02-2013 Request to Submit CDBG Application.**

**Motion:** Council Member Wanda Wallace moved for approval of **Resolution No. 01-02-2013** and for approval of the January 14, 2013 Official Meeting Minutes. Council Member An'cel Davis moved to second the motion. The measure was approved unanimously by a vote of 4/0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT(S):**

Mayor Dixon gave the rules governing participation in public comment.

Gwendolyn Williams, 7167 Williamsburg Drive, thanked the Board for all of its work. She said that the City has undergone a lot of positive change during the tenure of Mayor/Council and City Manager, Iris Jessie. She also encouraged everyone to come to meetings and said she was proud to be a citizen of Riverdale.

Sarah F. Stewart, 429 Paul Street, expressed concern with a rash of break ins that were taking place in her neighborhood, as well as the negative attitudes of some of the police officers. She advised that the firemen are very friendly to her mentally challenged brother when they are out in public, but that the policemen are not friendly.

Teresa Mosley, 480 Paul Street, expressed concern with rash of break ins in her neighborhood. She described an incident wherein her dog bit an attempted intruder while she was away at work. She thanked the Mayor for working to get an abandoned house in her neighborhood boarded up, that she had previously been unsuccessful doing. She echoed the concerns of Ms. Stewart regarding the policemen.

Kimberly Seavers, 419 Paul Street, expressed concern with the break ins in her neighborhood, as well as the poor manner in which the policemen treat citizens. She also described an incident in which her husband was arrested after fending off an attempted robbery of an elderly neighborhood.

Mayor Dixon advised Ms. Seavers to speak with Assistant Police Chief Spivey after the meeting.

**ORDINANCE(S):**

**ORDINANCE NO. 03-2013 Sunday Alcohol Sales presented by Sharonda Boyce, Deputy City Attorney**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE RIVERDALE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AMENDING CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE III, SECTION 6-65, ENTITLED "BUSINESS HOURS," OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Deputy City Attorney, Sharonda Boyce, advised that she was presenting Ordinance No. 03-2013, which is amending the Riverdale Code of Ordinance to reflect the Sunday alcohol sales taking place between 12:30pm-11:30pm.

Mayor Dixon opened the floor for the Board to comment.

Council Member Ruffin had no comment.

Council Member Wallace asked about the timeframe during which the ordinance was to come back before the Board.

Ms. Boyce advised that the ordinance had been undergoing review. She added that other pressing matters prioritized by the Board for Legal to address resulted in the delay of the ordinance being brought back before the Board.

Council Member Wallace asked if the Sunday Alcohol Sales referendum that was voted on in 2011 was the same ordinance currently before the Board.

Ms. Boyce advised that the ordinances were not the same; that the hours determining Sunday sales had not been reflected in the previous ordinance. Only the referendum to allow Sunday alcohol sales had been voted on by the citizens. Once the hours were determined the ordinance went under review for updates.

Council Member Davis had no comment.

Council Member Stamps-Jones had no comment.

**Motion:** Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones moved Ordinance No. 03-2013 for approval. Council Member An'cel Davis moved to second the motion. The measure was approved unanimously by a vote of 4/0.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S): 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

**Ordinance No. 01-2013 SAME—JURISDICTION; SENTENCE presented by Sharonda Boyce, Deputy City Attorney**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE RIVERDALE MAYOR AND CITY COUCNIL, AMENDING SECTION 24, "SAME—JURISDICTION; SENTENCE" OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, TO DELETE SECTION 24 IN ITS ENTIRETY, INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND REPLACE IT WITH A NEW SECTION 24, "SAME—JURISDICTION; SENTENCE;" TO REPEAL CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Ms. Boyce advised that Ordinance No. 01-2013 was being brought before the Board for a second reading, as required by State law. She advised that it was to update the jurisdictional amounts for the Municipal Court.

**Mayor Dixon opened the floor for the public hearing.**

Mayor Dixon called for questions/comments from members of the governing body.

Council Member Ruffin had no questions.

Council Member Wallace had no questions.

Council Member Davis had no questions.

Council Member Stamps-Jones had no questions.

**Mayor Dixon called for members of the public in opposition of the matter.**

There were none.

**Mayor Dixon called for members of the public in support of the matter.**

There were none.

**Motion:** Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones moved Ordinance No. 01-2013 for approval. Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to second the motion. The measure was approved unanimously by a vote of 4/0.

Ordinance No. 02-2013 CONTEMPT OF COURT presented by Sharonda Boyce, Deputy City Attorney

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE RIVERDALE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, AMENDING SECTION 25, “[SAME— ] CONTEMPT” OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE, GEORGIA, AS AMENDED, TO DELETE SECTION 25 IN ITS ENTIRETY, INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, AND REPLACE IT WITH A NEW SECTION 25, “[SAME—] CONTEMPT;” TO REPEAL CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Ms. Boyce advised that Ordinance No. 02-2013 was being brought before the Board for a second reading, as required by State law. She advised that it was to update the jurisdictional amounts for the Municipal Court.

**Mayor Dixon opened the floor for the public hearing.**

Mayor Dixon called for questions/comments from members of the governing body.

Council Member Ruffin had no questions.

Council Member Wallace had no questions.

Council Member Davis had no questions.

Council Member Stamps-Jones had no questions.

**Mayor Dixon called for members of the public in opposition of the matter.**

There were none.

**Mayor Dixon called for members of the public in support of the matter.**

There were none.

**Motion:** Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones moved **Ordinance No. 02-2013** for approval. Council Member Wanda Wallace moved to second the motion. The measure was approved unanimously by a vote of 4/0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENT(S):**

**Council Member Kenneth Ruffin**

Council Member Ruffin yielded his time to make public comment in consideration of the members of the audience waiting to speak with City personnel regarding their concerns.

**Council Member Wanda Wallace**

Council Member Wanda Wallace thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked Council Member Davis for giving members of the Board important information.

**Council Member An'cel Davis**

Council Member Davis thanked everyone for coming. He said that it was important to the Board to address the concerns of the community. He said that policing was a difficult job, although it is no license to treat people poorly. He thanked Congressman Daryl Jordan for attending. He lauded the efforts of Rep. Jordan, Council Member Ruffin, Ms. Iris Jessie, Sheriff Victor Hill and Home Depot for helping in a cleanup of graffiti. He offered his condolences to Ohio Players lead singer, LeRoy Bonner; he had previously performed at the 2012 Summer Concert Series.

**Council Member Cynthia Stamps-Jones**

Council Member Stamps-Jones thanked everyone for attending. She commended the efforts of Council Member Davis spearheading the cleanup efforts. She thanked Ms. Williams for acknowledging the efforts of the City. She also said to the citizens who had expressed concerns about the crime that their concerns would be taken seriously. She then thanked Fire Services for the gifts and public acknowledge of the Board.

**Mayor Evelyn Wynn Dixon**

Mayor Dixon thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She said that Archway had come to the City to establish a collaborative initiative to bring public transportation back to the City. She also said the City would be meeting the new commissioner, Jeff Turner, as well as other transportation authority organizations in an effort to return public transportation. She thanked Public Services and members of management.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Wanda Wallace; second offered by Council Member Stamps-Jones, and after a unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 7:48PM.