CITY OF DARLINGTON

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COURTROOM/COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 400 PEARL STREET, DARLINGTON, SC TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 2024 - AT 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Curtis Boyd, City Manager John Payne; Councilmembers Elaine Reed, Bryant Gardner, John Segars, Sheila Baccus, John Milling, and newly elected Councilmember Angela McRavin. Also present Merry Morgan Smith, Codes Enforcement Officer Sheila Jones, W&S Superintendent Charles Shugart, Police Chief Jimmy Davis, Fire Chief Pat Cavanaugh, Recreation Director Lee Andrews, Mr. Linwood Epps, Mrs. Anna DeWitt, Ms. Gloria Hines, Mr. Albert Johnson, Ms. Jannie Lathan, Ms. Ernestine Lyde, Ms. Judy Alexander, Ms. Carla Elvington, Ms. Barbara Carraway, Ms. Rosa Hudson, Mr. Willie Boyd, Ms. Barbara Bruce, Mr. Steve Abbott, Pastor Corey Milling, Mrs. Audrey Gore, Pastor William & Cheryl DuBose, Mrs. Anceline Williamson, Representative Robert Williams, Congressman Russell Fry and his family and other visitors. Also, present was a representative from the News & Press and Ms. Shawnia Butler with WPDE TV15 news.

City Manager John Payne welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Congressman Fry who is our congressman from the Seventh District of South Carolina. Mr. Payne said congressman Fry will administer the oath to council members elect and then to the mayor elect.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

Congressman Russell Fry administered the Oath of Office to Councilmen John Milling, Bryant Gardner, and Councilwoman Angela N. McRavin. Congressman Fry then administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Curtis Boyd.

INVOCATION

Pastor David Mullen did the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Representative Robert Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2023 & SPECIAL MEETINGS ON DECEMBER 12, 2023

Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 5, 2023. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, Baccus, Segars, McRavin and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting on December 12, 2023. Councilwoman Sheila Baccus seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Segars, Gardner and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion that the meeting agenda for the regular meeting on January 2, 2024, be approved. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – PROCLAMATION FOR MRS. ANCELINE WILLIAMSON ON THE CELEBRATION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY – MAYOR CURTIS BOYD

City Manager John Payne read the proclamation. Mayor Curtis Boyd on behalf of the City of Darlington proclaims January 10th, 2024, as Anceline Williamson Day in honor of her 100th Birthday. The proclamation also read; I urge all residents to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and admiration for Anceline Williamson and to take this opportunity to reflect on the lessons she has taught us through her remarkable life. Let us celebrate her centennial milestone with joy, love, and appreciation and with this hereof I have here onto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Darlington to be affixed to this 2nd day of January in the year of 2024. Mrs. Anceline Williamson thanked everyone for coming out and she knew they wished her a very happy birthday. Mrs. Williamson told everyone if they want to give her a gift, $1 a year would be nice. She said the Lord has blessed her and it's not her it's Him that brought her this far. Ms. Barbara Bruce said Mrs. Williamson is her spiritual mother. Ms. Bruce said, "When I came to Lee Street four or five years ago when I walked in that church I saw you. I knew you were a saint. I knew you were a mother, a sister, an aunt but most importantly I knew you were a woman of God. She said this day is an honor and pleasure for me Mother to see you as my spiritual mother. You took me into your house, and in your life and under your wings. You're my friend, my mentor, my everything and now that my mother has passed this year, you have truly been that all during that time. Ms. Bruce said, "The message has come to me, and it has been said in church, be careful how you treat people along the way because life is precious, and you never know you may be entertaining an angel or spiritual mother or a friend. So let go of all of the hatred, malice, and anything ….forgive people and even if they are living or dead, just forgive and love on them while you see them. She said, "And this is for you mother, I love you and may you live to be a hundred more years."

CITIZENS WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL (5 MINUTES PER PERSON, 30 TOTAL MINUTES MAXIMUM)

***Neither personal attacks nor disruptive behavior are permitted**

Mr. Adrian said I run a nonprofit in Darlington and what they do is manage several landings in the area. He said they have been doing it since 2019 and they have been trying to reach out to representatives for help with bags, but they won't help us. Mr. Adrian said they go and clean their landings weekly. He said they just want cleaner landings and more protection for our historical buildings like St Johns and Brunson-Dargan which the board, I guess wants to get rid of. He said I'm trying to get trash bags for my landings and that's why I'm here and I wonder if you all will help me with it. He said I manage thirty-four, Lowthers Lake, sometimes Williamson Park and the Country Club. He said they use the Country Club Park to get to Black Creek to catch food to eat. He said it's so hard to eat and live …we're not going to give up our landing, but we just want more support for our landings. They are getting overrun with trash, litter and

batteries and tires and there's potholes down there and its basic issues with health and I'm here today to help you all with that. Councilwoman Baccus asked about the location of the landings again. Mr. Adrian said, "The landings are 34 & Lowthers Lake, Country Club and Williamson Park". Councilwoman Baccus asked if it was just those three? Mr. Adrain said, "I want to manage them all. They are not getting the proper management and it's just not right. Councilman Milling said, "Are you asking for permission"? Mr. Adrian said, "No, I'm asking for trash bags because I've been begging our representatives …..Councilman Milling asked, "Is this something that you do on your own"? Mr. Adrian said, "I have been doing it on my own since 2019". Mayor Boyd told Adrian to give him a number where he can reach him, and he will get him some bags. Councilwoman Reed said, "These addresses or locations they are inside the city limits and our streets and sanitation department does not …… Mr. Adrian said, "It's not a federal issue to you … the county manages thirty-four so it would be their responsibility to take care of it and they're not. I'm taking care of it and having to haul the trash off, or it won't get done. Councilwoman Reed said, "What I was asking for us of what we can do, I would need to know whether these locations are inside the city and our streets and sanitation department are not servicing it." Mr. Adrian said, "I think Williamson Park is, but the problem with Williamson is a bunch of rotten boards that you can trip over." Councilwoman Reed said, "I know Williamson Park and the Country Club is in it. Councilwoman Baccus said, "the other two are in the county." Mr. Adrian said, "I'm just here to get trash bags. I don't know anything about that. I've just been begging for five years, and our government can represent Ukraine more than it can represent me. Ms. Carla Elvington spoke up from the audience and told Adrian she would get him some trash bags.

Mr. Albert Johnson said since we have the congressman and the representative here, I want them to look into my case and see what they can do. Because the local city people don't say anything, not one word. I did everything I was supposed to do; I got a licensed plumber; I did the tort claim ….I did everything, but the problem is, and the problem was that the sewer was broken and that was the reason why I couldn't get my water turned back on. For ten years it was backing up. They were telling me that my pipes were faulty and crumbling so I had every pipe dug up and they were almost in perfect condition, and we found out it wasn't my pipes causing the sewer problems and the smell. It was the sewer water backing up on my property. I started in August, and they kept giving me the runaround. Mr. Johnson said Mr. Brown at the City Water Department went down there twice and sucked all of the water out, but he said he couldn't do anything because they were on Reid Street working on the sewer and they are going to do Lee Street next, but it was months and they kept giving me different dates. Once I got my license pulled by Mr. Russell, Sheila went down there five times and every time she would give me a different reason why I can't get my water turned on. One time she told me the sewer water that was coming back was rainwater. I came down to the city water department and got one of the supervisors to go down there and smell the water….He told me personally that we cannot fix your water until we fix Lee Street. That was the problem the whole ten years I was having my line snaked out. I just want you all to be reasonable. Now you say the first reason, Mr. Payne said I didn't own the property. You can see where I have power of attorney filed in the courthouse. And then he said I needed to do a tort claim and I did that too. I was given different excuses every time. He said at first Sheila told him he could pull a permit and then she he can't

pull it because it's rental property. And then she looked on my back porch and saw the hot water heater was too close to my circuit breaker box. Mr. Johnson said, “I had it inspected twice; once I had the water turned off for three months. The city said I had to have it inspected before I could turn it back on and later on I had the whole house rewired and the city came and inspected it, and everything was perfect. Yet she did that to hold me up. Mr. Johnson said, “What I’m asking now is that the congressman and representative look into this again because the city has not said anything to me after all of these months and I did everything that a man could possibly do. It’s making the city look bad. Who do you think the people in the community that talk to me are blaming? You, Mr. Mayor, and all of your city council. They say y’all need to try and do something to help me because I try to do the right thing and like I say, I don’t do something for nothing.” Mr. Johnson said, “They gave the runaround, and this is the last thing Payne wrote to me; He said the reason why we can’t help you is because you don’t have a city license to collect rent.” Mayor Boyd told Mr. Johnson we will get with him this week. Mayor Boyd said, “Me and Ms. Sheila Jones with the codes department will get with you this week.”

Ms. Jannie Lathan asked to have the time clock restarted but Mayor Boyd told her that her time started when she started passing out information out. Ms. Lathan said, “what I’ve just provided to you and what I will read for the record is a copy of a “Cease and Desist” letter sent by my attorney on December 20, 2023, to the City Manager John Payne and the city’s attorney. (copy of information attached)

WUKELA LAW FIRM

Steve Wukela, Jr.
Benjamin D. Moore
Christi B. McDaniel
Stephen J. Wukela
Patrick J. McLaughlin
Phoebe A. Clark
Frank C. Swaggard

403 Second Loop Road
P.O. Box 13057
Florence, SC 29504-3057

(843) 669-5034
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December 20, 2023

John Payne
City Manager
PO Box 57
Darlington, SC 29540
(via email: jpayne@cityofdarlington.com)

Re: Jannie Lathan d/b/a Lathan Consulting Corporation

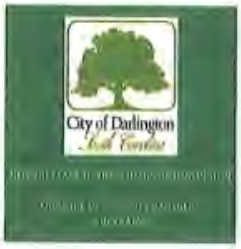
CEASE AND DESIST

Dear Mr. Payne:

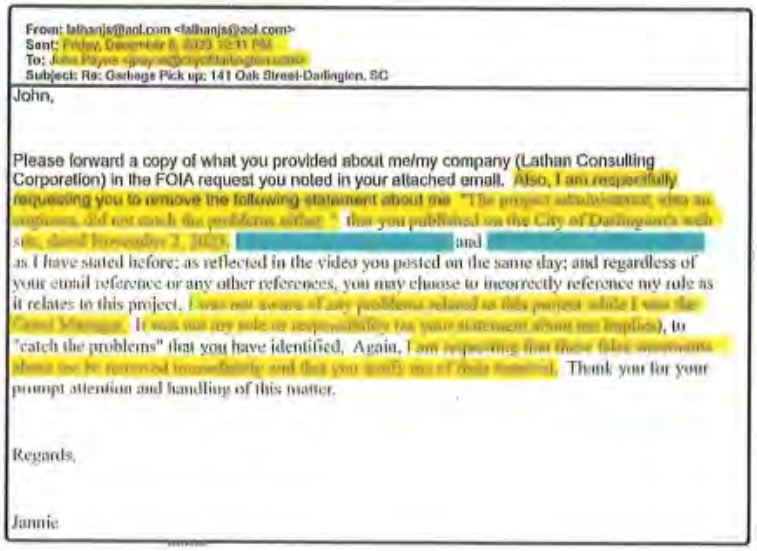
Please accept this correspondence as notice that I represent Ms. Jannie Lathan d/b/a Lathan Consulting Corporation.

Via a November 2, 2023 letter on City of Darlington letterhead, you published online, you asked Darlington city residents "to watch the attached video and read the accompanying article so that you understand what is going on in Darlington."

The content of that letter was, and remains as of the date of this correspondence, correspondingly published on the City of Darlington's website through this "read more" link on the home page:



Ms. Lathan emailed you on December 8, 2023, politely requesting that you remove comments about her from your publications which falsely misrepresented her role in the Southwest Darlington stormwater project.



From: lathanjs@aol.com <lathanjs@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 12:11 PM
To: John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com>
Subject: Re: Garbage Pick up: 141 Oak Street-Darlington, SC

John,

Please forward a copy of what you provided about me/my company (Lathan Consulting Corporation) in the FOIA request you noted in your attached email. Also, I am respectfully requesting you to remove the following statement about me "The project administrator, who as an engineer, did not catch the problems earlier." that you published on the City of Darlington's web site, dated November 2, 2023, [redacted] and [redacted] as I have stated before; as reflected in the video you posted on the same day; and regardless of your email reference or any other references, you may choose to incorrectly reference my role as it relates to this project, I was not aware of any problems related to this project while I was the Const Manager. It was not my role or responsibility (as your statement above me implies), to "catch the problems" that you have identified. Again, I am requesting that these false statements above be removed immediately and that you notify me of their removal. Thank you for your prompt attention and handling of this matter.

Regards,

Jannie

Instead of complying with this simple request, you have left this misleading false statement up on the City of Darlington's website as of the date of this correspondence:

STORMWATER PROJECT NEWS RELEASE

November 2, 2023

From the desk of John Payne, City Manager

In 2010, the City of Darlington began a stormwater project in Southwest Darlington that cost about $3 million. The project was completed in 2013. According to our engineer, this type of project should last 30-50 years, but it failed within two. To pay for the project, the City issued an revenue bond for over $3.4 million, and we still have about $2 million. This year, the City of Darlington will make a bond payment of over $180,000. This is strictly paid for by the customers.

After hearing of the problems we faced, the City Manager became engaged and began to investigate. They hired Landmark Engineering as the contractor and engineering firm. The project administrator, who as engineer, did not catch the problems earlier. Currently City administration, at the direction of the Mayor and City Council, is pursuing all legal avenues to have those liable for this failure to rebuild the drainage system. Any settlement in the matter should benefit the ratepayers.

I ask you to watch the attached video and read the accompanying article so that you understand what is going on in Darlington, because you, the customers, will pay for this project for another 15 years.

Thank you,

https://www.newsweek.com/darlington-sc/2023/09/08/darlington-sc-recovers-lost-ratepayer-funded-construction-project-fshtml

City of Darlington
South Carolina

You are well aware that Ms. Lathan and her company's role on the project you are now "informing" City of Darlington residents was a failure, was solely as the Grant Administrator.

The South Carolina Supreme Court has specifically held that for a defamatory statement to be actionable, it is not necessary that the false charge be made in a direct, open and positive manner. A mere insinuation is as actionable as a positive assertion if it is false and malicious and the meaning is plain. Tyler v. Macks Stores of South Carolina, Inc., 275 S.C. 456 (1980).

Your public statements, published on city letterhead and the city website, falsely represent/insinuate to the public that Ms. Lathan and her company were the "Project Administrator" of a project you essentially are telling City residents they will have to pay for twice, to the tune of another $3 million. Your comments are false, prejudicial and per se actionable as they call into question Ms. Lathan and her company's fitness in their particular business and profession.

I hereby demand that you cease and desist making such statements about Ms. Lathan and/or Lathan Consulting. Specifically, I am demanding that you **remove from the City of Darlington's website the false, defamatory remarks about Ms. Lathan and/or her company within five (5) days of the date of this correspondence.**

I am notifying you that the publication of these remarks is harming Ms. Lathan and her company and refusal to remove them will only cause further prejudice and harm.

By courtesy copy of this correspondence, I am notifying City Attorney Kevin Etheridge of this demand. With kind regards, I am,

WUKELA LAW FIRM

PJM/mld

PATRICK J. MCLAUGHLIN

Cc:
Kevin R. Etheridge
City Attorney
P.O. Box 81
Darlington, SC 29540-0081
(via email to info@gardnerlawsc.com)

Re: Garbage Pick up: 141 Oak Street-Darlington, SC

From: lathanjs@aol.com (lathanjs@aol.com)

To: jpayne@cityofdarlington.com

Bcc: jannie.lathan@lathan-consulting.com

Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 04:28 PM EST

John,

As I have noted with you before, my role on this project was the Grant Administrator, only. What you are citing in the email you referenced is incorrect. There are numerous emails and project files that correctly reference my role as Grant Administrator, and the City should have these in your files. The fact that I have degrees in Civil Engineering did not obligate me, in my role as Grant Administrator, to assume any other role (I;e., as an Engineer or as a Project Administrator). It was not my role as Grant Administrator to design this project, or to supervise/correct the Engineer or the Construction Contractor. My role was grant administration, only, and you in your role as a City Manager should know this. I believe your misrepresentations of my role on this project at this point are malicious and intended to cause harm to me and my company. Again, I am respectfully requesting you to stop and remove the false statement you have made about me on the City's web site. Thank you.

Regards,

Jannie

> On Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 03:17:58 PM EST, John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com> wrote:
>
> Ms. Lathan:
>
> I see that I did respond to your email last week, on December 8.
>
> The information contained on the city website is accurate. On Linked-In you state that you have a bachelors and a masters degree in civil engineering, so you have the training to identify the errors our forensic engineer found in the SW Darlington Stormwater Project. I also have a copy of your email to the railroad wherein you represented yourself as the project administrator. You may have written the grant for the project, but you identify yourself as the project administrator. I have not defamed you in the statement on the city website; I have spoken the truth. We will not remove the statement or the video.
>
> Thank you.
>
> John Payne
>
> City Manager

From: lathanjs@aol.com <lathanjs@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, December 8, 2023 12:11 PM
To: John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com>
Subject: Re: Garbage Pick up: 141 Oak Street-Darlington, SC

Caution: This message was sent from outside the company. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you **recognize** the sender *and* **verify** the content is safe.

John,

Please forward a copy of what you provided about me/my company (Lathan Consulting Corporation) in the FOIA request you noted in your attached email. Also, I am respectfully requesting you to remove the following statement about me "The project administrator, also an engineer, did not catch the problems either. " that you published on the City of Darlington's web site, dated November 2, 2023. I was the Grant Administrator and not the Project Administrator, as I have stated before; as reflected in the video you posted on the same day; and regardless of your email reference or any other references, you may choose to incorrectly reference my role as it relates to this project. I was not aware of any problems related to this project while I was the Grant Manager. It was not my role or responsibility (as your statement about me implies), to "catch the problems" that you have identified. Again, I am requesting that these false statements about me be removed immediately and that you notify me of their removal. Thank you for your prompt attention and handling of this matter.

Regards,

Jamie

On Friday, December 1, 2023 at 02:28:42 PM EST, John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com> wrote:

Ms. Lathan:

Everything reported due to FOIA's about Lathan Consulting is accurate. I have the email wherein you represented yourself to the railroad as the project administrator. I am not slandering you if I answer a FOIA with facts and your own email.

John

From: lathanjs@aol.com <lathanjs@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 2:11 PM
To: Shelia Baccus <shelabig@yahoo.com>; John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com>
Cc: John Milling <johnmilling@bellsouth.net>; mayorcboyd@gmail.com; Bryant Gardner <bgardner@cityofdarlington.com>; elainereed7@aol.com; bjn64@aol.com; jhs@sc.twcbc.com
Subject: Re: Garbage Pick up: 141 Oak Street-Darlington, SC

Caution: This message was sent from outside the company. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you **recognize** the sender *and* **verify** the content is safe.

Councilwoman Baccus,

John Payne is incorrect. I filed the report with the Darlington Police Department and will provide you with a copy, if you like.

John Payne,

What you said and have said about me in the recent past is untrue and I consider slanderous. Therefore, moving forward I am requesting that you do not use my name or my company's name (Lathan Consulting Corporation), verbally or in writing in any manner/way that is untruthful. Thank you.

Regards,

Jannie

On Friday, December 1, 2023 at 01:33:03 PM EST, John Payne <jpayne@cityofdarlington.com> wrote:

Ms. Baccus:

I am not sure what Ms. Lathan has told you but there is no police incident report filed against me. She is incorrect.

Ms. Lathan said, “What I’m asking tonight ……Mayor Boyd said, “Thank you Ms. Lathan.” Ms. Lathan said, “You took a minute away. I have one statement. I’m asking that this council take action ….. Mayor Boyd said, “Ms. Lathan I’m asking you or I’ll have you removed. Please don’t push me ok.” Councilwoman Baccus said, “I have a question …… mayor Boyd said, “I got

Michelle coming up." Councilwoman Baccus said, "Milling, what do you think we need to do with something like this"? Councilman Milling said, "I think we need to turn it over to our city attorney, Mr. Etheridge and let him investigate and respond on behalf of the city. Councilwoman Baccus said, "So you don't think the council need to ….Councilman Milling said, "I don't think council needs to individually get into discussion about a letter that has been sent by an attorney that indicates that that attorney is representing somebody who has a claim against ….may have a claim against the city. I think that's what attorneys are for. For the city to use their attorney to respond to the statements made by the Wukela Law Firm by Patrick McLaughlin so that's what I think is the proper way to handle it". Councilwoman Baccus said, "So you don't think that we need to ask the city manager to take it down to eliminate getting caught up in a lawsuit"? Mayor Boyd said, "We'll discuss this afterwards. Right now, it's just comments." Councilman Milling said, "I told you what I thought ought to take place and think that there needs to be consultation between the city administrator and the city attorney to address the situation, but I'm seeing this for the first time, so I don't know anything about the underlying factual allegations. I've got it here, so I am not the city attorney, so I am not going to respond as the city attorney as to what needs to be done other than to say that Mr. Payne needs to get with Mr. Etheridge." Councilwoman Baccus said, "I'm not asking you a question as a city attorney, I'm asking you a question as a councilperson." Councilman Milling said, "Well, I'm not offering a legal opinion because that requires me to use my expertise as an attorney to answer something and I'm not doing that. I am a single member of this council." (Councilwoman Baccus and Councilman Milling were both speaking at the same time. Councilwoman Baccus said, "I'm asking you a question as a councilperson." Councilman Milling said, "and I have answered you as best I can and that's the answer you're going to get." Mayor Boyd called the meeting to order and said they are going to move forward because this is comment only. Ms. Jannie Lathan spoke out from the audience and Mayor Boyd asked her to refrain from speaking. Ms. Lathan continued to speak so he asked that she be removed from the meeting. Mayor Boyd said, "This is comment only. Please listen." Councilwoman Baccus said, "We don't ever meet to discuss anything. We never have any other meeting to discuss anything. We don't be in the other meetings y'all have. The only time we ever discuss anything is at a council meeting." Councilman Milling said, "Sheila, I did note when I was looking at the county council agenda that was sent out by Mrs. Bishop that they have a procedure that if something is brought to the attention of council, (I believe it's at the request of a councilmember) they can ask that it be added to an agenda and be addressed. We don't have that right now. I'm not saying it wouldn't be a good idea to have it or a bad idea to have it, but I think that it is a way that your concerns can be addressed." Councilwoman Baccus said, "We use to have it." Councilwoman Reed said, "It's relating to the last council meeting where we had the lawyers and consultants about this, and I thought that the action taken then that this would be sent to some other lawyers to look into it for us and then come back to us for whatever action we needed to take". Mayor Boyd said, "We'll have to ask the city attorney." Councilwoman Reed said, "We voted for this to go to them to come back and that information has not come back. I just simply want whenever you decide that we can meet that …. why are we even putting any information out about it." Mayor Boyd said, "So the public knows, public comment is a privilege to be able to come in and speak. Public comments are for you to bring your comments to the city council. We will be more than glad to talk with you about it and discuss things with you and whatever the issue is we will work to see if we can solve it,

but during the city council meeting, the public comment is a public comment and you're limited to five minutes. I've asked everybody and I've done it for four years and these next four years if you continue to talk over me and not do as I ask, you will be asked to leave."

Michelle Black signed up to speak but she left the meeting.

Ms. Carla Elvington said, I just want to say tonight that I'm happy to see that the City of Darlington, namely Ms. Merry Morgan Smith, is celebrating our rich history in our architecture and our places that really and truly make Darlington what it is. Ms. Elvington asked for a show of hands for everyone that remembered the Dargan Amphitheater. She said as a child the amphitheater was one of her most favorite places in Darlington as it was for countless individuals. At the last record in 2016 there was over two thousand people in attendance at the Dargan Amphitheater to celebrate "May Day" for our students and our citizens and that was the last time the amphitheater was allowed to the City of Darlington by the Darlington County School District and Board. They closed down the Darlington Amphitheater even though Ms. Mary Woods Dargan bequeathed at her death, a sum of money for the City of Darlington to establish this memorial. It had been owned and operated by the City of Darlington since 1925 until 2016 when the Darlington County School District closed it down. (Mayor Boyd was trying to get Ms. Elvington's attention while she was talking. He then sounded his gavel") Ms. Elvington then asked Mayor Boyd why he is interrupting her and what does he want to ask her. Mayor Boyd said, "I'm asking you to speak into the mic so the public can hear you." Ms. Elvington went on to say the Darlington Amphitheater has not been allowed or given access to the City of Darlington since 2016 when the school board took it over. As of 2023, that same school board intends to close down St. John's Elementary School and take it away from the City of Darlington and our six hundred students who attend that school. And now, you all plan to spend $5 million of hospitality taxes, FILO funds from Georgia pacific and our American Rescue Act funds to build baseball and footballs fields on property on Blue Street that the same Darlington County School District owns. The same school district who abandoned our amphitheater and took it away from the City of Darlington and the same school district who plans to close down our beloved and most historic public school in the entire State of South Carolina. Ms. Elvington said, "I know you guys negotiated with the school district for nine months about these ballfields, but I'd like for somebody to tell me tonight what negotiations went on between our city council and the Darlington County School District regarding St. John's Elementary School. She said, "What negotiations were had about our school that educates six hundred students who are citizens of the City of Darlington. You want to forfeit those students and spend $5 million on property that the school district owns for eight percent of Darlington's population who participates in recreation sports. You've committed us to paying $220,000 a year for twenty years for 8% of our population. It's not going to happen without a fight and I'm not threatening violence. By fight I mean head with people who know what's going on and who knows the law."

OLD BUSINESS

a. 2nd Reading Ordinance 2023-11 Zoning Designation 905 Chestnut Street for Mrs. Patricia Causey - Merry Morgan Smith, Planning & Economic Development Director

Ms. Smith said the property is currently zoned LI (Limited Industrial) which would allow for wholesaling, distribution, storage, processing, and other manufacturing uses. The surrounding areas in Limited Industrial include an oil plant, trucking company, and propane gas distribution. Those shown in green are the general commercial property area which allows a wide arrange of businesses and commercial uses. Those surrounding areas include the casket company, a funeral home, and a motel. The request for the zoning change is to accommodate a tire store. The Planning Commission recommended GC (General Commercial) as fitting and appropriate for this parcel. **Councilman Milling made a motion to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2023-11 Zoning Designation for 905 Chestnut Street that it be rezoned as General Commercial. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

b. 2nd Reading Ordinance 2023-12, Annexation of 118 Nez Perce Drive, parcel No. 184-00-01-073 – Merry Morgan Smith, Planning & Economic Development Director
Ms. Merry said this is the second reading of ordinance 2023-12 to annex the property at 118 Nez Perce Drive in the Country Club area for Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Levesque. **Councilwoman Elaine Reed made a motion to approve 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2023-12 annexation of 118 Nez Perce Drive, Parcel No. 184-00-01-073. Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded the motion. Councilpersons Milling, McRavin, Baccus, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

NEW BUSINESS
a. Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore
Councilman Bryant Gardner nominated John Segars for Mayor Pro-Tempore. Councilman John Milling seconded the nomination. Councilpersons, McRavin, Reed and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the nomination. Councilwoman Baccus voted no.

b. 1st Reading Ordinance 2024-01 – Zoning Designation for 118 Nez Perce Drive, Merry Morgan Smith, Planning and Economic Development Director
Ms. Smith said the property presently has no zoning designation as it is being annexed into the city. The Planning Commission has recommended the R-10 zoning designation as fitting and appropriate for this parcel. **Councilman John Milling made a motion to approve 1st Reading of Ordinance 2024-01 – Zoning Designation for 118 Nez Perce Drive as R-10. Councilwoman Elaine Reed seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor annexing 118 Nez Perce Drive.**

c. Department Updates
Police Department – Chief Jimmy Davis said the police department, in his opinion is doing well. He said he has officers that just graduated from the academy, and he still has an officer at the academy. Chief Davis said he has interviews scheduled for next week. He asked Officer Ariel Washington to come forward. He said she was promoted to Sargeant. Chief Davis said she is an outstanding officer; she gets along with the other officers and her quality of work has shown that she can be a leader as well. Councilwoman McRavin said, “Previously you were short; you had several vacancies. How many vacancies are there now”? Chief Davis said five to

seven depending on how you count your SRO's. Councilwoman McRavin asked, "Even including those members that ae at the academy and Chief said "yes." Councilwoman Baccus asked Chief Davis if he just hired and officer or are they still at the academy. Chief Davis said, "One is still at the academy, and he is interviewing two next week and will potentially hire them. Councilman Milling asked Chief Davis if we have cameras in any particular areas of the city to help monitor things that are going on. Chief Davis said, "We have two at the courthouse that are southwest corner and northeast corner that look at what they can around the courthouse." Councilman Milling said, "I would like for you to give some thought … I noticed when we were having our public meetings for renaissance master plan that there were some ladies at the table where I was who live in wards 1 and 2 that were concerned about a lack of feeling safe in their communities, being able to walk out in the evenings and I don't know whether it needs to be addressed through additional manpower or what but I don't want those folks to be feeling uncomfortable about where they live". Chief Davis said, "I don't think it's just one community or one person, I believe that's everybody. I feel about the same way when I go anywhere anymore." Councilman Milling said, "I know Mr. Gardner and I was sitting at a table where that was a concern that was voiced by a number of people. Chief Davis said he will definitely look into it.

Fire Department Chief Pat Cavanaugh said as of January we are halfway through our budget, and he believes he is still on track with his budget. He said they are fully staffed. He said we are still in the running for the radio grant, and we should know something in about a month and a half whether they have received federal funding for the remainder of the radios.

Water/Sewer, Stormwater, Acting or Interim Director of the Street & Sanitation Departments and Garage Charles Shugart said he was asked to come tonight and talk about projects in the city and where they are. Mr. Shugart said we currently have six projects in process that are open. He has two that are coming up quickly. ***The Allen Street Force Main Old Florence Highway Pump Station Elimination*** project. This project eliminates the pump station at Bowens Manor and installs a gravity sewer from D Avenue down to Bowens Manor. This project is almost complete. *The next is the* ***Allen Street Pump Station S. Main Street/Farm Street Gravity Sewer*** **project.** That project installed the gravity lines on S. Main Street down to E Avenue and down E Avenue to Second Street. They also installed a gravity sewer on Farm Street. Mr. Shugart said he was told there was a shallow manhole that overflowed for about 10-12 years. At the manhole that overflowed they lowered and enlarged it so hopefully it won't overflow again and ran new gravity sewer from that manhole down to King Edwards and over to the Limit Street pump station. That project also has the ***Allen Street Pump Station Rehabilitation*** in it. There was a thirty-two week hold on the pumps, but they have the pumps in hand now. They don't have the electrical components right now, but they should be coming soon. E. Broad Street Hurricane Emergency Response Project …The last day of August we had a tropical storm that was due to the hurricane, and it flooded the area in and around Hardees and S. Main Street and a sinkhole opened up around the Feed & Seed on E. Broad Street and the grain mill. Mr. Shugart said he immediately contacted everybody. He wrote letters to every Congressman including President Joe Biden and he got answers from all of them including Tim Scott's office who sent a representative here. He said we contacted FEMA,

and the State did not reach a certain threshold for disaster relief so we are now at a point where they would pay for emergency response measures and that meant anything that's temporary. Anything that's permanent they won't pay for. Mr. Shugart said, "We engaged Evans Pavement to make the area safe. They barricaded it off and closed the road. They have replaced 550 feet of sewer pipe down East Broad Street. The plans are to patch that street with pavement and go ahead and open it up to traffic as soon as possible. And then we are going to pave it as soon as the "opening of the paving season" begins, but between now and then we are going to patch it. He said they have been working with FEMA on the Emergency Response Grant. The next project is the City Lane Storm Sewer Collapse Project. Mr. Shugart said there was a storm sewer that collapsed beside the new museum across the parking lot into City Lane. We engaged Evans pavement to do this. We created the specifications, a set of plans, put it out for bids and Evans Pavement was the lowest bidder. That project should begin soon. The next project is the South Main Street Gravity Sewer Emergency Project. Mr. Shugart said, about a year ago we had a problem on S. Main St. with the gravity sewer just above Lee Street in and around Nick's barbecue, the barbershop and along in that area. Mr. Shugart said we've been chasing that project ever since. We got it down to Lee Street. We went down the street for a certain portion, but we left it alone because it is flowing. However, we still need to complete an area from Shady Lane up to the church. The prior administration made a point repair in front of that church up to a manhole at Pine Street and we hope to attach to that if their sewer is good and was laid correctly and all is still in place. And then we want to continue that on from Pine Street down to Edwards Street. He said all of that is about 450 more feet of pipe. He said the sewers are flowing really well over there right now so we're not getting into it. It's manpower labor and expensive, but we are going to get to it. Another project is the ***East Broad Street/S. Main Street Gravity Sewer Lining Project***. On December 14, 2023, in this courtroom we opened bids for that project. That was the third time we had bid that project out. The first time we had no bidders; the second time we bid it out we had one bidder. We decided not to open their bid because our funding agency (CDBG) would not allow us to continue that project with just one bid. They wouldn't give us the money and we thought that it would be unfair to the bidder and exposed his numbers to the world. So, we re-advertised and re-bid the project again this time we asked for permission from CDBG due to it being the third time we had gone to bids, and they told us that we had to get some people to bid on it saying they did not want to bid, in other words, a no bid. Mr. Shugart said, "So we've got those, and we've got the same bidder back that bid on the project which is Evans Pavement and we have not awarded him that project yet. That project consists of sewer lining on the rest of S. Main St., where we have not gone, and that will complete all of the main lines on S. Main St. It will also replace or reline the sewer on East Broad Street where we have not completed it. Mr. Shugart said the prior administration did some work around Scarlett's, so they plan to connect to those. He said they are going to subtract the amount of pipe that we put in for the hurricane and the amount of pipe that was put in on S. Main Street when we did the emergency repair a year ago. Mr. Shugart said next Tuesday at 2 o'clock they are going to be opening bids for the ***Highway 34 Pump Station and Black Creek Sewer Line Bore Project.*** This will be the first of the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure SCIIP grants. He said we were awarded $3 million for three projects from RIA, and this is one of those. This particular project is funded through RIA for approximately $600,000. This will eliminate the elevated sewer line that crosses Black Creek on the north side

of Black Creek and bore a new sewer line under the creek and install a pump station on the McLeod side. That will also allow for future development out on Highway 34, which could be very lucrative for the city. Mr. Shugart said as soon as they get that done, they will start working on the second of the three SCIIP projects, and this one will be the City of Darlington pump station rehabilitation project with this project. We are going to replace Seven pump stations mechanical parts and that will be the pumps and controls for seven of our pump stations. At that time, we will have rehabilitated all of our pump stations in town. After we get this project kicked off and on the books, we will start the last of the SCIIP grant project which is a project they are going to do to the wastewater treatment plant. They are going to rehab one of the sand drying beds. They are going to install a manual grit chamber. They are also going to build a dump station for our vac truck. Councilwoman Reed said, “I would like to see a schedule again of when we can do pickups for people who are putting out furniture and keeping up our part.” Mr. Shugart said, “we’ve been studying that and are making some headway.” Councilwoman McRavin asked Mr. Shugart if there was a report he could give on Street and Sanitation Departments. Mr. Shugart said, “streets and sanitation have a lot of different divisions and I’m not sure how they’ve all been funded in the past.” Mr. Shugart talked about how the budget has the funds expended for different items in these departments which are not estimated high enough for the work that needs to be done. Councilwoman Baccus said, “Farm Street has been backing up for 30 or 40 years so, what you’re saying is, if I understand correctly, you all went in and lowered a manhole to stop this sewer from backing up on Farm Street. When the guy opened up the manhole and I looked in it, it was probably a foot deep, the entire street from Main Street back to King Edwards. So, if you lowered the manhole you were telling me by lowering the manhole, it’s going to stop that sewer from backing up on Farm Street”? Mr. Shugart said, “No ma’am. I can’t guarantee the sewers will work. People can go and dump trash in the sewer lines and stop it up and it’ll overflow anywhere if people dump trash in the sewer line. I can’t guarantee you that at all. What I can tell you is that that manhole that you were talking about was installed to build one house one entity for the Housing Authority and they ended up hooking eighty-six apartments onto it and houses. Now that won’t happen because this manhole is less than three feet deep so there is a certain amount of flow that has to go through it. For one thing, they had to build a larger sewer pipe, but they lowered the bottom of that manhole. They lowered all of that gravity sewer down Farm Street, down King Edwards Street to the Limit Street pump station and now it goes into Limit Street pump station.” Councilwoman Baccus said, “So you’re saying the grant that we have …the purpose of getting that Allen St., Lift Station Grant was to solve this problem on Farm Street. That was the main purpose for this grant.” Mr. Shugart said, “No ma’am.” Councilwoman Baccus said, “You weren’t here when we had this conversation about the pump station. She said when we first started discussing Allen Street lift station and Farm Street you were not an employee. The conversation was about Farm Street and that’s why we pushed to get that lift station to fix the Farm Street problem. She said they did not dig up Farm Street. I know that for a fact because I live in the area, so they did not lower the drainage running from Main Street back to King Edwards.” Mr. Shugart said, “No ma'am, that sewer did not go to Main Street. It started at that little manhole in that parking lot. That was where it dead ended. He said they lowered that one and if you go over there and look they poured new concrete there. And then they went down Farm Street to King Edwards Street and down to Limit Street. Mr. Shugart said when I first got here that manhole

overflowed, and there were children playing out there, and nobody had done anything at all to do this project and it was one of my pet peeves to get this thing fixed and I got a grant to fix it and at the same time" ….. Councilwoman Baccus said, "The grant was in motion before you came here." Mr. Shugart said, "No." Councilwoman Baccus said, "Yes it was. We applied for the grant before you got here; Allen Street lift station was in motion and Joe Louis was in motion before you got here." Mr. Shugart said, "Joe Louis' pump station and the Alltel pump station and Grove Hill and the old wastewater treatment plant were in process before I got here, but they had nothing to do with the Allen Street pump station, the Limit Street pump station and gravity sewer on Farm Street." Councilwoman Baccus said, "All I'm concerned about is that raw sewage on Farm Street." Mr. Shugart said, "That project also put gravity sewer lines down S. Main Street all the way from Limit Street to E Avenue and down E Avenue to Second Street. That project did that as well as the gravity sewer on Farm Street and on King Edwards Street and the Allen Street pump station rehabilitation. He said all three of those things were in that project, not just the Allen Street pump station." Councilwoman Baccus said, "All I'm concerned about is Farm Street and stop that raw sewage from backing up in these people apartments. Mr. Shugart said, "I agree with you. Nobody had done anything about it until I got here and applied for a grant for it." Councilwoman Baccus said, "We applied for the grant before you got here." Mr. Shugart said, "Well, take the credit Ms. Baccus. I did it but you take it." Councilman Milling asked, "Are we in the process of getting it fixed? I don't care who applied for it as long as we are fixing it." Mr. Shugart said, "We are almost complete with that project. He said, we've completed the gravity sewer on Farm Street, King Edwards. We've completed the gravity sewer on S. Main Street down to E Avenue, over to Second Street. They built in the bypass operation at Allen Street pump station and" …. Councilman Milling asked, "Did some engineer design it"? Mr. Shugart continued talking and went on to say The Old Florence pump station ….. Councilman Milling said, "What we're talking about now is it been designed by an engineering firm." Mr. Shugart said, "Oh yes. Davis and Brown did this." Councilman Milling said, "So we'll see whether it works when it's finished. Mr. Shugart said the Old Florence Highway Elimination Project also installs into Allen Street pump station a new force main from there to S. Main. Councilwoman McRavin asked, "Since you lowered that manhole and done these improvements are you still having issues of sewer backup or complaints about sewage backing up"? Mr. Shugart said he hasn't had any complaints. Councilwoman Baccus asked if a new pump is going on the corner of Limit Street. Mr. Shugart said that is part of the seven pump stations that we are going to bid out after we bid on the Black Creek Bore Project.

Building & Codes Enforcement Ms. Sheila Jones said FEMA is getting ready to change the flood maps. They have 174 properties that are in the flood hazard area and of those 105 properties are going to be new to the flood hazard area, so a letter has gone out to all of the properties that are affected. They have until March to appeal it and then on March 5th the city has to send our submittal to FEMA with any appeals that we receive from property owners. She said in doing that she realizes that we, as a jurisdiction, don't have a way to track all of our properties. Ms. Jones said she developed a program with the software that we currently have so that we can type in an address or map number, and it will come up on one page of who owns it, what it's zoned and other pertinent information. Mr. Payne told Ms. Jones to explain the appeal process to them. Mr. Jones said there is an appeal form that you have to fill out and you can put

comments on it. In order for it to be a true appeal, you have to hire an engineer and they have to do an independent study. And if the scientific / technical information that they receive from the study negates it, then that's submitted to the office and that's what is sent to FEMA and then their people will decide whether or not they are going to adjust the property out of the flood hazard area or if it's going to remain. Councilwoman Reed asked Ms. Jones if there is a fee for the homeowner. Ms. Jones said, yes they will have to pay for the engineer. Councilwoman Reed said, "And this is being mandated for them to do this," Ms. Jones said yes. Councilwoman Baccus said, "How did you determine what area was in the flood area"? Ms. Jones said, "So, it's basically all of the areas that are close to a creek. Williamson Park stretches from the park all the way to Governor Williams Highway. Areas in the Country Club were mostly affected by the increase. Roanoke and Woodcreek that was not even close to being in a flood area is now right in the middle of a flood area. Ms. Sheila Jones told Councilwoman Baccus to come to her office and she can show her the areas on the map. Councilwoman Reed asked Ms. Jones if she can look at the ordinance that she's been inquiring about concerning overgrown properties and what the city can do and see how or what wording can be used to improve it so that the city can have some kind of input in requiring these homeowners to clean up their property or give us some kind of authority to do it and bill them. Ms. Jones said, "There is a difference between overgrown and undeveloped. If it's overgrown property and the grass or growth is eighteen inches or higher then we can enforce that, but if it's undeveloped then it's not just a matter of cutting the grass or taking a bush hog and clearing out. Ms. Jones said, I'll have to do research to see if any other jurisdictions that are in the state have something, but I feel as though it will be hard pressed to find a statute or an ordinance that would require a property owner to clear their land, but I will research it to see". Councilwoman Reed said, "The areas that I'm talking about are not what you call undeveloped because they had homes on them." Ms. Jones said, "That's where we would have to see if there is collaborating evidence because I can't just say so and so says that there was a house there 20 years ago, so now it's overgrown. Ms. Jones said how do we qualify a property without evidence other than hearsay. She said when properties are demolished and the structure is removed, the address is removed, and we have found that in addressing some of our properties they were addressed incorrectly. She said she will research it and see if there are any ordinances that are in the area and any statutes that would allow us to do something like that for properties." Mayor Boyd asked, "Where are we at with abandoned cars? Ms. Jones said, I'm also researching that to see if we can do something a little more "bitie" so that it's not as long and drawn out. Mayor Boyd said across from Subway parking there is a car sitting on the side of the road and it's overgrown with grass." Ms. Jones said, "That's different if it's sitting on the side of the road ….Mayor Boyd said, "Across from the car wash there are three junk cars in the back that we've asked to be removed." Ms. Jones said there is a difference between a car being on private property and a car being on a public way." Mayor Boyd said, "The ordinance reads that if it's in the city it's supposed to have a tag, right." Ms. Jones said if it's in the city it's supposed to have a tag, but we can't just pull them off of people's private property." Mayor Boyd said according to the judge we can. Ms. Jones said, "Well, it has to go in front of the Judge." Mayor Boyd said, "If it goes in front of both Judges they're not going to do anything about it. He said they don't have a way of doing anything about it. Mayor Boyd said according to the judges when I talked to them they said we have the right to go and take the car from them." Ms. Jones said, "Our city ordinance says it has to go in front of a judge. It doesn't say that we can just pull

it off of the property. That's why I'm saying I have to do the research behind that because our ordinance does not allow for us to just pull it off the property that way." Mayor Boyd said, "We're going to adjust it because right now there's nothing. Everybody can just do what they want to do." Sheila Jones said, "That is being researched as well, but as it stands now, I can't just pull a car off of private property, it has to go in front of the judge."

Parks & Recreation Department Mr. Lee Andrews said their Father/Daughter Dance is scheduled for Thursday, February 8th from 6 PM to 8:30 PM at the recreation Department Mr. Andrews passed out a list of upcoming events for the Recreation Department (something happened concerning Ms. Elvington and the reporter from the News & Press) Mayor Boyd said, "I've got 48 more months of this. I don't care who you are or what you do, you will not … whether you are on council or whether you are sitting in this room, we have business to do and work to do. I don't care what you think, who you are, what you want to do, or whether you want to do it outside, you will not do it in here. I will automatically have you removed, and you will not return back into this room and that goes for council also. I don't care whether you sue me, fire me, do whatever you want to do. I am tired of this, act like adults. you make us all look like crazy people in the public out here. Act like you're supposed to. We are here to work and get some jobs done. We're not getting paid enough to be … so act like an adult or leave or I will have you leave." Mr. Andrews said his second flyer that he passed out is a list of their trips and activities. He said they are in the midst of basketball season. The courts on Orange Street are being redone and they should be done by the end of this month. Mr. Andrews said they are ready for Blue Street to get started. They are waiting on the school district, so they don't have any new information for that. Mr. Andrews said the splash pad will be ready by the Springtime. He said he will have three quotes next to vote for the pump house so they can erect the pump house and get everything installed. Planning & Economic Development Ms. Merry Smith said they have an active webpage on the city's website for the Renaissance Master Plan. She said you can find it under the planning department and there's a green link that takes you to the master plan. You can click on the presentation that was delivered on the 18th and you will be able to see it. They also have pictures from the meeting on the 4th and the 18th. On Thursday, the consultants will be back and has meetings with each of the department heads with regard to planning for the future for the entire city with regard to the master plan. She said two weeks ago she applied for the South Carolina Forestry grant for a new one called "Trees for SC." It will provide 2 to 3 years of support for the city, and we are well positioned to get it. They are choosing ten towns in South Carolina, but I think we have a really good chance of getting chosen because we have an active program and the new South Carolina forestry representative that just got placed in Florence came to our Arbor Day celebration on the 13th. There are a lot of things about Darlington that dovetail to this grant so that's why I think we have a really good chance of being one of those ten cities and this would provide for a comprehensive open tree management program. A canopy study, a heritage tree identification, master planning for maintenance that can be used year after year, areas that need to be planted and what can be planted there so there's really no confusion for the future about how to maintain what we have and where we would need to plant. This would provide a plan to start and manage everything that we have, and this would be completely free. We would be provided direct services through the Green Infrastructure Center that the South Carolina Forestry Commission gave the grants to

supply the South Carolina towns that are chosen. Councilwoman Baccus said, “In February it is time for this council to review the city manager's contract and his performance and it needs to be done in February before his contract comes up in August. So, I am suggesting that this council put his contract and his performance review on the February agenda. She asked the Council if they had a problem with that. Nobody responded. Mr. Payne said he wanted to add one item to the departmental update. He said several months ago the council approved renovating it because it was in disrepair. He said Asset Technology group has gone through to assess telephones and Wi-Fi and internet connections. Mr. Payne said I plan to move several departments over there in the next few months so that we can utilize that. I just wanted to let you know that that building is not going to sit there, unattended, or unused. It will be used and utilized. Councilwoman Baccus said, we paid $84,000 to restore that building and the shutters on the front of the building are falling off. Mr. Payne said I haven’t seen … I was told they were repaired. Councilwoman McRavin said, “Before we go into executive session she would like to ask … The meeting agenda was done at the end of last year in December prior to us receiving information about the municipal association training. I just received notification in the mail recently the Hometown Legislative Action Day falls on the same day as our February meeting and it seems extremely important for us to be there saying how they will be having a session about what you need to know to bring more affordable housing to your community and that being part of the renaissance plan, I think that continuing education makes us even better for our community if we can maybe take a look at potentially changing that meeting date so that we can attend to get that information so that we can better serve our community. **Councilman Milling made a motion to amend our 2024 scheduled meetings for the month of February from February 6th to February 13th at 6 PM being the second Tuesday of the month. Councilman John Milling made a motion that we amend our agenda for tonight’s meeting to add to it the changing of the February meeting Councilwoman, Sheila Baccus seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Reed, Segars, Gardner and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion. Councilman John Milling made a motion to move the February meeting to the 13th Councilwoman, Angela McRavin seconded the motion. councilpersons, Baccus, Reed, Gardner, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.**

REMINDER

Tuesday February 13, 2024 - Regular Meeting of Darlington City Council, 6:00 PM

Executive Session: Pursuant to SC Code of Law Sec. 30-4-40(3)(E) and law enforcement techniques and a matter incident to a proposed contractual arrangement, respectively.
The council may act following Executive Session.

Councilman Bryant Gardner made a motion to go into executive session at 7:58 PM. Councilman John Milling seconded the motion. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted in favor of the motion.

Upon motion of councilman Bryant Gardner, seconded by John Milling, to end executive session at 8:33 PM. All voted in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Councilman Bryant Gardner seconded by Councilman John Milling the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. Councilpersons McRavin, Baccus, Reed, Segars and Mayor Boyd voted to adjourn the meeting.

_____

Mayor

ATTEST:

_____

Clerk & Treasurer