

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack. Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley participated via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan. Doug Poston attended via zoom.

Councilwoman Mary Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the January 9, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 12, 2022, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the Financial Report:

General Fund (November): Receipts - \$16,943.58 Disbursements - \$38,895.50, Decrease in cash - \$21,951.92
Ending cash balance - \$410,625.70 (Some of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (November): Receipts - \$87,411.23 Disbursements - \$22,442.51, Increase in cash -\$64,968.72,
Ending cash balance - \$144,858.37 (\$34,815.87 available for operations; \$110,042.50 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report and the Beautification Commission Report:

Water & Sewer:

- Discussed SCADA Unit and water loss from water tank in December.
- Gave Water Loss Report for December 2022:
Purchased 3,354,980 Gallons, Billed 1,957,080 Gallons, Loss 1,397,900 Gallons.
- Asked that Boil Water Advisory be placed on television.
- Asked citizens to report leaks and repairs to Town Hall.

Beautification Commission Report:

- Discussed how beautiful the Christmas decorations looked on Main Street and Railroad Avenue. She also congratulated the Christmas on Main Committee for a job well done.
- Gearing up to start cleaning for the Egg Scramble Jamboree

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Waiting on list for street signs.
- Applauded the staff for their hard work and effort (Chief Carl Scott, Tim Dargan and Elijah Enoch-Smith in particular)
- Need to create a listing for business looking to advertise.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)
Residents can also contact Chief Scott directly at 843-639-3900 or 843-326-555
After-hours non-emergency line at 843-398-4920
All emergency calls should be made to 911.
- Please watch your speed limit around town. The speed limit in town is between 25-35 MPH. Had at least one major accident recently.
- TextMyGov: Please sign up for TextMyGov by texting "Hi" to 843-326-0266.

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley

- Discussed Speeding in town and residential areas.
- Discussed leaks and potholes in residential areas.
- Asked citizens to support new businesses.
- Asked about the building plans for the new duplexes on Helen Lane.

Mayor Howell's report:

- Discussed Nuisance Ordinance.
- Asked citizens to secure cats and dogs in their yards.
- Will be calling animal control for stray animals.
- Asked citizens to support new businesses.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the following upcoming events:

- Community Health and Resource Fair
- Egg Scramble Jamboree
- LED Announcement Board

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to enter the Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:18 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack. Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley participated via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Kelly McCullough. Doug Poston attended via zoom.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 9, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the Financial Report:

General Fund (January): Receipts - \$22,775.15 Disbursements - \$52,410.33, Decrease in cash - \$29,635.18
Ending cash balance - \$380,990.52 (Some of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (January): Receipts - \$35,030.80 Disbursements - \$83,853.49, Decrease in cash -\$48,822.69,
Ending cash balance - \$96,035.68 (\$44,464.73 available for operations; \$51,570.95 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Talked about the road work being done on Main Street. Asked if there was a schedule for the paving portion of the project. No schedule has been provided by DOT.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report and the Beautification Commission Report:

Beautification Commission Report:

- The commission encourage residents and merchants to tidy up around their property and place of business.
- The commission continues to hold discussions on trash cans, flower pots, and other projects to enhance the streets and surrounding areas of Lamar.
- Asked residents to be careful and patient when visiting downtown due to the road construction projects taken place in different areas.

Water & Sewer:

- Discussed work orders requests initiated by customers and/or the Public Works Department.
- Reminded residents of the debris pickup schedule and how emergencies take precedent over routine schedules.
- Gave Water Loss Report for January 2023:
Purchased 4,385,720 Gallons, Billed 2,382,916 Gallons, Loss 2,002,804 Gallons.
- Discussed sewer issue with resident on Duke Street.

Councilwoman Mack asked Councilwoman Lee to clarify her explanation of the water loss report concerning the billing. Councilwoman Lee obliged.

Councilwoman Mack discussed the need for transparency among the council members and with the public. She referenced that information concerning the Police Department Grant was placed in the Lamar's Monthly Connection Newsletter before announcing the grant to the public and all council members.

Mayor Howell and Councilman Cook replied that the grant was disclosed and discussed in a previous council meeting. Councilwoman Mack said that she doesn't recalled discussion the grant at a council meeting.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers.
- The Lamar Police Department was awarded a \$150,000 grant from the South Carolina Department of Commerce. Grant funds will be used to update and replace old and outdated equipment, as well as aid in law enforcement recruitment. Two police cruisers were purchased with these funds.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)
Residents can also contact Chief Scott directly at 843-639-3900 or 843-326-555
After-hours non-emergency line at 843-398-4920
All emergency calls should be made to 911.
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs.
- TextMyGov: Please sign up for TextMyGov by texting "Hi" to 843-326-0266.

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley

- Councilwoman Bradley pleaded with the citizens to support the Town's new businesses.

Duplexes on Helen Lane:

Kelly McCullough of Pete's Development presented plans to build four duplexes on Helen Lane. Mr. McCullough owns this property and has gotten permission from the Town of Lamar's code enforcer, Darlington County's Fire Marshall, and Darlington County 911 Addressing. 911 Addressing asked council to provide a letter stating that they approve of the project, if they in fact approved.

Members of council asked Mr. McCullough several questions including concerns about road maintenance (Helen Lane is a private road), the parking lot, water drainage, and location of the front doors. Mr. McCullough present building and site plans, letters from various agencies, and satisfactorily answered all questions that were asked of him by council.

In addition to the approval of the proposed duplexes, 911 Addressing also asked council to approve the addresses of the current apartment and the proposed addresses for the duplexes. The current apartment would be numbered Apartments 101, 103, 105, 107, and 109. The duplexes would be numbered Duplexes 102, 104, 106, and 108. Councilwoman Lee made a motion to approved the construction of the duplexes and the addresses suggested by 911 Addressing. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

In an unrelated topic, Mr. Dargan said that Darlington County 911 Addressing asked him to come to the Darlington Courthouse to show him that a lot of the addresses on Duke Street are incorrect or out of sequence. The addresses will have to be corrected in the near future to assist first responders in the event of

an emergency in that area. Mayor Howell said that there are other areas that need to be addressed as well, including Warren Avenue.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the following upcoming events:

- Eat & Learn “The Dangers of Drug and Alcohol” Seminar sponsored by Rubicon, hosted by John Wesley UMC Church.
- Depression Seminar hosted by Mary Magdalene Baptist Church.
- Town of Lamar Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting.
- Blood Drive sponsored by Lamar High School
- Egg Scramble Jamboree Activities – Sponsored by the Egg Scramble Jamboree Committee

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to enter Executive Session. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to re-enter the Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Called Meeting Minutes February 20, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilman Tyler Cook. Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley participated via Zoom. Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack was not in attendance.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Charlie Barrineau.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 20, 2023, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Charlie Barrineau – Field Services Manager Municipal Association of South Carolina

Mr. Barrineau gave an overview of the current business license model that the Town of Lamar currently operates under and gave suggestions for moving forward:

- Town was charging \$100 flat rate for all merchants. Rates should have been based on rate class and profitability.
- It is a standard practice to charge out of town businesses double rate for a business license, He explained the difference for property taxes for a business with Lamar as its home base, compared to a business that is based in another town.
- Declining Rates – Declining rates apply in all classes for gross income in excess of \$1,000,000, unless otherwise specifically provided for in this ordinance.
- Study data and rates should be reviewed on a yearly basis.
- State data gets updated every 5 years; rates will be rebalanced the summer of 2023 based on data collected in 2021.
- Small businesses will likely see a decrease in charge for the base rate, while large businesses will likely see an increase in the base rate.
- Council must support staff when it comes to verification of income of businesses trying to obtain a business license.
- In some cases, the Town may have to get the courts to enforce the ordinance.

Councilman Cook asked about the change in Rate Class. He and Councilwoman Lee wanted to know what towns or counties were used as reference points to calculate the proposed new rates. Mr. Barrineau reviewed the business license rates for several towns (including the city of Darlington and Timmonsville); he based his recommendations off the City of Darlington rates.

Councilwoman Bradley asked if the increased revenue from the larger businesses would make up for the potential loss of revenue from the smaller businesses. She also asked Mr. Barrineau if the Town should seek some type of contract to get businesses to divulge their true income.

Mr. Barrineau responded that the collection should balance out and that it would probably be more because it will be based on profitability. He commented that the Department of Revenue can also provide information related to a business prior year income.

Mr. Barrineau and Mr. Dargan explained that DataMax is a third-party business that is contracted by the Town to collect delinquent business license fees. They are not involved in the collection of the current business license rates.

Mr. Barrineau highlighted key points of the Revised Business License Ordinance. He said that council and staff should expect questions and comments from the citizens concerning the revised ordinance,

Councilman Cook read the first reading of the Revised Business License Ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the first reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Called Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mack, and Councilman Tyler Cook. Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley participated via Zoom. Councilwoman Inez B. Lee was not in attendance.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 27, 2023, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 20, 2023, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook read the second reading of the Revised Business License Ordinance. Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the first reading. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The Ordinance Number is **2023-01**.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting
March 13, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:16 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, Howard Nettles, Shot Windham, and Sharon Peoples.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the March 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting and the February 27, 2023, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Shot Windham and Sharon Peoples went before to council to ask for financial assistance with the facilities at the recreation football field; specifically running water, working restrooms, and concession stands. Eventually, they would like to have a recreation center, but know that will take time. After being asked by Mayor Howell and Councilwoman Bradley to provide an amount, Mr. Windham responded by saying they would need about \$70,00 to do everything that needs to be done. He and Ms. Peoples indicated that they have already spoken to Darlington County officials and are on standby pending their conversation with the Town of Lamar. Jermaine McCoy, who was also representing the recreation football team, mentioned that there was water at the football field before, but the Town cut the water off because of a leak.

Mayor Howell said that he has been approached about the Town leasing the football field, which belongs to the Town, to Darlington County for fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years. He's waiting for more details concerning the offer and proposal. Councilwoman Mack stated that if the funds become available, she would like to see it use for all of the Lamar area youth and not just the football team. Councilwoman Bradley wanted to know if Darlington County intentions were to provide upgrades if the Town was to lease the property. She also said that there may be grants available to assist this project. Mayor Howell said that he contacted Jannie Lathan, the Town's grant writer, about obtaining a grant for this purpose; he is waiting for an update. Councilwoman Mack said that the citizens of Lamar pay taxes to Darlington County just like Darlington and Hartsville and are entitled to financial assistance from the county.

Howard Nettles, Director of Community Outreach and Recruiting for Genesis Health Care, said that Genesis is looking to construct and place a billboard in the city limits of Lamar or just outside the city limits on 401. He said that they investigated putting a billboard in Darlington County, but the ordinances are very convoluted; also, the county defers to the Township when it comes to local ordinances. Mr. Nettles said that he would do the legwork, but before he gets too heavily invested, he wanted to know if the Town would work with Genesis to make the process less cumbersome. Genesis is considering two different types of billboards: 1) a static billboard which would remain in place for a set period, or 2) a digital billboard that would carry a variety of

messages. If they choose the digital billboard, they will possibly allow the Town to advertise emergency events on their billboard.

Councilwoman asked about the time frame for the construction of the billboard. Mr. Nettles said that after he gets the okay from the Lamar Town Council, he would begin his research immediately and submit his findings to the Genesis Executive Board and they would decide if they would place the billboard in the County or the Town and which type of billboard.

Councilwoman Bradley asked in the zoning committee would have to determine if the billboard would be allowed in town. Mr. Dargan responded that the current Planning Commission is only charged with planning the new zoning ordinances for the Town; the current ordinances would be in effect as currently written. The Planning Commission could assist in determining the current ordinances.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA was not available, but he did submit the following Financial Report: General Fund (February): Receipts - \$41,893.13 Disbursements - \$34,833.60 Increase in cash - \$7,059.53 Ending cash balance - \$388,050.05 (Some of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (February): Receipts - \$30,115.97 Disbursements - \$55,383.85, Decrease in cash -\$25,267.88, Ending cash balance - \$70,767.80 (\$34,010.89 available for operations; \$36,756.91 for restricted grant funds).

Water & Sewer Report:

In the absence of Councilwoman Lee, Councilwoman Mack gave the water loss report for month of February:

- Purchased 3,088,490 gallons (DCWSA) – Billed 2,052,886 gallons (Customers) – loss 1,035,604 gallons.

Mr. Dargan also highlighted parts of a written report that was submitted by Elijah Enoch-Smith:

- Citizens should have their roll carts, trash, and debris ready for pickup at 8:00 am on the scheduled day for trash and/or debris pickup. All trash in roll carts must be bagged.
- The Public Works Department has been repairing or replacing water meters when they notice or are made aware of defects.
- The Pearl Street Water Tank has been cleaned. The Grooms Center Water Tank will be cleaned shortly. This is a DHEC mandate.

Councilwoman Bradley revisited the issue about the water being cutoff at the recreation football field and said that needs to be addressed.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- The sidewalk paving project has been completed on Main Street; however, there are some issues with unevenness which present potential trip hazards. DOT has been notified and they have contacted the contractors to rectify the situation (to begin Wednesday March 15).
- DOT is continuing their paving project on 401. They are currently near the roundabout in Darlington and are working their way to Lamar.
- DOT will shut down a portion of 401 in Lamar to do repair work on Sparrow Swap bridge. The closure will go into effect on April 3, 2023, and last three (3) – four (4) months. The closure will impact local travel so citizens must follow posted detours or choose alternative routes.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers.
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs. Don't feed stray animals.

- Watch speed in and around town.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)
Residents can also contact Chief Scott directly at 843-639-3900 or 843-326-555
After-hours non-emergency line at 843-398-4920
All emergency calls should be made to 911.
- TextMyGov: Please sign up for TextMyGov by texting “Hi” to 843-326-0266.

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley

Councilwoman Bradley presented a list to council of properties with structural damage and/or have been abandoned by the property owner(s). The list is an ongoing list, but she has pinpointed 45 properties thus far. Councilwoman Bradley has proposed that council adopts a resolution to use \$50,000 of the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Funds to pay for the demolition of the properties that are in violation. Councilwoman Bradley said that once the owners of the properties are identified, they can apply for the funds, but would have to provide documentation. She asked the council to review the information so it could be discussed and hopefully passed at the March 20, 2023, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley referenced that the city of Florence has done something similar.

Mayor Howell asked Councilwoman Bradley if she was proposing that the Town assists the property owner without the property owner contributing. Councilwoman Bradley clarified that the property owner must meet the Ami (Area Median Income) requirements to qualify for the assistance. She also stated that the Town can place a lien on the property, the property owner can sell the property to the Town, or the property owner can give the property to the Town.

Councilman Cook read the first reading of the South Carolina Local Revenue Service Ordinance. Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Tim Dargan mentioned some of the Town’s recent events and highlighted some of the upcoming events, including Parents University (Lamar High School), College and Career Day (Lamar High School), and the Harvest Hope food giveaway. Councilwoman Mack expounded on the Egg Scramble Jamboree Festival and Councilwoman Lee made some remarks concerning the Great American Cleanup.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:20 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, and Danielle Wilkes. Pamela Johnson, Pamela Prince, Ariana Pickens, David Hancock, Ed Saxon, Jannie Lathan, and Alvin Chambers appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to accept the agenda for the April 10, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting and March 20, 2023, Called Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Pamela Johnson, Pamela Prince, and Ariana Pickens of the Pee Dee Coalition appeared via zoom to discuss Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The color teal is worn to show support for victims of sexual assault and blue is worn to show support for victims of child abuse. Denim Day will be observed on April 26 to bring awareness to victim-shaming, which was based on a case in which a judge ruled that the rape victim was at fault because she was wearing tight jeans. The coalition needs donations; citizens can drop off donations of toiletries, clothing, and household items at the Pee Dee Coalition's Florence and/or Darlington offices, or they can contact the coalition. They thanked the Town of Lamar for proclaiming that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Councilman Cook read the Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation. Mayor Howell signed the proclamation.

David Hancock and Ed Saxon of Clearwater Solutions appeared at the Lamar Town Council via zoom to share information about the history and purpose of their company. Mr. Saxon explained that Clearwater purchased Blackmon Laboratories from Don Johnson in July 2022 and took over the task of keeping the Zion Road Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Town's lift stations in compliance. Mr. Johnson is currently working for Clearwater.

Clearwater presented a proposal at a previous meeting that listed the tasks that they would be responsible for if the Town of Lamar contracted them. Tim Dargan shared this information with the Town Council who had several questions about the financial terms of the proposal: particularly, the emergency after-hours rate. Councilwoman Mack and Councilwoman Bradley wanted to discuss the financial terms openly, but Mayor Howell only wanted to discuss the tasks. He said that the financial terms could be discussed later. Mr. Dargan shared that the Town was currently paying \$2400 a month and that the proposal is significantly more than that amount. The council did not decide on the proposal.

Danielle Wilkes appeared before the council to invite them and the citizens of Lamar to the New Location Grand Opening of her business, The Beehive Hair Salon. The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place on Friday, April 21, 2023, at 2:00 pm. The business is located at 123 West Main Street, Lamar.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA was not available, but he did submit the following Financial Report: General Fund (March): Receipts - \$110,655.66 (\$75,000 was for the Law Enforcement Grant), Disbursements - \$36,450.49, Increase in cash - \$74,205.18 Ending cash balance - \$462,255.23 (\$299,553.64 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (March): Receipts - \$50,182.81 Disbursements - \$51,632.83, Decrease in cash -\$1,450.02, Ending cash balance - \$69,317.78 (\$35,112.63 available for operations; \$34,205.15 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion that council received the financial report submitted by Mr. Poston as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack asked Mr. Dargan about the status of the ARPA funds. Mr. Dargan replied that he would have to get the exact balance from the accountant. He also said that in 2022, the ARPA funds were declared as replacement funds for the Town's loss revenue. Mr. Dargan asked the accountant to keep the money earmarked for ARPA funds for accounting purposes.

Mr. Dargan informed Town Council that the Town would have to open a new bank account at Carolina Bank as a requirement of the South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant for the Police Department. After a brief discussion, the mayor and council unanimously agreed that Mayor James Howell would authorize the signatories and that the signatories would be Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley. They stated that this account would require two signatures.

The Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

Councilwoman Lee thanked the Citizens of Lamar for their participation in the Great American Clean-up. She said that the Town looks much better now than it looked before the cleanup. Councilwoman Lee was especially grateful to the children and school students; they took pictures of the children to show their appreciation.

Water and Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of March.
Gallons Purchased: 3,368,130 - Gallons Billed to Customers: 1,792,211 - Gallons Loss: 1,575,919
- Gave an update on road construction, equipment repairs, and line repairs/replacements (water lines, sewer lines, and water valves).
- Reminded citizens to put roll carts and debris out in advance of collection.

Councilwoman Mack said that she thinks some of the Town's water customer are not being billed based on the fluctuation from month to month on the water loss report. She suggested that the water department employees take a sample reading of water meters on certain streets and compare the findings from month to month. Councilwoman Lee and Mr. Dargan stated that some of the loss is unaccounted for from leaks and line repairs; Councilwoman Mack stressed that she was talking about the billing part of the water loss.

Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting Corporation joined the meeting via zoom call; she asked if she could give an update on the grant report. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to allow Ms. Lathan to give a grant report, Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Lathan provided an update on the Zion Road project, noting construction completion is expected at the end of May 2023. She also discussed the SCIP grant application that she submitted for replacing the Railroad pump station. She stated the award announcements are expected in late April/early May.

Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack:

- The street in the Town looks good.
- The detours on 401 and Seven Bridges Road are still in effect. The road closures affect all citizens and hopefully everyone has found a shorter route to get to their destination.
- Still working on replacing street signs. This will be an ongoing project.
- The recent rains have exposed the ditch drainage problem.

Councilwoman Bradley said that council needs to address the problem of citizens throwing debris in ditches. She also said that ditches have not been being maintained.

Councilwoman Lee stated that there are a lot of tree roots and trees in the ditches. She added that citizens should be cautious of falling trees due to the recent rain.

Councilwoman Mack said that it would be fantastic if the Town could purchase a notification board out of the \$400,000 plus that the Town received from the ARPA Funds. She stated that some citizens do not use Facebook or receive email; this would allow those citizens to know what's going on in town. Mayor Howell said that this is a work in progress.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers.
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs. Don't feed stray animals.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)
Residents can also contact Chief Scott directly at 843-639-3900 or 843-326-5551
After-hours non-emergency line at 843-398-4920
All emergency calls should be made to 911.
- Encourage citizens to use "Text My Gov".

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley:

- Billboard approval for Genesis Healthcare

Councilwoman Bradley said that the council needs to approve Genesis proposal to move forward with erecting a billboard in the Town of Lamar. She said that she would like to see it placed in the Town Hall. Councilwoman Bradley stated that parts of the sign ordinance need to be updated. Councilwoman Lee said that the billboard should not be placed in a high traffic area. Councilwoman Mack and Councilman Cook said that Howard Nettles just wanted approval from the council to move forward, it would be up to Genesis to place it in a place most suitable for them. Mayor Howell stated that the Town needs to know if it will be a one-sided billboard or a two-sided billboard; it would be beneficial to the Town if it was two-sided so the Town could advertise. He asked Mr. Dargan to contact Mr. Nettles to find out exactly what he needs from the council.

- Business License

Councilwoman Bradley reminded merchants that they must purchase a 2023-2024 business license prior to the new business license year that starts on May 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024. Merchants will need the following items to obtain a license: 1) Name and domicile address of business, 2) Tax ID Number, 3) IRS Tax Return from the previous tax year and 4) appropriate method of payment. If you did not have a business in the Town of Lamar in 2022, your fee will be based on your class rate. The Town can impose a 5% penalty each month the business license is delinquent.

- Demolition Resolution

Councilwoman Bradley asked council for feedback on the Demolition Resolution. She wanted to know if they should move forward, decrease, or increase the proposed amount (\$50,000), and when they could start. She also provided information from the Town's code enforcer that listed some of the problem structures and areas; as well as how the Town of Kingstree includes money in the Town's budget. She stated that this is a once in a lifetime chance to use the ARPA funds to help the citizens.

Mayor Howell stated that he was against using the ARPA funds to clean up citizen's property. He stated that a previous mayor, Bobby Hudson, spent lots of money cleaning up properties, but the citizens let them fall back in disrepair. Councilman Cook suggested that \$50,000 was too costly and that the price should be lowered.

Alvin Chambers, Town's code enforcer, joined the meeting via zoom. He said that the Town of Kingstree started at \$50,000 with the demolition project but came down to \$15,000 in the past budget year. He said that the Town puts the onus on the citizens to clean up the properties; a series of steps are taken to give the citizens options before the Town mandates action.

Dog Nuisance - Mayor Howell – Dog Nuisance

Mayor Howells said that there were dog nuisance complaints lodged against two Town of Lamar citizens. After warning the citizens, The Town's lawyer mailed letters to the two citizens, but only one party removed the dog. He proposed that the Town starts issuing fines to that individual. Councilwoman Bradley and Councilwoman asked for more details about the complaints, previous fines, and the legalities of the Town's action. Chief Scott said that it was an ongoing problem, but he hasn't had any complaints lately. He also said that fines had been levied against this citizen prior to the letter from the Town's lawyer. Councilwoman Bradley said that she would abstain from voting on this issue. Councilman Cook said that it appeared as if the citizen had ample time to comply to the ordinance or to get rid of the dogs.

Councilwoman Bradley commented on the Egg Scramble Jamboree Festival. She said it was a record-setting crowd and she thanked everyone that attended the festival.

Citizen Jermaine McCoy asked about the status of the talks between the Town of Lamar and Darlington County. Mr. Dargan told Mr. McCoy that he would contact the county administrator and get in touch with him.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:20 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan. Doug Poston and Jannie Lathan participate virtually via zoom.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 8, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 10, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the Financial Report:

General Fund (April): Receipts - \$16,762.70, Disbursements - \$21,806.13, Decrease in cash - \$5,043.43 Ending cash balance - \$457,211.80 (\$295,404.06 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (April): Receipts - \$298,076.36, Disbursements - \$308,579.79, Decrease in cash -\$10,503.43, Ending cash balance - \$58,814.35 (\$30,477.71 available for operations; \$28,336.64 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Lee asked if there was an "Expenditure to Actual" Financial Report available. She also asked if the audit was underway. Mr. Dargan said that he would talk to the Town's Accountant about the report and that he sent the council an update on the audit last week.

Mr. Dargan informed the council that the Town needed to open a new bank account as a requirement for receiving funds from the SCIIP Grant for the Railroad Pump Station Rehab Project. Councilman Cook made a motion that council members Inez B. Lee, Angele White-Bradley, Mary Ann Mack, and Tyler Cook be the signatories on the account, and that Mayor James Howell be the official that authorizes the signatories. Each check will require the signature of at least two council members. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The council set dates for the budget workshop and budget readings. The budget workshop will take place on Monday, May 12, 2023, the first reading of the municipal budget will take place on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, and the second reading of the municipal budget will take place on Monday, June 12, 2023. Each meeting begins at 6:15 pm.

Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting Corporation gave an update on the following grants for the Town of Lamar:

- An RIA Rural Infrastructure Authority) Grant in the amount of \$500,000 was awarded to the Town to rehab the Zion Road Pump Station. The construction contract was awarded to Site Concepts at the adjusted cost of \$498,883. Construction completion and pump station start-up date: May 31, 2023. Closeout: August 31, 2023.
- A SRF (State Revolving Fund) Grant in the amount of \$423,652 was awarded to the Town to conduct a Sanitary Sewer Survey of Lamar's Sewer System. Work is currently underway.

- A SC DHEC Grant in the amount of \$350,000 was awarded to the Town to support improvements to the Town's water and sewer systems. Work has been completed and Ms. Lathan is in the process of closing out this grant.
- A SCOR Grant in the amount of \$145,200 was awarded to the Town to develop a Stormwater Master Plan for the Town.
- A new grant application, submitted by Lathan Consulting Corporation, to upgrade and replace the Railroad Pump Station was approved. The Town was awarded a total of \$986,626 (\$942,438/SCIIP and \$44,188/RIA State Funds). The matching fund for the Town is \$122,124 (\$78,000 /SRF Grant and \$44,124 / Lamar). This grant is an 85 – 15% matching grant. The Pee Dee Cog will manage the grant.

The Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- The camp has resumed coming back to Lamar to help with clean up; they are behind and trying to play catchup.
- If a citizen has an issue with trash or debris pickup, they should contact Councilwoman Mack.

Citizens can put trash on the side of the road for pickup like they did doing the Great American Cleanup.

Water and Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of March.
Gallons Purchased: 3,513,660 - Gallons Billed to Customers: 2,183,933 - Gallons Loss: 1,329,722

Mr. Dargan commended the Public Works employees for going over and beyond the call of duty in recent weeks. He also gave an update on the work that INFOSENSE is doing for the Town. They are a company that uses ultrasound to detect clogged or faulty sewer lines between manholes.

Second Reading of Water Meter Tampering Ordinance:

Councilman Cook read the second reading of the Water Meter Tampering Ordinance:

17.203.8 PENALTIES

The violation of any provision of this Article, unless otherwise provided, shall be deemed a misdemeanor. Each day such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense. (Ord. 5-9-77)

The tampering fee shall be \$200 per offense. The violator's meter shall be removed upon the second offense and any subsequent offense. Restoration of the violator's meter shall require payment of the \$200 tampering fee, the \$50 reconnection fee, and the full water bill, including late penalties. (Amended 5-8-23)

Councilman Cook made a motion to adopt the amendment to the ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack:

Councilwoman Mack Still working on replacing street signs. This is an ongoing project.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers.
- Gave an update on the Department of Commerce Grant that the Police Department received.
- Councilman Cook discussed Ordinance 3.211 (Dogs Running At-large Prohibited) after being contacted by several citizens who were concerned that they could not ride their bikes with their dogs. The

ordinance merely emphasizes that the dog owner must always maintain control of the dog. Several council members asked that citizens also clean up after their dog.

- Encourage citizens to call the Anonymous Tip Line.

There was a discussion about speeding and speeding limits in certain areas of the Town. Speed bumps may help remedy the situation. Chief Scott added that additional speed signs may be needed to help control the speeding. He said that DOT regulates speed limits and speed bumps. DOT engineers must determine what the Town needs as it relates to speed control.

There was a discussion about increasing the pay rate to attract additional Police Officers. Mr. Dargan said that there is an allowance in the Commerce Grant for police hiring.

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley:

- Mr. Chambers was online to give a report about dilapidated buildings and overgrown properties, but he was not able to sign on. Councilwoman Bradley said that Mr. Chambers submitted a list of 32 active code violations that the two of them will be working on in the near future.
- Councilwoman Bradley revisited the proclamation that she submitted at the last council meeting. She reduced her initial request of \$50,000 for building demolition to \$25,000. She asked that this be added to the budget. Councilwoman Mack requested that this be discussed at the budget workshop. Council agreed.
- Councilwoman Bradley made a motion that the Town send the Town Administrator to the small Town Summit in July, and that the Town pays for lodging, meal, and transportation. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed purchasing an LED notification sign for the Town of Lamar. Mr. Dargan provided quotes from three (3) different sign companies. Mayor Howell said that a local organization may donate towards the purchase of the sign. Councilwoman Mack made a motion that the Town earmark \$28,000 towards the purchase of the sign. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed the request made by representatives of the Lamar Recreation Department concerning the restroom and concession stands. After a brief discussion on whether the Town would retain ownership of the field or lease it to the County, Councilwomen Lee made a motion that the discussion be tabled until the representatives can be attendance. Councilman Cook agreed. The discussion was tabled.

Mr. Dargan discussed upcoming events and Mayor Howell thanked the Lamar Town Council, the Town of Lamar Staff, the City of Hartsville, the City of Darlington, Niagara Waters, and the News Media for their support and action when the Town had the E. Coli scare at the end of April.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Budget Workshop Minutes
May 15, 2023

Members of the Lamar Town Council (Mayor James Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack) and Town Administrator, Tim Dargan, met with Tommy Grainger of Signs Unlimited prior to the Town Council Meeting. This meeting took place at Lamar Town Hall at 6:16 pm and the purpose of the gathering was for Mr. Grainger to display and demonstrate two different LED Notification Signs that the council is interested in purchasing for the Town.

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, and Doug Poston (Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA)

Mr. Poston presented copies of the Town of Lamar Municipal budget worksheet from FY2022-2023. This worksheet showed the revenue that was received during the 2022-2023 fiscal year, it also showed the expenditures. The expenditure showed what was budgeted, what was spent, and the difference between the two. The council and staff spent considerable time discussing and updating each budget item to reach a balanced budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Business license revenue has increased because of the Business License Tax law being properly enforced.

Mr. Poston stated that June is the month when most of the state funds are received by the Town.

Mr. Dargan pointed out that the permit fee schedule needs to be updated to reflect current pricing and to be comparable to surrounding municipalities.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Town of Lamar First Reading of the FY2023-2024 Budget Minutes
May 23, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Town of Lamar Budget Meeting to order at 6:20 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Doug Poston.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 23, 2023, Lamar Budget Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 15, 2023, Town of Lamar Budget Workshop Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan presented the council with information concerning permit fees. He said that the fee schedule for the Town of Lamar is out of date and some services do not have an allocated fee amount. He will present more information in the very near future.

The council discussed the municipal budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year:

- The Town accountant, Doug Poston, presented the information discussed at the May 15, 2023, budget workshop. The proposed revenues and expenditures for the FY2023-2024 is \$999,672.00
- Mayor Howell stated that the Town needed to purchase a mini excavator. He asked council to allocate \$30,000 in the budget for the excavator. He is going to check on the cost of a used backhoe and different type of excavators. Mayor Howell said that the Town will have to purchase a trailer for the excavator. Mr. Dargan suggested that the Town secure a grant and use the \$30,000.00 for matching funds; the funds should come out of the ARPA funds. He also suggested that the Town get at least three (3) quotes for the excavator. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to allocate \$30,000 of the ARPA funds to purchase a new or used excavator or backhoe. This will be added to the FY2023-2024 budget. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- The Town will purchase the LED notification sign out of the ARPA Funds. Council voted to allocate \$28,000 towards the purchase of a sign at the May 8, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting.
- The Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to increase the millage by the 8% allowed by the state of South Carolina. The millage increased from 75 mills to 81 mills. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Bradley, Councilwoman Mack, and Councilman Cook voted affirmative (Yes) for the motion. Councilwoman Lee voted negative (No). The motion carried by a vote of 4-1.

After updating the budget, the revenue & expenditures amount for FY2023-2024 went from \$999,672.00 to \$1,044,672.00.

Mr. Dargan will ensure that the budget announcement is placed in a local newspaper with the 15-day lead time. Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the First Reading of the FY2023-2024 Town of Lamar Municipal Budget for \$1,044,672.00 and 81 mills. _____ seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Chief Carl Scott, Darnell Byrd-McPherson, Lauren Baker, and Janie Howell. Doug Poston and Jannie Lathan appeared via Zoom.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the June 12, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 8, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting, the May 15, 2023, Budget Workshop, and the May 23, 2023, First Reading of the Town of Lamar Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Municipal Budget. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Councilwoman Bradley went on record to say that she would like to receive the minutes earlier so that she can review them prior to the meeting.

Mayor Howell that the Lamar Town Council and the Town Administrator received a letter from a citizen of Lamar asking that the council act on several matters. Mayor Howell said the council would respond in writing to the citizen request.

Darnell Byrd-McPherson, Director of Darlington County First Steps, appeared before the council to discuss Men's Health Month which takes place in the month of June. She also distributed brochures on different types of cancer on behalf of her organization's partnership with the South Carolina Cancer Alliance.

Councilman Cook read a proclamation that proclaimed June 12 – June 18, 2023 "Men's Health Week" in Lamar, South Carolina. The proclamation was signed by Mayor James Howell and Mayor Pro Tempore, Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley.

Lauren Baker, Duke Energy Government and Community Relations Representative, presented Mayor Howell with a \$5,000 check for the Town of Lamar. This check was awarded by the Duke Energy Foundation as part of the Duke Energy Storm Resiliency/Emergency Preparedness Grants. The Town Lamar and the City of Hartsville were the two municipalities in Darlington County to receive the grant. The grant was secured by Town Administrator, Tim Dargan, and Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack.

Janie Howell, Chairperson of Town of Lamar Planning Commission, presented the results of a survey distributed by the Lamar Planning Commission in March (2023). The Planning Commission conducted the survey to get feedback from the citizens that would help the commission formulate a vision and mission statement. There were 47 respondents that were categorized by age, gender, ethnicity, and native of Lamar. The survey asked:

What are three (3) things that need improvement?

What are three (3) things that the Town currently does well?

What is your 5-year vision for the Town? 10-year vision?

Water and Sewer was the top issue for area of improvement. Communication (the newsletter in particular) was the top issue for things that the Town does well.

Mayor Howell stated that Darlington County Council has agreed to give the Town of Lamar the matching funds for the SCIIP Grant to fund the Railroad Lift Station Rehabilitation Project. He thanked the entire council for this very generous gift.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the following Financial Report:

General Fund (May 2023): Receipts - \$73,727.08, Disbursements - \$34,850.74, Increase in cash - \$38,876.34
Ending cash balance - \$496,088.14 (\$289,290.11 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (May 2023): Receipts - \$41,220.45 Disbursements - \$45,669.72, Decrease in cash -\$4,449.27,
Ending cash balance - \$54,365.08 (\$29,612.21 available for operations; \$24,752.87 for restricted grant funds).

Department Budget to Actual FYE 2022-2023:

Administrative Department budgeted \$208,240.00, spent \$200,253.12 as of May 2023.

Police Department budgeted \$244,680.00, spent \$140,316.13 as of May 2023.

Water & Sewer (Utility Fund) budgeted \$477,080.00, spent \$373,221.21 as of May 2023.

Mayor Howell stated that Town Administrator, Tim Dargan needed to be added as a signatory to the SCIIP Grant. He also said the \$44,124.00 matching funds from Darlington County needs to be added to the budget.

Councilman Cook made a motion that the new bank account (that must be opened) and the Request Authorization Form for the SCIIP Grant be updated to show Mayor James Howell as the authorizer of the bank account signatories and the Request Authorization signatories. The signatories for the bank account and the Request Authorization Form are Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley, Councilwoman Inez Lee, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Town Administrator Tim Dargan. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

After a brief discussion about amending the Town of Lamar Municipal Budget to include the \$44,124.00 funds from Darlington County Council, it was decided to proceed with the final reading of the budget and amend the budget as needed in the July council meeting.

Councilman Cook read the Second reading of "An Ordinance to Raise Revenue for the Town of Lamar for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024". A motion was made by Councilwoman Mack to adopt the second reading of the ordinance. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously, and the ordinance was adopted (\$1,044,672.00 – Revenue, \$1,044,672.00 – Expenditures, Millage Rate – 81 Mills).

Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting Corporation gave an updated on the following Town of Lamar Grants:

RIA Grant (\$500,000) to bring the Zion Road Pump Station online -

- The pump station is up and running under the oracle of DHEC; however, DHEC wants the Town to make a few final adjustments. After these adjustments have been made, the engineering firm can submit the paperwork to get the formal permit to operate the pump station. We are waiting for follow-up from DHEC for a schedule of monitoring to go over the contractual requirements of the grant.

SCIIP Grant -

- The design for Railroad Pump Station has been completed. The total cost of the project was \$1,108,750.00, the Town of Lamar was awarded \$986,626.00. With \$78,000 coming from the SRF Funds and \$44,124.00 coming from Darlington County Council, the Town of Lamar will not have to come out of pocket for this grant. Trying to fast-track this grant so we can get the solicitation of bids for construction within 60 days.

SCOR Grant -

- The Town was awarded \$145,200 to develop a Stormwater Master Plan for the Town. The contract was awarded to Davis & Floyd, and they are wrapping up contract negotiations. The study will focus on the most critical areas of Town. Once these areas have been identified, the Town can apply for additional funds to the storm water projects.

Water and Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of May.
Gallons Purchased: 3,908,880 - Gallons Billed to Customers: 1,507,120 - Gallons Loss: 2,401,760

Councilwoman Mack stated that she was concern about the water loss for the month of May. She thinks that there is a major leak that hasn't been discovered. Councilwoman Lee asked residents to contact Town Hall when they see standing water, especially when there is no rain.

Councilwoman Bradley said that the Town needs to determine how much water is being used by the Fire Department and others via the Town's fire hydrants. Councilwoman Mack and Councilwoman Lee discussed the flushing of the fire hydrants.; it hasn't been done since earlier this year. Mayor Howell said that he will check with the Fire Department about water use.

Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack:

- Discussed the resident complaint on East Pearl Street concerning the poor ditch drainage. There is a flow map that shows the flow of water in the ditches, it must be located.
- Darlington County Chairman, Bobby Hudson, has been in contact with SCDOT and they project that Highway 41 is scheduled to be completed on time.
- Still working on replacing street signs. The county rode through the Town of Lamar to take inventory of the signs that need to be replaced in Lamar (The Town will have to foot the bill).
- American Heart Association is providing CPR training for persons are groups that are interested. This training will take place on Friday, July 7th. Genesis and the American Heart Association donated two (2) CPR to the Town.
- Duke Energy pulled a fallen tree limb on Pearl Street; however, the Town needs to cut up the limb and haul it off.
- A reminder that if your water is shut off for nonpayment, your trash will not be picked up. There is a \$200 tampering fee for tampering with the water meters. When comparing your Town of Lamar water bill with DCWSA water bill, please note that the Town's bill includes water, sewer, and sanitation. DCWSA is for water only.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers. There are several tentative interviews set for next week.

The pay rate has increased to \$18.50 per/hour (\$41,366.00 annually) for certified officers, \$15.00 per/hour (\$33,540 annually) for non-certified officer, and we are still offering the \$2,000 hiring bonus.

- Lamar Fun Day – Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs. Don't feed stray animals.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)

Residents can also contact Chief Scott directly at 843-639-3900 or 843-326-5551

After-hours non-emergency line at 843-326-1449

Chief Carl Scott thanked Representative Robert Williams for securing the \$150,000 Police Department Grant (South Carolina Department of Commerce). Mayor Howell also thanked Representative Williams.

Councilman Cook discussed some information that he received from a citizen, Jerry Schull, concerning the LED notification sign that the council approved for purchase over a month ago. Mr. Schull wrote a detailed letter that presented several aesthetic and practical reasons for placing the sign on the south side of Railroad Avenue versus the north side. Some of his reasons were (1) The LED sign would distract from the clock if they were placed on the same side, (2) the clock represents the past, the sign can represent the future, (3) the sign could revive the "dead" area of the south side of Railroad Avenue, and (4) it would present an opportunity to remove the unused flag poles.

The council discussed Mr. Schull's suggestion with some members of council, pointing out that it was not the council but the professional sign installer who suggested that the clock location is the best location in the Town for the sign. They also suggested switching the clock to the south side of Railroad Avenue. The Town is still waiting to hear from Genesis about their billboard proposal. There was no official vote taken on the placement of the LED sign.

Code and Business License Report – Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley:

Alvin Chambers, the Town's code enforcer, was unable to join the meeting via zoom to provide Councilwoman Bradley with an update; the information will be presented at the next council meeting. The new business license process received some push back from merchants initially but has been going very well since then.

In addition to the Fun Day activities, the "Fireworks on Main" activities will take on place July 5th at First Baptist Church. The Egg Scramble Jamboree will celebrate its 40th Anniversary in 2024.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee. Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley appeared via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Chief Carl Scott. Doug Poston, Jannie Lathan, Alvin Chambers appeared via Zoom.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the July 10, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 12, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the following Financial Report:

General Fund (June 2023): Receipts - \$109,500.80, Disbursements - \$36,226.57, Increase in cash - \$73,274.23
Ending cash balance - \$496,088.14 (\$of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (June 2023): Receipts - \$185,841.97 Disbursements - \$182,933.14, Increase in cash -\$2,908.83,
Ending cash balance - \$57,273.91 (\$36,118.30 available for operations; \$21,155.61 for restricted grant funds).

Department Budget to Actual FYE 2023-2024:

Administrative Department budgeted \$208,240.00, spent \$219,832.97 as of June 2023.

Police Department budgeted \$244,680.00, spent \$152,568.32 as of June 2023.

Water & Sewer (Utility Fund) budgeted \$477,080.00, spent \$405,817.54 as of June 2023.

Councilman Cook asked a question about a General Fund transfer made to the Utility Fund. Mr. Poston said that the transfer was for a grant receipt.

Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting Corporation gave an updated on the following Town of Lamar Grants:

- RIA (Rural Infrastructure Authority) Grant:
Financial audit moved to November 2023 at the request of Ria (The delay with help the town considering the Zion Pump Station was struck by lightning).
- SRF (State Revolving Fund) Grant:
Field work is about 50% completed for the Sanitary Sewer Survey. Engineers are beginning to analyze data. The net deliverable for this project is that the engineering firm will be able to come back and make recommendations of where the key areas are within the Town's sanitary sewer system that need repairs and provide a cost estimate. This will allow the Town to seek funds to address the issue.
- SCOR (South Carolina Office of Resilience) Grant:
Senior Manager of SCOR said that the contract with the engineering firm should be signed within 30 days. A project "Kick-off" meeting is scheduled for next month.

- SCIIP (South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program) Grant:
Mayor Howell, Mr. Dargan, and Ms. Lathan met with the Pee Dee COG (Council of Government) to discuss the SCIIP Grant. The COG will be administering the grant at no cost to the Town. The three of them will meet with the Cog again on Friday (July 14, 2023); after which, they anticipate getting the bids out for construction of the Railroad pump station.

Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- Councilwoman Lee thanked Darlington County for helping the Town of Lamar with weed eating, cutting grass, and trash whenever possible. She asked citizens to clean trees and limbs that are near the streets because the county employees are not allowed to go on private property.

Water and Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee:

- Read Report from the Lamar Maintenance Department. This report included tasks performed during the week(s) as well as repairs made to leaking pipes. There were two major leaks (the football field across from Spaulding Middle School and Rogers Street) and one minor leak (Pettigrew Avenue). A Boil Water Advisory was issued for the school leaked on June 27th and lifted on June 29th. Councilwoman Lee asked the citizens of Lamar to please be patient when regularly scheduled tasks are postponed due to unforeseen emergencies.

Councilwoman asked if the process for hiring an employee in the Public Works Department has been initiated, Mayor Howell and Mr. Dargan responded that 3 interviews have been scheduled.

- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of June.
Gallons Purchased: 4,118,260 - Gallons Billed to Customers: 2799,371 - Gallons Loss: 1,318,889

Councilwoman Mack mentioned that the numbers were skewed because of a discrepancy with book #2. She anticipates next month's report being off as well due to the extra days on this meter reading cycle.

Councilwoman Lee talked about the issue with the Groms water tank; she and Mayor Howell monitored the tank because the water level kept going down. Mayor Howell thanked Councilwoman Lee for her diligence. As of today, the levels are normal.

Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack

Councilwoman Mack made a motion for the Town to move forward with paying the \$1200 needed to replace the street signs that have been designated for replacement. Darlington County will replace the signs. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously Lee.

Councilwoman Lee asked if someone was working on the dip in the road next to the traffic lights. Chief Scott was waiting to hear back from DOT concerning that issue.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion that the Town move forward with having the Led sign installed at the North Railroad location that the sign company recommended. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Bradley, and Councilwoman Mack voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Cook and Councilwoman Lee voted against the motion. There were three (3) "Ayes", to two (2) "Nays"; the motion carried to install the LED sign at the North Railroad.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department is still accepting applications for potential certified full-time, certified, and non-certified police officers. There may be a positive announcement at the next council meeting.
- Lamar Fun Day – Saturday, July 15, 2023, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs. Don't feed stray animals.
- Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-5555 (non-emergency calls)

Code and Business License Report – Tim Dargan and Alvin Chambers (Lamar Code Enforcement Officer)
Mr. Chambers has identified approximately 55 structures as being unsafe or dilapidated. The structures were ranked as severe (hazard), poor, and fair. 60 % of the structures were rate poor. Mr. Chambers also pointed out that 25 % of the property owners reside outside of the Town of Lamar. He recommended that the council give him authority to move forward with contacting the property owners; council should also consult with the Town's attorney to amend the text of the Town of Lamar Zoning Ordinances and make an ordinance for processing the Notice of Violations.

Councilman Cook made a motion to give the Town of Lamar Code Enforcement Officer the authority to proceed with notifying property owners of Notice of Violations for dilapidated properties according to the South Carolina and International Building and Fire Codes Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan presented several examples of "Schedules of Fees" for services for the Town of Lamar for council to adopt. After looking at the Schedule of Fees for the county and several cities, the council decided to go with the City of Darlington model with a few tweaks specific to the Town of Lamar. There was a question concerning the moving permits; did that apply to any structure or building being moved or are there exceptions? Mr. Dargan is going to check on this and get back with the council. Mr. Chambers said that the Town of Kingstree doesn't have that problem because they don't allow structures to be moved within the city limits.

Mr. Dargan Apologize to the Citizens of Lamar for the cancellation of the June 30th Harvest Hope Food Box Giveaway. He also spoke about the upcoming events including the Pop Youth Leadership Camp, Mercantile213 Summer Pick-A-Palooza & Community Cookout, Lamar Alumni Association Sneaker Ball, Back-to-School Bash, and the upcoming 40th Anniversary of the Lamar Egg Scramble Jamboree. Councilwoman said that the Town should try to look out for citizens who don't have sufficient food to eat. She asked that the citizens look out for their neighbors.

Councilman Cook made a motion for council to go into Executive Session. Councilwoman Mack Seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to go back in the General Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:17 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Chief Carl Scott. Doug Poston appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the August 14, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 10, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the following Financial Report:

General Fund (July 2023): Receipts - \$16,104.57, Disbursements - \$50,609.35, Decrease in cash - \$34,504.78
Ending cash balance - \$534,857.59 (\$280,990.95 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (July 2023): Receipts - \$45,883.33, Disbursements - \$36,519.47, Increase in cash -\$9,363.86,
Ending cash balance - \$66,637.77 (\$45,473.90 available for operations; \$21,163.87 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the following:

- SCIIP Grant Account from RIA
A special account has been opened at Carolina Bank using the \$44,124.00 matching funds that the Town received from Darlington County.
- Police Department Grant from the Department of Commerce
A special account has been opened at Carolina Bank using the \$75,000 that was deposited into the regular administrative account for this purpose.
- Emergency Preparedness Grant from Duke Energy Foundation
The Town has received the \$5,000 Grant Award to be used for emergency preparedness.
- Town of Lamar Comprehensive Plan
The Town of Lamar Planning Commission has requested the Lamar Town Council contract with a third-party entity to write a comprehensive plan for the Town. The council has started researching alternatives. Questions were asked concerning what comprehensive plans entail, as well as if there are grants available for this purpose. The Chairman of the Planning Commission, Janie Howell, also spoke on behalf the commission. The Clemson Plans that were prepared for the Town of Lamar were discussed; there is a possibility that some of the information can be used in the Town's comprehensive plan.

Mayor Howell discussed the purpose and rationale behind purchasing a public notification LED sign for the Town of Lamar. He mentioned that the Town currently uses its website, Facebook page, and Textmygov to notify citizens of events occurring in Town. In addition, information is communicated via the Town's newsletter, text messages, emails, and media outlets (emergencies). Despite all these tools of communication, some citizens said that they were not informed. The LED sign will allow everyone to be knowledgeable about the events occurring in Lamar.

Mayor Howell also said that the Town is looking for an employee for the Public Works Department.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report:

The commission has several ongoing projects including having street signs replaced. The new LED sign is for the benefit of the entire Lamar community. Stressed that county workers cannot go on private citizens property. Councilwoman Bradley said the Town can cut back 25 ft from the right of way. She also said that the county should clean the side streets.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water and Sewer Report:

- Councilwoman Lee thanked several individuals and agencies that assisted the Town of Lamar when a severe leak drained the Town's water tanks: including Jerry Baxley and Brandon Abernathy of SCWRA, Joe Butler (Butler Electric), Frank Hough & DCWSA, High Tide Representatives, and Lang Howell.
- The Town is in discussions with the Darlington County Fire Department to assist the Town of Lamar with flushing and evaluating the Town's fire hydrants.
- Gave briefing on the free product training workshop she attended on August 10, 2023. The workshop was sponsored by Mueller.
- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of July.
Gallons Purchased: 4,565,480 - Gallons Billed to Customers: 2,040,302 - Gallons Loss: 2,525,178

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Tree intrusion in certain areas of town; would like for citizens to take care of this issue. She said that grass was taking over certain areas of Sanko Street.
- Need to monitor the Town's orange traffic cones. Some cones should be taken up.
- Road collapsing near ditch on West Jackson and Warren. Chief Scott said that DOT is aware of the issue as well as the crack in the sidewalk.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department has hired officer Lorenzo Lindsay. The department is still looking to hire a part-time officer.
- Councilman Cook thanked everyone who made the Lamar Family Fun Day event a success. He named several agencies and businesses that were instrumental in the coordination of the event. 300 backpacks with school supplies were given away.
- Asked citizens to sign up for Textmygov. Contact Town Hall if you're unable to connect. Mr. Dargan said that he can also help citizens get connected.
- Contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) for stray cats and dogs. If you have an animal, please ensure that you can control the animal.
- Call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls) if you know of suspicious activity. For emergencies call 911.

Councilwoman White-Bradley gave the Code and Business License Report:

Councilwoman Bradley read a list of "Notice of Violation" recommendations submitted by the Town's Code Enforcer, Alvin Chamber. She had questions about item number 2 (Adoption of current Building and Fire Codes) and item number 3 (strengthen ordinance). She was under the impression that the Town had already adopted the building codes and she needs more information concerning the ordinances that need to be strengthened. There was also the question of who the primary code enforcer should be, the code enforcer or law enforcement? This needs to be discussed with both departments, but code enforcement should probably be the primary enforcer. Councilwoman Bradley also asked who would be responsible for issuing citations.

Councilman Cook read the first reading of the proposed Permit Fee Schedule with the addendum that the demolition fee for residential be changed to a flat \$100 rate and commercial be changed to a flat rate of \$200. In addition, the reading moved forward pending more clarity on the details of the moving permit. Councilman Cook made the motion to accept the first reading. Councilwoman White-Bradley seconded the motion, The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan spoke about the following upcoming events: The August 15th deadline for filing for the two at-large Lamar Town Council Seats, the Pediatric Cancer Workshop being held on August 19th, and the Building a Blueprint for Men's Health event scheduled for September 9th.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:22 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, Alvin Chambers, Kelly Shull, and Will Segars. Doug Poston appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the September 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 14, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Lamar Citizen, Will Segars, addressed the Lamar Town Council concerning his dogs. He asked the council to revisit the Town's Dog Nuisance Ordinance so he could possibly bring his dogs back home. The council said they would have a response between now and the next Lamar Town Council Meeting.

Kelly Shull, Branch Manager of the Lamar Library, talked about some of the services, events, and meeting rooms that are available to the public at the library. She emphasized September as being Library card Sign-Up Month. She also stated that the year 2022 was the 200th Anniversary for the Darlington County Library System.

Councilman Tyler Cook read the Proclamation proclaiming the month of September "Library Card Sign-Up Month" in the Town of Lamar.

Alvin Chambers, Town of Lamar Codes Enforcer, gave a report on the following:

- Mr. Chambers to send "Letters of Violation" to property owners in diverse areas of the Town (to not be bias) immediately. Starting with the most severe violations and working down to the less severe.
- Property owners will have a time frame to respond to the letter and to remedy the situation.
- Third party estimate to be obtained for structures that require demolition.
- Property owners that live in another state will initially be contacted by certified mail.
- If property owners have a plan, Mr. Chambers will get with Mr. Dargan to discuss it and then forward it to council members for their input.

Councilwoman Bradley introduced a Stray Cats & Dogs Ordinance for reading purposes only. It was brought to her attention that some citizens are randomly feeding the stray animals which deters the animal from going into the cages that Animal Control has set out for them. Councilwoman Bradley said the council needs to determine a method of citing these individuals. She is hopeful that the council can have the first reading of the ordinance at the October Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley also discussed the stray dogs that have been roaming the neighborhood; this is of great concern to the citizens of Lamar. Mayor Howell mentioned that the Town of Lamar doesn't have an Animal Control Department, but the Town has been contacting the county for assistance.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA submitted a Financial Report for the record. Councilman Cook read the report:

General Fund (August 2023): Receipts - \$45,579.26, Disbursements - \$65,500.14, Decrease in cash - \$19,920.88, Ending cash balance - \$514,936.71 (\$276,841.37 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (August 2023): Receipts - \$79,348.50, Disbursements - \$46,111.39, Increase in cash -\$33,237.11, Ending cash balance - \$99,874.88 (\$34,578.75 available for operations; \$65,296.13 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Dargan discussed the Town of Lamar Comprehensive Plan. He introduced a grant, the Hometown Economic Development Grant, that the Town could apply for to offset the cost of the comprehensive plan. Councilman Cook read the resolution to apply for the grant, and a made a motion for the Town to apply for the grant. Councilwoman Bradley second the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack discussed the Lamar Recreation Football Field:

- Town embarked on a venture with local citizens to build a stadium and lights.
- Although the Town pays the water bill and light bill for the recreation field, it has been negligent in maintaining the property.
- Funds raised by the Lamar Recreation Department are for equipment, uniforms, water, etc.
- Need concession stand and restroom for Recreation Football Field.
- Trees need to be trimmed or cut.
- Should seek grant funds from Parks & Recreations or some other source.

Councilwoman Mack asked the council to add a budget line item of \$3,000 for the Lamar Recreation Department on the Town's Annual Budget. Councilwoman Mack made the motion. Councilwoman Lee seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack asked if the Department of Commerce Grant for the Police Department includes salaries and fringe benefits. Councilman Cook stated that it did. He also stated that Chief Scott's salary could possibly be paid from the grant. He stated that some items have already been purchased and those funds must be reimbursed to the General Fund.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water and Sewer Report:

- Leak on Sanko Street.
- Leaky valve on Lane Ave.
- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of August.
Gallons Purchased: 4,000,000, Gallons Billed to Customers: 2,401,607, Gallons Loss: 1,598,393

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Darlington County Office of Road and Bridges have begun replacing missing/unreadable street signs.
- SCDOT Projects:
 - Paving Pearl Street and Bee Street.
 - Repaired hole in sidewalk on Main & Reynolds. Also, addressed drainage issue in that area.
 - Fixed erosion problem on West Jackson Street (with assistance from Lamar Public Works).
- Councilwoman Mack has been contacting Duke Energy about street light repairs. She provided information and instructions for citizens to contact Duke Energy.

- Recognized Edith Josey for spearheading the project to get a new sign for the Lamar Recreation Field. The sign was secured through donations.
- Need area lighting for entrance of the recreation football field. Currently, guests park in the dark.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report. She stated that the commission is still working on a special project. They haven't revealed it because they are following protocol.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Lamar Police Department has received several complaints about stray dogs and cats. Please contact Animal Control (843-398-4011) and request for a trap to be placed in your yard.
- Ordinance 3.211 Dogs Running at Large Prohibited.
- Chief Scott would like to encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls). Residents with helpful information can also call Chief Scott directly. For emergencies call 911.

Councilwoman Lee to get with Councilman Cook about getting a grant for the Police Department. She located one, but the deadline for submitting the grant has passed.

Mr. Dargan spoke about the following upcoming events: The Lamar High School Blood Drive, Lamar UMC Blood Drive, Harvest Hope Food Box Giveaway, and Mercantile213 Lamar Community Cookout.

Citizen Tammy Copeland asked the following questions:

Does the Town have a grant writer? Councilwoman Bradley replied, "Yes".

Will the dilapidated buildings be a matter of public record?

Is there a committee for Parks & Recreation?

The council will reply to Ms. Copeland before or during the next Lamar Town Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to enter Executive Session (30-4-70(A)(1). Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to enter the regular council meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The council unanimously agreed with Mayor Howell to pay Jannie Lathan of Lathan Consulting \$10,000.0 for securing the SCIIP Grant for the Railroad Lift Station and for all follow up work.

The mayor and council discussed the chain of command and a chain of command flowchart. The council stated that although the mayor is ultimately responsible for the administration of the Town of Lamar, the day-to-day running of the Town will be overseen by the Town Administrator. Council members will guide staff and provide support, but the Town Administrator will have direct supervision over each department. The department heads will report directly to the Town Administrator. Department employees will report directly to the department head.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2023

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:18 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, and Karl McColleston. Doug Poston and Janie Lathan appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the October 9, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting with the correction that she, not Councilwoman Lee, seconded the motion to add a budget line item for the Recreation Department during the September 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion with the correction. The motion carried unanimously.

Jannie Lathan of Lathan's Consulting Corporation gave the grants report.

RIA (Rural Infrastructure Authority) Grant

The construction of the Zion pump station has been completed. Project monitoring and the financial audit are 95 % complete. We are waiting for the last payment made to the contractor, approximately \$82,000, to clear the bank. Closeout is expected around the first of next month (November).

SRF (State Revolving Fund) Grant

The engineers have completed approximately 60 % of the field survey; they have reviewed approximately 10 % of the data collected.

SC DHEC Grant

This grant has been closed out. Ms. Lathan must submit the paperwork.

SCOR (South Carolina Office of Resilience) Grant

The Town met with Davis & Floyd (and representative of SCOR) on September 28th to discuss project goals criteria, the sign criteria, and the criteria for the stormwater inventory database. A public meeting has been planned to allow the Town's citizens to provide input on flooding that they have experienced. SCOR is managing the grant for the Town of Lamar. A public notice will be published and announced for the meeting.

RIA SCIIP Grant

This grant is being managed by the Pee Dee COG at no cost to the Town. Ms. Lathan recommended requesting and receiving weekly construction progress reports from the engineer (Davis & Floyd) and monthly reporting from the Pee Dee Cog at the Council Meeting to track and ensure timely completion of this project.

Councilwoman Lee and Councilwoman Bradley asked several questions concerning the progress of the project. Ms. Lathan commented that construction should begin soon, and added the construction bids should have gone out by now. She suggested asking COG for copies of all reports.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA gave the financial Report.

General Fund (September 2023): Receipts - \$26,813.69, Disbursements - \$630,719.97, Decrease in cash - \$3,906.28, Ending cash balance - \$511,030.43 (\$244,691.79 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (September 2023): Receipts - \$35,035.20, Disbursements - \$47,316.33, Decrease in cash - \$12,281.13, Ending cash balance - \$87,593.75 (\$25,895.99 available for operations; \$61,697.76 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Poston reported on the "Departmental Budget" to "Actual Budget" for the Administrative, Police, and Public Works (Water & Sewer) Departments. He will compare the budget monthly instead of annually. Councilman Cook asked about the legal and professional fees.

Tim Dargan gave an update on Lamar's effort to get a comprehensive plan. The Town applied for the Hometown Economic Development Grant to pay for the plan but did not receive the award. They will look for other funding sources. Mr. Dargan also gave an update on the Town of Lamar Municipal Audit, permit fee schedule, and the stormwater meeting.

Mr. Dargan highlighted several upcoming events including the Harvest Hope food giveaway, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Goodies for Goblin, Trunk or Treat, the Town's municipal election, Christmas on Main, and a fundraiser for Kirk Rouse (home destroyed by house fire).

Karl McCollester, Founder of Govpossible, gave a presentation to the council detailing how his company can help the Town of Lamar with business licensing and other internal processes. Mr. McCollester offered a proposal for the following services: proactive reports, finance integration, credit card processing, NAICS ready, Sc portal ready, and several other services. The system can be integrated into the website and maintained by Govpossible. The start-up fee is \$1,500 and \$100 per/month.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes & Business Report. Councilwoman Bradley followed up the Govpossible Presentation by asking Mr. McCollester several questions about his program. Councilman Cook also asked several questions and made several comments; he thinks it is worth trying the program. Mr. Dargan also made a recommendation for the Town to try the program for a year. Councilwoman Bradley and Councilman Cook are going to do some research and get back with council.

Councilwoman Bradley said that Mr. Chambers (Town of Lamar Code Enforcement Officer) has begun the process of mailing "Notice of Violations" notices to property owners of dilapidated buildings and overgrown properties. The notice of violations will be publicized.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report. Councilwoman suggested that council review the current Town of Lamar Code of Ordinances and make updates where applicable. Councilwoman Lee said that some of the ordinances were updated, but not put in the book. After a robust discussion with Mayor Howell and several members of council, it was decided that this issue will be revisited in January 2024. Mr. Dargan will contact Charlie Barrineau of MASC for advice on how to proceed with updating the ordinances.

Councilwoman Mack said the concession stand has been placed at the Lamar Field and that it looks really nice. She thanked those that volunteered their resources and time to further enhance the concession, as well as those who contributed to the sign for the field.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water and Sewer Report:

- Thanked Elijah Enoch-Smith for his service to the Town. Mr. Smith no longer works for the Town.
- Welcomed Tommy Gainey as an employee of the Public Works Department.
- Water Leak Repairs (Sanko & Main [line repair], Lave Ave & Main [water line and valve repair], and Mims Street [line repair].
- Grooms Water Tank [cleaned and seal repair].
- Spaulding Middle fire hydrant [repainted & protective bollards installed around it].
- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of September.
Gallons Purchased: 3,030,300 Gallons Billed to Customers: 2,089,802 Gallons Loss: 940,498

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report. She asked the Town's citizens to beautify their properties for the holidays. The commission is still working on their "secret" project.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Department of Commerce Police Department Grant Update
 - Purchased three (3) radios.
 - Obtained six (6) security cameras.
 - In the process of upgrading firearms.
- Announced the hiring of Officer Hayley Silva.
- Officer-in-Training Lindsay Lorenzo has successfully completed the Pre-Academy Cumulative Test and is now training at the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy.
- Darlington County Animal control set 18 animal traps for the Month of September; 13 dogs and 1 cat were picked up.
- Read Ordinance 3.211 Dogs Running at Large Prohibited. Councilwoman Bradley said that all dogs should have collars.
- Chief Scott would like to encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls). Residents with helpful information can also call Chief Scott directly. For emergencies call 911.

Councilman Cook read a "Proclamation declaring October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month" in the Town of Lamar. Mayor Howell signed the proclamation.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

**Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2023**

Mayor James Howell called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell congratulated Councilwomen Angele White-Bradley and Inez B. Lee on being re-elected to serve another term on the Lamar Town Council.

Mayor Howell took roll call of all council members present: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Inez B. Lee, and Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, Foster McKinney, Janie Howell, and Tammy Copeland. Janie Lathan and Lindsay Privette appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the November 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting with the addition of the upcoming events. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 9, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Tammy Copeland asked three (3) questions that she would like a member of council to get back to her with answers: (1) Have there ever been discussions about having someone on the Town Council that represents the unincorporated residents of Lamar? (2) Will the members of the Town Council ever provide their contact information for residents to reach out? (3) Mrs. Copeland and her husband would like to have a sit-down meeting with members of council to voice their concerns. When will that be possible?

Janie Howell gave an update on the activities planned for the Christmas on Main festival and parade on Saturday, December 2, 2023. For additional information contact Danielle Wilkes (festival) or Dawn Smith (parade)

Jannie Lathan of Lathan's Consulting Corporation gave the grants report.

- RIA (Rural Infrastructure Authority) Grant
The Zion Road pump station is up and running. The grant has been closed out, and the bank account will be closed out this week.
- SRF (State Revolving Fund) Grant
The Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey field survey is still ongoing. \$107,421.78 of the \$423,652 grant award has been expended.
- SC DHEC Grant
This grant has been closed out. Ms. Lathan must submit the paperwork.
- SCOR (South Carolina Office of Resilience) Grant
 - The Town met with members of Davis & Floyd and SCOR on September 28th to discuss project goals criteria, the sign criteria, and the criteria for the stormwater inventory database.
 - Members of SCOR, Davis & Floyd, and Town of Lamar officials held a public meeting on October 24, 2023, to gather information from the Town's citizens. Approximately twenty (20) citizens attended.
 - Davis & Floyd, SCOR, and Lamar officials will have a virtual meeting on November 21, 2023, to discuss three recommended areas to study as part of the Stormwater Plan.

RIA SCIIP Grant

Easement approved and recorded for new pump station location on Railroad Avenue.

Lindsay Privette of the Pee Dee Regional COG gave additional updates on the RIA SCIIP Grant.

- Ms. Privette said that the Town is at the construction phase of the Railroad Avenue pump station project.
- Davis & Floyd have submitted the bid forms to RIA and are waiting for RIA's approval. It usually takes a week or two to hear from RIA.
- The final completion date for the pump Station is October 28, 2024.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA submitted the financial Report:

General Fund (October 2023): Receipts - \$41,223.60, Disbursements - \$51,841.81, Decrease in cash - \$10,618.21, Ending cash balance - \$500,412.22 (\$240,542.21 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (October 2023): Receipts - \$117,703.64, Disbursements - \$111,169.52, Increase in cash -\$6,534.12 Ending cash balance - \$94,127.87 (\$32,421.83 available for operations; \$61,706.04 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the financial report as information. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Foster McKinney of Hamilton McKinney & Moss presented and explained the Town of Lamar's Fiscal Year Ending 2022 financial statements. The Town received a favorable rating on the municipal audit. Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the Town of Lamar's FYE 2022 municipal audit. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report. She stated that the Beautification Commission is entering a partnership with the local schools to enhance the future of our students. They are in the process of contacting the superintendent and principals.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report. She has observed that there are some missing street signs. There is a possibility that citizens are taking the signs.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water and Sewer Report:

- Thank citizens for voting her back into office for a second term.
- Water Line Repairs: (1) McClain Street, (2) Boykin & Mims, and (3) Warren Ave. Another leak on Warren Avenue is being monitored.
- Sewer issue fixed on North Darlington.
- Inspections and Surveys:
 - Pearl St Water Tank Inspection Report
 - Grooms Water Tank Inspection
 - SERCAP Water Survey
 - DHEC Drinking Water Survey (scheduled for November 20, 2023)
- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of October 2023:
 - Gallons Purchased: 4,312,940 Gallons Billed to Customers: 1,920,917 Gallons Loss: 2,392,023

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Code & Business Report. Councilwoman Bradley stated that the process for notifying citizens about non-compliant properties was not going as she had planned. She stated that sometimes she finds out information after the fact and can't answer citizens questions because of this, she is going to have a conversation with the Town's code enforcement officer.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Department of Commerce Police Department Grant quarterly update was submitted one week ahead of schedule.
- Darlington County Animal control set nine dog traps and five cat traps for the Month of October; 15 dogs and 13 cat were picked up.
- Read Ordinance 3.211 Dogs Running at Large Prohibited.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls). Residents with helpful information can also call Chief Scott directly. For emergencies call 911.
- Town contact information needs to be on the Town's website.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on past and upcoming events.

Past events included congratulating all Lamar area schools receiving outstanding ratings on the SC Department of Education Report Cards, congratulating all Lamar area recreation and school teams that made the playoff, the Gospel in the Park event at the Lamar Library, and thanking the American Legion and the Civitans for the flag and the light on the flagpole.

Upcoming Events: Lamar Recreation sponsored trip to the Dry Dock Restaurant in Mullins on November 7th, and Harvest Hope Food giveaway on December 1st.

Mayor Howell asked citizens to please support local businesses.

Councilwoman Bradley received a message from Joe Rossella asking her to recognize Chief Carl Scott for hosting the Trunk or Treat; over 800 children attended. He also asked her to recognize the Lamar ROTC, Mayor James Howell, Ann Parnell, and the American Legion for the Veterans Day observation.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to leave the general council meeting and enter executive session. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to leave the executive session and enter the general council meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion that all Town of Lamar part-time or probationary employees receive a \$250 Christmas bonus. All full-time employees to receive a \$750 Christmas bonus. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2023

Mayor Pro Temp Angele White-Bradley called The Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:17 PM.

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Bradley took roll call of all council members present: Councilwoman Bradley, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee. Mayor Howell was also present but was unable to preside due to illness.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, and Bill Lynch. Doug Poston appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Mack Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the December 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 13, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Lynch of Asset Technology address council concerning the rising cost of doing business. His company has been doing business with the Town of Lamar since 2018, but as of December 2023 there has been no price increase. He presented a proposal with the increased for council to consider.

Mr. Dargan asked Mr. Lynch if the difference in cost could be split between the Town and Asset Technology until the new fiscal year of July 1, 2024. Mr. Lynch said that he would send the information for council to consider. The council will discuss this matter in a called meeting on December 18, 2023.

Doug Poston of Douglas R. Poston, Jr. CPA submitted the financial Report:

General Fund (November 2023): Receipts - \$25,659.17, Disbursements - \$54,446.99, Decrease in cash - \$28,787.82, Ending cash balance - \$471,624.40 (\$236,392.63 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (November 2023): Receipts - \$32,508.56, Disbursements - \$38,305.48, Decrease in cash -\$5,796.92, Ending cash balance - \$88,330.95 (\$31,204.04 available for operations; \$57, 126.91 for restricted grant funds).

Lindsay Privette from the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:

Activities completed:

- November 13, 2023: Ms. Privette provides a project status update via zoom at the Town Council Meeting.
- December 5, 2023: Abby Linden, SC RIA Grant Program Manager, sent the Town a memo of her preliminary review of the bid documents. John Reynold, David & Floyd, made the suggested changes.
- December 8, 2023: Tim Dargan, Town Administrator, placed the project for advertisement on SCBO. Ms. Privette placed an advertisement on the PDRCOG website.

Upcoming activities:

- Quarterly Report #2 will be prepared and submitted by December 29, 2023
- Bid Opening will be held at Lamar Town Hall at 2:00 pm on January 9, 2023
- Following the Bid Opening, PCRCOG Staff will prepare and submit the construction contract for review and approval. The review period is estimated to be 30 days,

Councilman Cook made a motion to receive Ms. Privette's report as information. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report. She thanked the Christmas on Main Committee for the decorations and festivities. The Beautification Commission held their monthly meeting on December 8th. They have contacted individuals to get in touch with professional athletes for a project that they are working on.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report. She thanked the Christmas on Main Committee as well as the merchants and individuals that participate in the decorating, festival, and parade. She has observed that there are some missing street signs. There is a possibility that citizens are taking the signs.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water and Sewer Report:

- Water line repair for Warren Avenue is scheduled for Tuesday December 12th from 8:00 am until completed.
- DHEC Drinking Water Survey was performed on November 20, 2023. The Town was rated overall "Satisfactory". One deficiency noted in the survey was Fire Flow Testing. The Town will begin these tests soon.
- DHEC Stage 2 Disinfectant Byproduct Rule Monitoring. The Town was found to be "In Compliance" for this monitoring period.
- Councilwoman Lee gave the Water Loss Report for the month of October 2023:
Gallons Purchased: 3,715,210 Gallons Billed to Customers: 1,738,079 Gallons Loss: 1,977,131

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Code & Business Report. Councilwoman Bradley asked Councilman Cook to read the Business License Ordinance Amendment that is required by Act 176 of 2020. Councilman Cook made a motion to adopt the first reading of the ordinance. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Officer Lindsay Lorenzo will be graduating from the SC Criminal Justice Academy on December 22, 2023.
- The First Responders Parade will be held on December 21, 2023, at 6:00 pm.
- Due to overcrowding at the animal shelter, no traps are currently being set.
- Contact Animal Control for stray animals (843-398-4011).
- Read Ordinance 3.211 Dogs Running at Large Prohibited.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls). Residents with helpful information can also call Chief Scott directly. For emergencies call 911.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on upcoming events. Senior Lunch & Learn at Hines Funeral Home on Tuesday, December 19th from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn the Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator