

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 19, 2019

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Orangeburg City Council held its regularly scheduled City Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 7:00 P.M., in Council Chambers with Mayor Butler presiding.

PRESENT:

Michael C. Butler, Mayor
Jerry Hannah
Charles W. Jernigan
Sandra P. Knotts
Richard F. Stroman

ABSENT:

Bernard Haire
L. Zimmerman Keitt – Present for Executive Session

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman, seconded by Councilmember Knotts to approve the March 5, 2019, City Council Minutes as distributed. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Michael Myers of 521 Starling Road, Orangeburg addressed Council concerning water service at his address. He stated, "I am a disabled veteran who has been a resident of Orangeburg since 1997. I have been a law-abiding citizen who has paid my DPU bills in a timely manner never questioning them. I am here today seeking relief from a situation not of my doing that is affecting myself and three of my neighbors. DPU has a water supply line under the road leading to my property located at 521 Starling Road. The line does not extend to the end of the road but terminates at 470 belonging to Mr. Robert Salsgiver. At this point my water meter along with other neighbors (Allison Inabinet and Shirley Sanders) is on Mr. Salsgiver's property. It is my understanding that their line should extend to the end of the paved State road, but it terminates at Mr. Salsgiver's property ignoring the three of us. Mr. Salsgiver does not want the meters on his property and he is within his legal rights to dig up our lines as they exit the water meter which would leave us without water. I am here tonight to request some assistance in resolving this situation."

Mayor Butler responded, "DPU has Terms and Conditions and rules and regulations and if we start making exceptions, we would have to for everyone. I think you can talk to the Manager of DPU and he can help you with this."

Mr. Myers replied, "I have been there since 1997, why didn't the line extend to the entire length of the road to all the properties."

DPU Manager Harley stated, "We have run into this issue many times and it is not uncommon for neighbors to get together years ago and decide where to put a meter with no written contract or no easement in writing, basically a handshake. New property owners move in and are not aware of this agreement. Property owners are responsible for new lines to be run. The DPU General Terms and Conditions state that outside the City, the customer pays for line extensions."

Mr. Myers stated, "My grandparents were there a long time and I just do not think that they would not want their water extended to their house. Something just isn't right."

Mayor Butler stated, "You can work this out with DPU."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "If DPU runs lines from A to C, B can come in and get a line without a fee?"

DPU Manager Harley stated, "Yes." He then stated, "I think there is a disagreement of the property lines as well with the two property owners."

Councilmember Hannah asked, "If he does pay for the lines, why should someone else be able to tap in for free?"

Mr. Myers stated, "Mr. Salsgiver will clear the lines and dig them up and we will not have water."

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Councilmember Hannah stated, "Like the Mayor said, you need to work with DPU."

Mr. Harvey Elwood addressed Council regarding funding for two concerts. He stated, "I am here tonight to ask for money to host two concerts. We were able to secure \$5,000 funding from the County and with your donation, we can host the first concert. The funds from the first concert will be used to host the second concert. We intend to have a revolving fund, so we can have these concerts yearly. We need such events to keep the young people here and not with the wrong crowd. As you know we publicize events in a positive way and perhaps you have some funding that can be used for this?"

City Administrator Yow stated, "We have funds in the Accommodations Tax Fund that can be used for another round of funding. We have approximately \$25,000. The Committee would need to advertise for requests and you can submit your application to them for consideration."

Mr. Elwood stated, "I am aware of the process, we had to do that with the County."

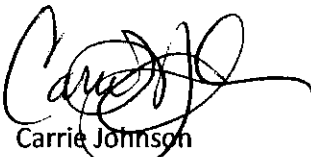
Mayor Butler recognized Mr. Al Jenkins from Senator Tim Scott's Office and City Administrator Yow stated that he was assisting the City with Opportunity Zones.

A motion was made by Councilmember Stroman and seconded by Councilmember Knotts to enter into Executive Session for Legal/Contractual Matters concerning DPU Terms and conditions, a Legal Matter concerning Fire Sprinkler Tax Credit Statutory Restrictions and Requirements and a Contractual Matter concerning Piedmont Development Company, Railroad Corner. This motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Keitt was present for Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Carrie Johnson
City Clerk



/lrm