PUBLIC HEARING
BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021
MEETING MINUTES

The City of Darlington held a Public Hearing on Thursday June 25, 2020 at 6:00pm in the Sanders St Recreation Center located at 300 Sanders St, Darlington, SC 29532

Present at the meeting: Mayor Curtis Boyd, City Manager Howard Garland; Council Members: Mayor Pro Tem John Segars, Elaine Reed, John Milling, Sheila Baccus, Howard Nettles and Bryant Gardner. Others in attendance included: City Attorney Kevin Etheridge.

Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prayer was led by Mayor Curtis Boyd and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL AND USPS – LISA ROCK

Ms Lisa Rock read the comments received from emails and mail.

Email from Gwendolyn Marcus received Thursday May 21, 2020

I am commenting on the decision to purchase land for a sports complex as well and an increase on our utility bill. The purchase of the land was very premature considering our current COVID-19 pandemic. The governor has opened back up the state slowly but many stores, restaurants and schools are still closed. Now that we are embarking upon a new normal for our country; the walking trail is a great idea but considering the rise in new cases and deaths do we really need to be underneath each other just to exercise or even to watch a sports event? So my question is when will you break ground on this future project? Where are the funds coming from? Secondly, the city is struggling to fund existing projects and for the FY 2020-2021 budget considering increasing our utility rates is not the answer to your financial dilemma. In your recent notice property tax is not even considered in any of the increase. The amount estimated increase that will trickle down from every resident here is change in comparison to increasing property tax by 4%. If you still decide to increase our utility rates does this mean the sanitation department will do more that what they're doing now? In conclusion due to our present state of affairs my best recommendation is to address everything that is wrong before the hurricane season begins before this town gets washed away with soon coming floods.

Email from David Windham received Wednesday June 10, 2020

My Name is David Windham and I live at the address in the subject line. I received the FY2020-2021letter. I want to cast my vote of NO! The reason I vote this way is because several years ago we voted to add a road maintenance fee so we can improve the roads in Darlington SC. As of today, I have 4 pot holes on my street that I have called several times and they have never been fixed. The street in front of the Health dept. has many pot holes. Some of which if you hit will destroy your vehicle if you hit them too hard. If Darlington can't do right with the money you are already getting, you don't need more money. What we need is someone in office that can budget and do what they are supposed to do with the funds already coming in. If we give the city more money the only thing that will happen is all the higher ups get big pay raises. *What Darlington needs to do is figure out how to attract new businesses into Darlington County. This is where you will get the most money from. I vote NO to increasing Water and Sewer rates! I vote NO to increasing Sanitation fees! I vote NO to the storm water fees! I will either be in attendance or watching to hear my letter read to everyone.

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Email from Kay Frances LaGon received Wednesday June 10, 2020
I, Kay Frances LaGon am writing this message to oppose the proposed monthly/annual rate increase by the City of Darlington Water and Sewer Department. For the pass 17 years, I have been the owner of the single-family in Darlington, SC. As a retired person on a fixed income, I have achieved greater saving in water usage in past years by upgraded to new efficient systems. Nevertheless, you are looking for combined increases to rates of 40% & 60% for Water and Sewer, 28% for Sanitation Fees, and a $2.50 Storm Water Fee. This is a monthly estimated increase of $18.05. However, your public notice does not provide any details on any saving or cost reductions you will achieve or plan to achieve in repairing or replacing the City's infrastructure, (i.e., water lines, sewer lines, storm drainage, sidewalks, and street). Moreover, it does not explain the benefits of replacing and/or repairing the existing infrastructure system. Further, it does not identify the areas in Darlington targeted for these upgrade or replacement systems. Homeowners should not be asked to foot the bill for lack of planning. Furthermore, the estimated proposed increase is unreasonable. I insist that the proposed increases be withdrawn until you can show appropriate offsetting savings and a long-term plan for more effectively managing costs (i.e. replacement, repair, and /or upgrading of the infrastructure system).

Written Notice Hand Delivered from Lincoln Privette on June 15, 2020
The fines must be imposed and, if your judge does not work with you on this, then get rid of him!! If this is not done, you will see a large snowball effect happening! The city will then be needing more increases to cover the new cost. There are only 10-15 people who are continuing to violate this ordinance. You mark my words; it will increase by 150%. Fines must be imposed! (In a second note) The owners of Dixie Cup should be made to repair streets and intersections that their trucks have torn up. Avenue B and Second Street and Avenue C and Second Street. The railroad tracks on Third Street are the worst I have ever seen. I can't say who is to blame here, probably the railroad.

Ms Lisa Rock stated those were all the comments that were received.

CITY MANAGER - HOWARD GARLAND
Howard Garland said, "Good evening" and introduced himself as the city manager. He explained that with the exception of 5 years, he has lived in Darlington all his live. He recanted childhood experiences of rusty water growing up. He remembered white clothes being red. He also remembers in 1972, his grandmother gave him eight dollars and 40 cents ($8.40) in dollars and quarters and sent him to pay the water bill. He further explained that times have changed and we have to raise our water bill rates to keep up with infrastructure problems. He said, "Darlington is falling apart underneath the ground". He said the water and sewer lines are falling apart at an alarming rate and all the rain we've received in the last 5 years have shifted our water and sewer lines. The biggest problem that we see currently is the sewer line on East Broad St. That line was built 100 years ago. When it was built, it was a master of engineering. But, it was put 22ft in the ground. It collapsed the end of February. We found a pipe made of concrete. But we can't get a camera through it because it has collapsed in 3 different places between Broad St and South Ervin St. We are forced to go in and look at an area that should have been replaced 40-50 years ago. We are paying today for previous mayors and council keeping the problem down the road – something that should have been fixed in the 70's, 80's or even the '90's but haven't been fixed yet. We've applied for grants to update areas that are considered low to moderate income areas, areas that are considered commercial or industrial haven't been updated at all". He said that area is mostly commercial and is why it's falling apart.

He said, “We have pipes on W Broad St which is mostly residential and they are just as deep in the ground and nobody knows what’s wrong with them.” He went on to say we need to fix these things and the only way to do it is raising the water/sewer rates. Howard continued, “This project on E Broad St, the initial estimate was $750,000, when we thought we could go in there and do pipe bursting. That’s where you put a balloon in and carries the pipe through and bust the old pipe out of the way. But, with the pipe collapsed, we can’t do that. So, we have to go in and dig 20-22ft in the ground to replace thi pipe. It’s going to cost somewhere over $1,000,000,000. Since the end of February, we’ve had run a bypass generator for the sewage in that area. That generator costs us $60,000 per month. That comes out of our reserve fund. That is four months now – quarter of a million dollars that we’ve had to eat out of our reserve fund. So this is the problem that we’ve got. We’ve got the crumbling infrastructure.” “We’ve had 20” of rain in May” he added. He continued, “We’ve sewage overflowing on Allen St., Farm St, N Main St. Our vactor truck made 140 trips carrying sewage to the treatment plant from the overflow of the sewage problem.” Howard went to explain the purchase of the vactor truck in 2018 for $50,000 a year and SCDOT does not keeping up with the stormwater properly. Howard stated, “SCDOT owns most of the roads in Darlington city and they don’t keep up the ditches and they don’t keep up with storm drains. So that is left up to the city of Darlington to pick up after them”. Howard said, “We’re sick and tired of it. We wrote a letter to legal counsel for SCDOT in May asking them to come and help us out. Every little town in SC is having these problems but ours are magnified because DOT, unlike other counties, is not their job here. Howard explained DOT’s lack of equipment. Someone calls about a problem on Joe Louis and it’s a ditch, I know I have to tell them. Ask Sheila Baccus. Oh that’s DOT. Elaine Reed calls about a ditch on Tallulah St, Oh that’s DOT. We own 43 streets in Darlington city partially or wholly. Everything else, like Russell St with all the holes in it. That’s SCDOT. So, understand when I say this, we’re behind the 8-ball because we’ve got to replace our aging water and sewer infrastructure. We also have a project we have been working on for over a year and half. It’s the S Dargan sewer pump station renovation grant. We got a grant from EDA (Economic Development Administration) for 1.1 million dollars. That’s to replace lift stations on Verizon which is right there on S Main St, Joe Louis lift station, the old treatment plant on Old Florence Highway and the Hampton St well which is right behind Grove Hill Cemetery. The EDA Grant was written by Pee Dee Council of Governments. We’ve got a grant to match the EDA grant with the state of South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority for $294,000. It was written by Janie Lathan of Lathan Consulting Corp. So our outlay on that is only $35,000. We’re bidding that project out. We’re waiting for plans to come back from EDA for approval and we hope to start that project within the next few months. As we mentioned, we have sewer overflow issues on Farm St, on Allen St for years – whenever it rains.” He went on to say, “Folks growing up, do you ever remember having this much rain in a 5 year period? We had thunderstorms. But, we get a 100 year flood every 2 months now. We get a hurricane every year. With the type of soil we have and the coastal interior plains of SC. Our water lines are falling apart. Our sewer lines are falling apart. Our stormwater infrastructure in the west end of Darlington is scheduled to cost $1.5 million. But when we got looking at, it cost $2.7 million. And guess what, the towns stormwater fund is right now bankrupt because we did 1 project to help 10% of town. So we’ve got to raise our stormwater fees because we can’t afford to pay our stormwater bond. We only collect $144,000.00 in stormwater fees a year. The bond payment by itself is $180,000. Hear that. We can’t pay the bill unless we raise the stormwater fee. We can’t pay our bills and fix these lines if we don’t raise our water/sewer fees.” Howard went on to discuss the age of the dept. equipment and fleet of vehicles. “All together it’s a million dollars worth of equipment and we’re making $75,000 a year payments on them because we couldn’t afford them. So, we are heavily in debt in these departments that’s why we’re raising these fees. We want to do a better job for you”. Howard compared the cost to pay for sanitation, recycling and debris removal in the county and the service provided to the city citizens. Howard also discussed the aging population of city employees and the need to pay employees to prevent people from looking for other jobs. He added, “The cost of everything is going up folks. I know it’s a hit; but we’re left to clean up

the mess that previous mayors, councils and managers did not fix. If we don't fix it now, we're going to be Timmonsville or Lamar in five years. Hear me. Do you all want to be Timmonsville or Lamar?" He discussed the problems and situations that being experienced by Lamar and Timmonsville. Howard continued, "Folks, if we don't raise these rates now, guess what, six months from now when we go bankrupt with our water sewer department, we're going to be forced to sell our water/sewer system to someone else." He went on to say, "…and guess what then, you won't have say whether they raise your water/sewer rates. And do you know me to be mean spirited if you've ever come to my office or talked to me about this. I've got my serious hat on right now. This is my home town; but, we've got to do this folks. We're falling apart. Do you understand what I'm saying? I'm putting my job on the line, just like I did five years ago when I promised those people on Chalmers St. that we would fix their water line and stormwater issues and we did." (citizens in attendance applauded) Howard continued, "If we don't do this now, we are going to die as a town people. We are going to die. We gotta do this. Thank you."

Mayor Curtis Boyd's Comments

"Thank you Howard for finally standing up and talking. I will take full blame in front of the video camera because I'm the one who asked for the rates of the water bill. If I offend you, I am sorry. I have inherited a city with pipes that are a hundred years old. If you look around this room, do you see anyone in this room who is a hundred years old? Every man has a point in time to die. Our ancestors put these pipes and drains in the ground and when you walk over onto Washington St and you look down at that hole sitting over there that belongs to DOT. And we still can't get anyone to fix. I've been over there. They've been over there. It's in the lady's yard". He continued, "These pipes that we have today are giving away. The pipe that you see on Broad St that we all have to go around – we are all irritated about. It's 1.2 million dollars at least. It would have been a lot less with pipe bursting. Mayor Boyd explained pipe bursting again and continued, "We waited too late to go get it done and so they can't go in and do pipe bursting. So, we have to collect money to fix that. We have to collect money to pay for trucks", "If we can ever get our head above water, we can start try to get the other pipes and drains (that are messed up) fixed so we don't have to go back and pay the high cost of repairing the road that's tore up". Mayor Boyd said, "I would love to have a shirt that I could sell to everybody that says, "Call DOT". I've been Mayor for 6 months and people call me over and over and I try my best to get to everyone's house – drain water out of their ditch or yard, fix what I (personally) can fix for myself – to help them. But, I would be willing to bet (my salary) 90% of the time, when I go back to Alex, when I go back to Howard and I know they probably get tired of me calling. I text them and I call them, Lisa and Sheila – over and over and over. And they always say, that is not our road-DOT. To the point that I asked our lawyer to send a legal letter to say that we want to sue you, okay. I don't want to sue anybody. I'm not a sue person. I say a lot of things strong to be aggressive to try to get somebody's attention. We're trying all we can do to get their attention. I would like to find the person that's in charge of the ones that are around here so we can get stuff done, okay. So, please know that we're all fighting to try to get stuff done. We don't want to raise the water bill; but, we've got to. We've got to raise things up. And I want to apologize because I want to raise them higher." He continued, "We've got to get out of this hole to the point where we can fix our town. We all want more businesses, correct? We all want more homes. But to have a home or homes, we have to have more business. Noone will open a business if they don't have people who will come to it, okay." "We have to make our town look beautiful, clean it up. To do that, we have to fix our streets and all of us work together." Mayor Boyd went on to talk about all the things he does personally around town. Mayor Boyd said,

"We're all trying. Everyone's trying. We do apologize if we have to raise it. You can come up and speak in a minute. Please let us know your concerns. Again, we don't want to have to do it anymore than anyone else. Everywhere we look it's more money to come in. Things were done well a hundred years ago but the time has come that things are going to start to collapse. You can see on Wells St, Farm St, firetrucks are falling in the road. Broad St has fallen through". He went on to mention other areas around the city that need to be addressed. He thanked the citizens for their time and called the first 2 names to speak.

ROSE PRUITT

"The majority of my neighbors are probably here tonight to object to the proposed water & sewer rate increase. Current council has seen fit to point out that our failing infrastructure has been so ignored by previous councils, (there is no doubt about it) that it is now necessary to burden the citizens of Darlington with one outrageous rate and fee hike that will leave many of us unable to afford the one thing that is necessary for all life on earth, water. This du ring a deadly pandemic that requires we all wash our hands and sanitize our surroundings to prevent the spread of a disease that could kill us. This rate increase will fall disproportionally on the citizens of Darlington, with over 25% of citizens living below the federal poverty level. EPA Guidelines consider a combined water and sewer bill greater than 4.5% of income to be unaffordable. 2020 Federal Poverty guidelines indicate that amount is approximately S48.00 now. Most of us are already paying more than that unaffordable 4.5% with our current rate. This rate increase may very well raise the rate well beyond what many of my neighbors on fixed incomes can afford to pay. I think my neighbors are right to be upset. The collapsed sewer line on East Broad street and the millions of dollars it is going to cost to repair it are only the tip of the iceberg. Our aging infrastructure is on the verge of collapsing like a bunch of dominos. The cave ins will continue, the pipes will break and leak, and the rate increases will accelerate until all the citizens of Darlington reach a point where they are unable to pay their water bills. It's time to consider a different plan. Some of you may have considered an approach that would consolidate water and sewer systems into a regional system. I urge you to look at that again. One of the main complaints I have heard for dismissing this approach is that the City would lose revenue and control of rates. Sorry to have to break it to you but that bus left years a8o. The fact that we are here tonight proves it. Darlington doesn't have the resources or the expertise necessary to maintain its water and sewer system alone. Combined regional systems (not necessarily sales to private companies in say Myrtle Beach) offer financial benefits that small systems can't benefit from. Usually lower rates, revenue stability, economies of scale and operating efficiencies, and increased opportunities for economic development. I have provided council with a copy of a UNC School of Government, Environmental Finance Center study that examines the financial impacts of strengthening utilities through consolidation. I hope each of you will take the time to review it so we don't wind up here again in 6 months without a better plan and raising the rates. Thanks"

ERNESTINE LYDE

"I only have a few things to say. On my side of town, it's very bad. I'm on the side where the oil mill is at. I have a problem with that. I know the oil, I know this is just for the budget. With the oil mill, what we smell right now, each and every day has not improved at all. It's that bad. I'm already on disability. So, this does not help me at all. Most of the senior citizens on my side of town are sick, they are already on oxygen tanks. They were going to come to this meeting tonight because they are afraid. They are staying home", she said. She went on to say she is understands and increase is needed, but she feels like it is not the right time and it can't happen overnight. She stated, "Now you are going to put this burden all on us. It's not fair". "There is water on Chestnut St. Jessamine, there is water on there too." She expressed her concern about the potholes throughout the city. She implored council, "Find a way that is better for everybody. Not just some. Everybody!" She finished by saying, "We are all supposed to be equal here. Treat us that way."

GEORGIA ROSS

Ms. Ross , introduced herself to council, citizens, and mayor. "I am here on behalf of senior citizens on fixed income, to include people who have already lost their jobs because of a pandemic that we had nothing to do with and now you are going to raise our water bill another $15. People have not even gotten their stimulus. Some don't have jobs. Some don't even know if they will come back to work. So, how will they pay their water bill then?," She began. She continued, "I told people if you get your stimulus, pay your water bill, pay your light bill. Don't sit back saying, oh I can use my money on something else." "But, at a time like this, it's wrong. I am with Ms Lyde over there." She explained a conversation she had with Mr Garland, Mayor Boyd and council regarding the rate increase. Ms Ross continued, "This problem did not happen over night. It's been happening on and on. The previous mayor didn't get anything done. We have a mayor now that within 6 months in service is already wanting to raise your water bill. Way up there. Come on Mayor, you told the people that if they voted for you, that you would take care of them. That the way you taking care of them? My next question is how many council members will raising the water bill affect?" Councilman John Milling answered Ms Ross's question, "It's going to effect me and everyone in the city." Ms Ross, added, "Everybody does not live in the city. City council….I'm sure of it. We asked the Mayor for an external audit. Is that too much to ask for?" Ms Ross commented on citywide potholes and damaged cars. She asked council, "Do not put this on out back. Let's work together to find another way to do this. To tell these folks on fixed income. You have people who do not even make $700.00 a month." Ms Ross went on to say, "Council members, let's get together (my cousin is right there), she can tell you how to get in touch with me. Now let's get together if at all possible and work out another way". She also implored citizens to vote smart, to ask questions and know the record of the people you are voting for. She finished by asking, "I know I have been told you all need the money; but, let's work it out another way. If it means anything to you. Let try to work on something another way." She thanks everyone for time.

MS MCDONALD

She began by thanking council for the opportunity to share ideas. But she was expressly coming before council with another issue. She explained her families arrival to Darlington and her youngest son's respiratory problems. She further explained the obnoxious odor they started smelling from the Hartsville Oil Mill. She presented their research regarding the air to council (many mayor's ago). "We were basically told that the tax revenues from the oil mill were substantial and that they would look into our issues. Part of what was presented was the fact that this area because of the particulates in the air, not just from the oil mill but from the paper cup company, the plywood company and the oil mill raises the particulate matter in this area. This area has more admissions to ER's with respiratory problems than almost anywhere else in the state. Armed with that information we went to city council and were basically told, we'll look into it", she recalled. She continued, "Now this 15 years down the road. My son has since died. I don't know that the particulate matter in this area has anything to do with it. He was on oxygen full time. Now we're having a problem with the CBD Oil Mil and it's not a seasonal thing, it's all the time." She went on to explain, she is unable to enjoy her home or yard because of the odor coming from the mill and acknowledged she doesn't even live close to it. She also added, "When I looked into it, I was told by someone in county government that the levels of particulates are right below toxic levels. So they can get away with it." If that isn't taken care of, I'm moving out of Darlington because what that says to me is you want our tax money; but how much do you really care about our health, the community and environment that these homes are in", she stated. She also expressed concerned about abandoned properties and property values from rental properties. "In my neighborhood, in the last 15 years, some of the rental properties had prostitutes, people selling drugs, and most recently the house next door to me was shot up at 3 o'clock in the morning on a Sunday. What's to keep me living here? You don't care about the environment you live in. There is no reason to stay. Forget the sewer system problem. We need to think of the health of the people in this community and the CBD oil plant is not interested in that", she stated. She finished by asking, "Are you?"

MR ERNEST BOSTON

Mr Boston greeted everyone and introduced himself. He started by saying, "Mr Garland, you gave a powerful testimony. I've been back here 30 years. 20 years ago, I stood in front of city council about a water issue. The quality of water, of the pipes mainly. At that time most of the city had galvanized pipes. We had citizens who had rust in their water from the galvanized pipes who had new water lines put in their home. And was told it wasn't their problem. Now city council says we need an increase. Being in business and working for your own company, I know you have to look beyond today. We have tp project what we see in the future. Your predecessors and predecessors before you, none of them, not even city council. None of them took that into consideration. You fix this problem this year, are you going to be back in front of the citizens and say hey, guess what we have another problem, we got to fix? I don't think anyone is looking to advise the citizen what is the problem and what it's going to take to fix the problem. In the long run". He went on to explain that the citizens are willing to do their part to fix the problem; but, they would like to know what is going on. He continued, "I advised citizens to contact DHEC about their pipes. I know we have a problem. You have a camera now. Every sewer line should have the camera run down so we can determine where our problems are and you can make a decision how to fix the problem about what it's going to cost. Piecemealing it together is not going to get the job done. To raise the water bill on the senior citizens. It's going to be a burden on some. We need to know everything that is wrong.". He went on to say, "Talk to the citizens straight up" and reiterated, "Piecemealing it, is not going to do it. I am one of those. I'm a senior citizen too. I'm on a fixed income too. My expenses are going to go up too. So, I want to know totally what I am going to expect over the years. Not just the next 12 months. I don't have no problems with supporting you. If you tell us. If you advise us with what's going on". He added, "We need to know. We need to know how to adjust". He made examples of having to make adjustments for car repairs and home repairs. He also talked about how he ran his business and that council should run the same. HE finished by reiterating, "We need to know. Thank you very much."

RESPONSE TO MR BOSTON

Mr Boyd responded by explaining he has been asking the hard questions regarding how and where money is being spent because we've got to do better. He further explained, "We have to be strict as possible with every dime that is spent to make what we've got better." He added, "We're in a mess. We've got pipes that are messed up everywhere. Mr Boston, 1 more second. My question, Mr Alex: is the camera he asked about, we can't send it through the system, right?" Alex Gainey answered, "We need a bigger track. The track that we got will not go through the pipe". Curtis explained, "What they purchased before we got here should tell us where our problems are. But, the camera they got won't work because they don't have everything they need. Do we need to do an external audit. Probably do. But, we don't have the money." He continued, we are going to get together to do an audit to make sure we are pinching every dime". He went on to explain the problems and council is working on taking care of all the CBD oil mill, pipes. He explained in order to sit on the board, you have to live in the city. He explained that an internal audit. Mayor Boyd also suggested advertising to generate income. Mayor Boyd also opened up the idea of citizens also coming up with ideas to generate revenue.

Mayor Boyd took questions from the citizens. Ms McDonald, "Does the city own property that is not being used?" Mayor Boyd's answers, "The city does own property that is not being used." Ms McDonald suggested, "They could be sold". Mayor Boyd, explained the intention of renovating buildings to rent for reoccurring income to help Darlington's revenue. Ms McDonald questioned why a ballfield was purchased instead of using to money towards the sewer problems. Mayor Boyd explained the hospitality fund and it's limited use and the intent to stimulate economic growth. He further suggested adding advertisements in the water bill to generate income for Darlington. He encouraged sending ideas to Howard Garland and to email him (Mayor Boyd)

Unknown citizen said, "I have 2 questions and a comment." He said, "I have been living on Broad St for 51-52 years. He continued talking about the stack at the oil mill. He asked about the blue recycling trash cans. Mayor Boyd confirmed recycling had been suspended at the beginning of COVID-19; but, it has started again. The unknown citizen asked, "So, it's back. So just put it out on the regular day and it'll get picked up?" Mayor Boyd confirmed, "Yes Sir." The citizen went on to say, "All the little children are out there playing and they are happy. Do you know why?" He answered and said, "They're high. They are high from that plant". Mayor Boyd agreed with the odor, but explained, "It doesn't make them high". The citizen responded, "It doesn't make them high? Ok, then I am going to pick up some and you and I are going to sit down and smoke." Mayor Boyd answered, "I don't smoke". The unknown citizen asked, "Why are the police down there? Are they guarding the marijuana?" Mayor Boyd, explained they are security. The citizen asked if the sidewalk belongs to the highway department. It was explained DOT is responsible for the sidewalks. He asked Howard Garland if he was about to cry earlier. He further explained his response was touching.

Ms Pruitt questioned the use of police and in police vehicles. Chief Washington explained that all part-time jobs in security is approved by him. He also said, that companies pay for the use of the vehicle. He also explained there is an agreement if there is an emergency, the officers will respond to the emergency.

Ms Lyde asked about the purchase of the camera. She questioned why it was purchased if it wasn't the right thing. Bryant Gardner explained when the camera was purchased, it was purchased for another reason and now it is being used for the vactor truck so tools are being added as needed. Mayor Boyd reiterated Bryant Gardner's response.

Mayor Boyd thanked everyone for their time and comments. He asked if there was a motion to adjourn

Howard Nettles made a motion to adjourn.

Bryant Gardner made a second motion

The motion carried unanimously