Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2024

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 Bradley, Councilman Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Chief Carl Scott, and Chip Kempson. Doug Poston and Karl McCollester appeared via Zoom.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the January 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting, and the December 18, 224 Called Lamar Town Council Meeting. Mr. Dargan interjected that the minutes from the December 18th meeting were not available. Councilwoman Bradley than made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook and Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Lamar Citizen, Chip Kempson, spoke to council about a dog attack that killed his cat on January 3, 2024; the incident was captured on video. Mr. Kempson said that Chief Scott and the Darlington County Animal Control are helping, but he would like the mayor, council, and administration to be more concerned and active about the stray dog's situation. He mentioned that comments such as, "If people will stop feeding stray cats" – doesn't help the situation.

Councilwoman Mack asked if the animal shelter was taking animals again. Chief Scott said they were.

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

General Fund (December 2023): Receipts - $31,416.94, Disbursements - $39,940.57, Decrease in cash - $8,523.63, Ending cash balance - $463,100.77 ($228,093.47 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (December 2023): Receipts - $44,977.75, Disbursements - $51,380.72, Decrease in cash -$6,402.97, Ending cash balance - $81,927.98 ($24,792.78 available for operations; $57,135.20 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Mack asked why the Utility Fund balance decreased. Mr. Poston remarked that the balance fluctuates from month to month, but the account is in good shape.

Mr. Poston gave the "Budget to Actual" Report for each department. Councilman Cook asked if the report was for the fiscal year. Mr. Poston stated that it was for 6 months.

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

Activities completed:

- December 11, 2023: Teresa Jacobs, PDRCOG Grants Specialist, began direct solicitation of construction firms for the project as per Sc RIA SCIIP requirements.
- December 22, 2023: Quarterly Progress report 2 was submitted to SC RIA and the Town of Lamar.
- January 3, 2024: A Bid Opening Reminder and Request for No Bid Forms email was sent to the 17 firms that have requested bid documents ahead of the upcoming bid opening.

Upcoming activities:

- 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,

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive Ms. Privette's report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report. Councilwoman Bradley asked Karl McCollester of Gov.Possible (who appeared before council at the October Lamar Town Council Meeting) to appear via zoom to further explain how the Town would benefit from using the services of his company. In addition to providing a business license portal, the Town would also be integrated into the State's business license portal. The data would be saved in the system for processing future business licenses as well as sending out annual renewal letters. The Town would also be given a credit card reader to process credit card payments. The setup fee for the service is $1,200 and the annual fee amount is $1,200. Councilman Cook made a motion for the Town to proceed with a making a contract with Gov.Possible. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report. Councilwoman Lee said that she didn't have a report to give; however, the commission is scheduled to meet on January 12th.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report. She stated that the SCADA unit on the water tanks were showing low water levels on the tanks on December 30 – 31 2023, but the level started rising on January 1, 2024. Mayor Howell said the low reading levels were due to a leak in the county that was found and repaired. Councilwoman Lee also gave the Water Loss Report. The Town was billed $13,125.75 from DCWSA.
Gallons Purchased: 4,066,370 Gallons Billed: 2,567,815 Gallons Water Loss: 1,498,555

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report. Councilwoman Mack did not have a report, but she reminded the citizens of Lamar to report streetlights outages to Duke Energy.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:
- The South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant will be submitted at the end of January 2024.
- Officer Lindsay Lorenzo will be graduated from the SC Criminal Justice Academy on December 22, 2023. She is now a certified officer.
- The First Responders Parade was held on December 21, 2023.
- Animal Control has resumed setting animal traps.
- 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.

Councilman Cook read a Martin Luther King Day Proclamation for the Town of Lamar. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to adopt the proclamation. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the upcoming MLK Day March & Celebration, and the Bid Opening Event for the Railroad Lift Station. Councilwoman Mack also pleaded with citizens to take precaution for the severe weather storm that has been predicted for tomorrow (January 9th). Councilwoman Mack also spoke about the Egg Scramble Jamboree schedule for the first week in April. This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the festival.

Mayor Howell announced that American Luxury Coach purchased the Craig's Industries building and warehouse Mid-November 2023. He said that the company plans to hire approximately 70 employees. It will be approximately 6-8 months before they are ready to open.

Councilwoman Mack asked what typed of business it will be. Mayor Howell responded that the company will oven bake, powder coat, and refurbish parts.

Councilwoman Bradley commented that the business and the local schools should partner together to train job applicants. Councilman Cook said that it's a win-win for everyone.

Councilwoman Lee asked why the council was not notified earlier. She said that they should have known as soon as the mayor found out. She asked if someone spoke to the citizens that live in that area. Mayor Howell said that the owner asked him not to say anything. The owner is supposed to appear at the next council meeting.

Councilman Cook 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 7:04 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2024

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

Rev. Adrian Allen of Lamar Baptist Church gave the invocation.

There was a moment of silence in memory of Edward "Ed" Johnson.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan (Town Administrator), Carl Scott (Chief of Police), Joe Jebaily, and Tadi Ajan.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to accept the agenda for the February 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 18, 2023, Called Lamar Town Council Meeting, and the January 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Joe Jebaily, Owner of American Luxury Coach, spoke to council about his new business venture. He was joined by employee Tadi Ajan. Some of their topics of discussions included:

- Purchased the Craig Manufacturing and Outlet building. Currently remodeling the building.
- Black Horse International is a worldwide company in based in America and Mexico. The plan is to make Lamar the headquarters for the operation.
- Refurbish parts.
- Manufacturing and powder coating will increase after the sale of the North Carolina business.
- Need gas line installed.

Councilwoman Mack asked about environmental impact to the rural community. Mr. Jebaily said the powder coat would be recaptured and not get into the air.

Mayor Howell and Councilwoman Lee asked about the numbers of employees and training opportunities. Councilwoman Lee also asked about hours of operations. Mr. Jebaily said they planned to hire up to 70 employees. He stated that potential employees could get training in Florence; their aim is to help the community. He said that the plant would be open from 7:30 am – 8:00 pm, eventually getting to 5:30 – 6:00 pm. Mr. Ajan added that they would gradually hire up to 70 employees but could potentially hire more. He said that there would be one shift but could eventually have two shifts.

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

General Fund (January 2024): Receipts - $13,707.09, Disbursements - $62,110.11, Decrease in cash - $48,403.02, Ending cash balance - $414,697.75 ($228,093.47 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (January 2024): Receipts - $38,289.46, Disbursements - $32,602.24, Increase in cash -$5,687.22, Ending cash balance - $87,615.20 ($30,471.71 available for operations; $57,143.49 for restricted grant funds).

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

Teresa Jacobs from the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:

Activities completed:

- January 9, 2024: Bid opening was held at the Lamar Town Hall at 2:00 pm.
- January 24, 2024: Post-bid (virtual meeting) with Abby Linden, SC RIA Grants Program Manager at 3:00 pm to discuss the scope of the project, the bid opening, and next steps.

Upcoming Activities:
Project will be re-bid in February.
QPR3 to be completed and submitted by March 29, 2024

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive Ms. Jacobs report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report:
Business owners can renew their business license via (1) The State Business License Portal (MASC), Gov. Possible, or by contacting Lamar Town Hall.
New business owners must contact the Town Hall directly.
Business Renewal letters will be mailed out beginning the week of February 19, 2024.
The contract between the Town and Gov.Possible has been signed.
The violation sent by the Town's Code Enforcement Officer needs more clarification for the property owners.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report.
The Beautification Commission is working on giving the trash cans on Main Street a new look.
The Great American Clean-Up…March 21-23, 2024

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:

- The Grooms and Pearl Street Water Tanks have been fluctuating recently, but they are being monitored.
- Water line repairs at Spaulding Elementary School (Pear Street), Duke Street, and East Jackson Street.

Water Loss Report for the Month of January 2024:
Gallons Purchased: 4,803,670, Gallons Billed: 2,156,306, Gallons Loss: 2,647,364 (Paid to DCWSA -$15,485.11)
Water leaks have contributed significantly to the water loss.

Mayor Howell Addresses the Delinquent Water Bills:

- Customers with a delinquent water bill will have their water disconnected immediately (starting on February 13th)
- They must pay the entire delinquent balance and a $50 reconnection fee before water service is restored.
- If a customer tampers with the water meter, they will be charged a $200 tampering fee.
- The Town and other agencies have tried to work with customers, but the Town has no choice but to collect the money that is due.
- Customers are not charged for water leaks. They are only charged for water that goes through their water meter.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Reminded citizens to report street light outages to Duke Energy.
- Alerted citizens to driving hazards being caused by road work and by manholes being uncovered.
- Local businesses could possibly be violating a code by draining a cooler in the street.
- Shared map of the state-maintained streets within the city limits of Lamar with council and citizens.
- Looking at street signs that may need replacing.
- Spoke to Rep. Robert Williams and will speak to Senator Malloy about securing funds for a community building.
- Looking into SCPR Grants. The grant requires an 80-20 match.
- Discuss possibility of selling trees on property at South Davis Street (Hwy 401).
- Citizens are concerned about blocked access to homes and possible access for town property.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant Quarterly Report was submitted for Quarter 4 of 2023. With the acceptance of this report, the remaining $75,000 of the $150,000 allocated in the grant will be released to the Town.
- Grant Expenditures for the Quarter 4 of 2023 included the following:
  (1) Quarterly bonus pay to officers, (2) uniforms, (3) transmission work on both police cruisers, (4) Offsetting salaries for Chief Scott and Officer Lorenzo.
- Animal Control has resumed setting animal traps.
- 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.

Chief Scott is checking into other items that may be covered under the grant.

Councilwoman Mack thanked Chief Scott for being the Town's connection to DOT.

Mr. Dargan gave a report on upcoming events. He discussed the events for the Egg Scramble Jamboree and the fundraiser for Christmas on Main.

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

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 7:24 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

Councilwoman Bradley took roll call: Councilwoman Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee were all present. Mayor James Howell was absent.

Others in attendance: Carl Scott (Chief of Police). Town Administrator Tim Dargan was absent.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the March 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook read a proclamation proclaiming the week of March 10 -16, 2024 Girl Scout Week in the Town of Lamar.

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

General Fund (February 2024): Receipts - $137,601.75, Disbursements - $39,200.70, Increase in cash - $98,401.05, Ending cash balance - $513,098.80 ($219,002.45 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (February 2024): Receipts - $47,194.06, Disbursements - $41,854.00, Increase in cash -$5,340.06, Ending cash balance - $92,955.26 ($35,804.01 available for operations; $57,151.25 for restricted grant funds).

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

Teresa Jacobs from the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:

Upcoming Activities:
- Rescoping of project review/approval by RIA prior to rebid.
- Rebidding of project to be held in March 2024.
  - Project must be advertised for 30 days.
  - Direct solicitations are required.
- QPR3 to be completed and submitted by March 29, 2024.

Councilwoman Cook made a motion to receive Ms. Jacobs report as information. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report:
Councilwoman Bradley didn't have anything new to report. If citizens have questions, they can contact her.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Beautification Commission Report.
The Great American Clean-Up is March 21-23, 2024. Asking citizens to clean all areas and the sidewalks if they can. We're not just cleaning for the Egg Scramble Jamboree but keeping the town clean. Let's work together to get this done.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:

- The SCADA unit readings might not be accurate. This is being investigated.
- Water line repairs at Pear Street, Duke Street, South Darlington, and East Jackson Street. Asked citizens to slow down when driving on main Street.
- Helen Lane Project is ongoing.

Water Loss Report for the Month of February 2024:
Gallons Purchased: 4,943,320, Gallons Billed: 1,988,017, Gallons Loss: 2,955,303 (Paid to DCWSA -$15,931.99)
Water leaks have contributed significantly to the water loss.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Reminded citizens to report street light outages to Duke Energy.
- Alerted citizens to driving hazards being caused by obstructions in the road, road work, new water and sewer lines being placed. Asked citizens to slow down when driving through town.
- Will ask Mayor Howell to get risers for the manholes so the manhole covers can be properly fitted.
- Looking for grants for parks and recreation.
- Discuss possibility of selling trees on property at South Davis Street (Hwy 401).
- There was another pedestrian struck by a vehicle in town. Chief Scott said that he would discuss the matter with Councilwoman Mack after the meeting.

Councilwoman Bradley went on record as saying she agreed with everything that Councilwoman Mack said.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Discussed the speeding issue that seems to be on the rise.
- No updates on Animal Control numbers.
- Keep your dog on a leash.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).
- Wished Officer Haley Silva a “happy Birthday”.

Chief Scott thanked Girl Scout Troop 1601 for visiting the Police Department a few weeks ago.

Councilwoman Bradley commented on a letter that the council received regarding the easement issue that was discussed in the February Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley, Councilwoman Mack, and Councilman Cook commented that Mr. Dargan was in contact with Darlington County and the Town’s lawyer to resolve several conflicts. They assured the citizens that the council would act on this matter as soon as possible; even if they must call a special meeting.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the letter as information. Councilwoman Lee second the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave a report on upcoming events: Darlington County Sherriff’s Office Informational Brunch (March 20th), Harvest Hope Food Giveaway (March 28th), and the Lamar Egg Scramble Jamboree Festivities (Egg Scramble Taste, Yard Decoration Contest, and the Egg Scramble Jamboree)

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

Councilwoman Bradley adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Councilman Tyler Cook and Timothy L. Dargan, Town Administrator

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan (Town Administrator) and Carl Scott (Chief of Police). Pamela Prince of the Pee Dee Coalition appeared via zoom.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the April 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Lee made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Pamela Prince of the Pee Dee Coalition shared information on Sexual Assault Awareness Month which is observed in the month of April. She thanked the Town of Lamar and Chief Scott for working with the coalition. Ms. Prince pointed out Chief Scott working with children and the Durant Center and for sharing toys with them. she will be visiting different entities throughout the month to talk about sexual assault and will bring banners and a display board to Lamar Town Hall by April 10th.

Councilman Cook read a Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation for the Town of Lamar.

Teresa Jacobs from the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:
Activities Currently On-Going/Completed:

- Rescoping of project review/approval by RIA prior to rebid.
- Quarterly progress report was submitted on March 28, 2024.
- Project schedule updated. Changed reflected in:
  *Bid advertised *Bids opened *Construction NTP *Initiation of Operations Date

Upcoming Activities:

- Rebid in the latter part of April 2024
- Bid opening May 2024

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive Ms. Jacobs report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Council members had several questions about the lack of progress on the Railroad Ave. Lift Station project. They asked if the COG had the ability to secure additional funds if they were needed to complete the project. The council requested the appearance of representatives from the Grant Administrators (Pee Dee COG) and the Official Engineers (Davis & Floyd) at the May Council Meeting.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report:
Councilwoman Bradley reminded merchant to renew their business licenses by the April 30th deadline. She gave the following report (as of April 8, 2024):

- 118 Renewal Letters were mailed out.
- 5 Business licenses were renewed.
- 3 Business Licenses Renewal are pending.
- 2 New Business License issued.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:

- Committee continues to work on giving a different look to the trash cans. Work is ongoing.

- The Great American Clean-up held from March 21 – March 23, 2024, was successful. The last clean up day was April 4, 2024.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:

- Water is settling in a ditch from Duke Street around Davis Street; the water almost fills the ditch. The water has caused a blockage on Davis Street. There are pictures that show limbs and roots in the ditch.
- Issues on Boykin Street have been resolved.
- The Helen Lane Project is ongoing. The council appreciates citizens heeding precautions in that area.
- Other streets and water leakage are being assessed as needed.

Water Loss Report for the Month of February 2024:
Gallons Purchased: 3,771,620, Gallons Billed: 1,619,676, Gallons Loss: 2,151,944 (Paid to DCWSA - $12,182.55)

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Reminded citizens to report street light outages to Duke Energy.
- Disruption on streets due to uncovered manholes and risers not fitting on manholes. Chief Scott said that DOT recommended using cold patch to level off manholes.
- Curve drop-off/hole on Warren Avenue near Gay-Ann Store.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Concealed Weapons Permit Class to be held on April 27, 2024, from 7:15 am – 4:00 pm. The cost is $35 if you have your own gun and ammunition; $55 if you don't. No updates on Animal Control numbers.
- Lamar Fun Day will be back his summer. Contact Chief Scott if you would like to participate.
- The quarterly report for the SC Department of Commerce Grant for the Lamar Police Department will be submitted by April 30th. The last quarterly report resulted in the SCDOC releasing the remaining $75,000 to the Town of Lamar.
- The COPS Hiring Grant has not reopened for FY2024. When it does, the Lamar Police Department will submit paperwork to secure funds.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Councilwoman Mack asked about a bike lane at Pearl Street and Davis Street. She said that the surface was not good for motorized wheelchairs.

Mayor Howell announced that a pediatrician office will open in the Town of Lamar in August 2024.

Tim Dargan stated that Mercantile213 will host a Spring Pick-A-Palooza on April 13th from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm.

Councilman Cook made a motion for council to enter Executive Session to discuss a contract for code enforcement and the sale of property related to an easement. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Cook made a motion to re-enter General Session. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion for the Town of Lamar to hire Brent Bullard as the Town's Code Enforcement Officer. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion for the Town of Lamar to grant an easement to Bernard and Pamela Scott from property that it owns on Davis Street. This will allow the Scotts to have a driveway to access their home. The cost of the sale will be $500. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor Howell, Councilman Cook, and Councilwoman Mack voted in the affirmative. Councilwoman Bradley and Councilwoman Lee voted

in the negative. The motion passed with three (3) “Yays” and two (2) “Nays”. Councilwoman Bradley and Councilwoman Lee stated for the record that the cost of the sale should have been $5.00.

Councilwoman Lee and Councilwoman Bradley 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 8:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan

Lamar Town Council Called Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2024

Mayor James Howell called the Lamar Town Council Meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call: Mayor Howell, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee were all present. Councilwoman Bradley called in on the telephone.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan (Town Administrator) and Carl Scott (Chief of Police).

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 2, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilman cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan suggested that the council set a budget schedule. The council set the following schedule:
May 20th – Budget Workshop
May 28th - First Reading of Budget for FYE 2025
June 10th – Second reading of Budget for FYE 2025

Council discussed Lamar Town Ordinance 3.108 (Animals: Unlawful to pen. Certain). Councilman Cook read the ordinance and then stated that he thinks the ordinance should be modified to allow citizens to have chickens in the Town limit. He cited the fact that Columbia, South Carolina is much larger than the Town of Lamar and they allow their residents to own chickens. He said that there should be a limit on how many chickens a household can own and that the chicken must be properly penned.

Mayor Howell stated the rising cost of eggs as a reason to consider modifying the ordinance.

Councilwoman Lee was concern about chickens getting out and chicken droppings. She asked which area of Columbia allowed the chickens.

Councilwoman Bradley agreed with keeping the chicken penned up and with a number's restriction. She asked that each council member do research on their own and discuss it at the May council meeting. They agreed.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion for council to enter Executive Session to discuss a contract for the Town Administrator. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to re-enter General Session. Councilwoman lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Howell and Council have agreed to keep Tim Dargan on as the Town Administrator. Mr. Dargan's status will change from full-time to part-time.

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 7:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Carl Scott, Lindsay Privette, Preston Watson, Brent Bullard, and Danielle Wikes.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 13, 2024, 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 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting and May 2, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting with adjustment to the report giving by Councilwoman Lee in the April 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Danielle Wilkes, who signed up to speak in advance, asked members of the Egg Scramble Jamboree Committee what their plans were for the banners and poles mounted throughout town. She said that she would get with Councilwoman Mack to discuss the matter later. Ms. Wilkes mentioned that the Town Hall Christmas Tree needs to be upgraded. She and William Spring will give the Town a quote for a wire-framed tree. In closing, Ms. Wilkes said that there will be a "Christmas in July" raffle held in the month of July. A drawing will be held every day of the month.

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

General Fund (March 2024): Receipts - $10,733.15, Disbursements - $36,104.41, Decrease in cash - $25,371.26, Ending cash balance - $487,727.54 ($209,653.43 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (March 2024): Receipts - $39,892.94, Disbursements - $44,649.53, Decrease in cash -$4,756.59, Ending cash balance - $88,198.67 ($31,039.12 available for operations; $57,159.55 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the Town of Lamar FYE 2023 Audit and the budget schedule for the FYE 2025. The audit is underway, and documents are being pulled and processed. The budget schedule is as follows:
Budget Workshop – Monday, May 20th at 6:00 pm
First Reading of Budget Ordinance – Tuesday, May 28th at 6:00 pm
Second Reading of Budget Ordinance – Monday, June 10th at 6:15 pm

Teresa Jacobs from the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:
Activities Currently On-Going/Completed:

- April 26, 2024, Town of Lamar met with Davis & Floyd to discuss the plans for rescoping and rebidding of project.

Upcoming Activities:

- Rebid in May 2024
- Bid opening June 2024

Lindsay Privette of the Pee Dee Regional Council of Government, and Preston Watson of Davis & Floyd appeared before the council to give an update on the Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project

Lindsay Privette said that that the Bid Opening for the Railroad Avenue Lift Station construction was held on January 9, 2024. The bids that came in were much higher than the funds that are available for this project. She spoke to Abby Linden at the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) about obtaining additional funds, but unfortunately there are no additional SCIIP or RIA funds available. Ms. Privette also said that the Lamar was further along in their project than most other municipalities.

Preston Watson gave more details on the financial restraints involving this project. He said the Town needs an additional $400,00 to move forward. Mr. Watson also said that Davis & Floyd has incurred additional expenses and that the contract must be modified. More funding must be obtained as soon as possible. The deadline to advertise is in June or July 2024.

Members of council asked how the situation got so dire without being forewarned. Mr. Watson said that the original contract was completed in 2021, the cost of supplies and the demands of the market have driven up the cost. The council also questioned how the project was ready for bid for quite some time but was just opened for bidding this year.

Mayor Howell spoke about the deteriorating condition of the manhole on Railroad Avenue. He asked Mr. Watson to physically look at the manhole and advise on what to do. Mr. Dargan pointed out that the Town is spending $4000 per/month on the sewer bypass pump at that location.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report. As of May 13, 2024:

- 121 business license renewal letters were mailed out.
- 48 business licenses were renewed.
- 27 new business licenses were issued.
- 73 business Licenses are pending renewal (8 have been received and need additional information).

Councilman Cook discussed a proposed Chicken Amendment to the Town of Lamar Ordinances.
Councilman Cook read a proposed amendment using a model of the City of Columbia's animal code. Councilman Cook suggested a few changes to better suit the Town of Lamar. This proposal includes the number of chickens allowed, proper enclosures for the chickens, elimination of some of the zoning requirements, and clearer language in the Town of Lamar current ordinance (3.108).

Councilwoman Lee asked which part of Columbia was the ordinance in effect for. She was concerned about the chickens getting out of their enclosure and about the odor the chickens would bring. Councilwoman Lee suggested that the council do more research and discuss this further at a future council meeting

Brent Bullard was formally introduced as the Code Enforcement Officer for the Town of Lamar. He is the owner of RCI of South Carolina and has entered into a contract to serve the Town of Lamar. Mr. Bullard asked council to adopt the following codes and to note that they will be automatically updated at the time of State adoption from this point forward:

- 2021 International Building Code (with South Carolina Modifications)
- 2021 International Mechanical Code (with South Carolina Modifications)
- 2021 International Fuel Gas Code (With South Carolina Modifications)
- 2021 International Plumbing Code (With South Carolina Modifications)
- 2021 International Residential Code (With South Carolina Modifications)
- 2029 International Energy Code
- Chapter 1 of the International Building and Residential Code as it is written.

Councilman Cook made a motion to adopt the stated codes and Chapter 1, Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. Mayor Howell, Councilman Cook, Councilwoman Bradley, and Councilwoman Mack voted "Yay". Councilwoman Lee voted "Nay". The motion was carried by a vote of 4-1.

Mr. Bullard was asked about chicken ordinances in surrounding local towns. He said that he would check around and get back in touch with the council.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:

- Committee continues to work on giving a different look to the trash cans. Work is ongoing.
- In addition to the "Great American Clean-up Project", the committee is looking to work with the Lamar area schools to create a "Day of Caring".

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:

- West Jackson water line repair.
- Issues on Boykin Street have been resolved.
- Reynolds Street issues from the "business" has been resolved.
- Other streets and water leakage are being assessed as needed.
- The Helen Lane Project is ongoing.

Water Loss Report for the Month of April 2024:
Gallons Purchased: 3,931,710 Gallons Billed: 1,633,042 Gallons Loss: 2,298,668 (Paid to DCWSA -$12,1694.83)

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:
Councilwoman Mack said that the shoulders of some streets need to be cut, sprayed, or trimmed with a weed-eater. The grass is destroying the pavement in some of these areas. She will compile a list of the most serious ones.

Councilwoman Mack recommended that the town gets more garbage carts. She researched several companies and presented her findings to the council. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to purchase 50 garbage carts from Toter's Municipal and Government Division at a total cost of $3,065.56 (shipping charges included). Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Concealed Weapons Permit Class was held on April 27, 2024. SLED will start offering a free concealed weapons class in the future.
- A community forum on the "Open Weapon Carry Law" was held on May 9, 2024.
- Lamar Fun Day will be back his summer. Contact Chief Scott if you would like to participate.
- The quarterly report for the SC Department of Commerce Grant for the Lamar Police Department was submitted on April 26th. The funds for the quarter were spent on salaries and radio repairs.
- The COPS Hiring Grant has opened for FY2024.The Lamar Police Department is working to apply for funds and will give an update at the June 10th Lamar Town Council Meeting.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Mayor Howell announced that a pediatrician office will open in the Town of Lamar in August 2024. They are looking to hire nurses from the Lamar area.

Tim Dargan stated that the Town of Lamar will be featured in the May 15, 2024, Edition of the News & Press.

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 7:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan

Lamar Town Council Called Meeting Minutes
Town of Lamar Public Hearing
May 28, 2024

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

Deacon Tim Dargan gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Carl Scott.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the agenda for the May 28, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

After a discussion of the proposed budget, Councilman Cook conducted the First Reading of the Town of Lamar Municipal Budget Ordinance for the FYE 2025. The budget includes $1,075,000 in revenues, and $1,075,000 in expenditures. The mills remained at 81 mills. Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mayor Howell adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L. Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2024

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: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee were all present.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Carl Scott.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the June 10, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the minutes from the May 13, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting and May 28, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting (First Reading of Municipal Budget). Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund (April 2024): Receipts - $69,977.12, Disbursements - $39,480.21, Increase in cash - $30,496.91, Ending cash balance - $518,224.45 ($205,503.85 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (April 2024): Receipts - $33,115.36, Disbursements - $36,921.93, Decrease in cash -$3,806.57, Ending cash balance - $84,392.107 ($27,224.51 available for operations; $57,167.59 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Poston explained that he split the audit cost between the Administrative Account and the Utility Account for the Town of Lamar Municipal Audit.

Councilman Cook read the Second Reading of the Town of Lamar Municipal Budget for FYE 2025. Councilman Cook made a motion that the council adopt the amount of $1,075,000.00 for revenues, and $1,075,000.00 for expenditures. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Council of Government (COG) submitted the SCIIP Grant Report:
Activities Currently On-Going/Completed:

- May 13, 2024, Lindse Privette (Pee Dee COG) and Preston Watson (Davis & Floyd) attended the Town of Lamar Council Meeting.
    - Davis & Floyd requested an engineering increase/modification to cover rescoping and rebidding of project.
    - No additional money from RIA/SCIIP to fund project rescope.
    - Need to find additional funding.

Upcoming Activities:

- Rebid of project – To Be Announced (TBA)
- Bid opening – (TBA)

Preston Watson of Davis & Floyd submitted an update:

- Davis & Floyd is on hold for rescoping R/R Ave pending the Town's agreement modification.
- The SSES is still in progress. Field work is roughly 90% complete. We anticipate completing the fieldwork and subsequent report in the next 6 weeks.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive both reports as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report. As of June 5, 2024:

- 121 business license renewal letters were mailed out.
- 85 business licenses were renewed.
- 39 new business licenses were issued.
- 36 business Licenses are pending renewal Councilwoman Bradley encouraged business to obtain their business license before the deadline to avoid costly penalties.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Councilwoman Mack discussed the banners that the Egg Scramble Jamboree Committee put on the light poles on Railroad Avenue. She shared that the Christmas on Main Committee asked if the banner/banner holders could be relocated to Main Street. Councilman Mack said that although there may be further discussions, she pointed out that the banner holders were customed-made for the poles that they are currently on.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:
Water Loss Report for the Month of May 2024:
Gallons Purchased: 2,741,130 Gallons Billed: 2,072,897 Gallons Loss: 668,233

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Councilwoman Mack thanked the Town of Lamar Police Officers for helping with the reporting of streetlights outage.
- The order for the municipal trash cans has been placed; there were a few changes made to the order.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Lamar Fun Day is July 20, 2024, from 11 am – 2 pm at 400 Cartersville Highway.
- The Lamar Police Department has a new part-time, certified officer, Officer Calip Floyd.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Councilman Cook did a recap of the proposed Chicken Amendment to the Town of Lamar Ordinances. No votes were taken.

Tim Dargan discussed the upcoming events:

- First Step's Men Health Month Event (June 22nd, 11:00 am -5:00 pm).
- Harvest Hope Food Giveaway (June 27th, 12:00 pm – Until).
- Christmas in July Raffle Tickets Event (Drawing daily throughout the month of July).

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 6:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee gave the invocation.

Mayor Howell took roll call: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee were all present. Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack attended via Zoom Call.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Carl Scott, Ann Huyler, and Lindsay Privette.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the July 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 10, 2024, 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 (May 2024): Receipts - $50,830.56, Disbursements - $42,042.95, Increase in cash - $8,787.61, Ending cash balance - $527,012.06 ($201,354.27 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (May 2024): Receipts - $42,562.11, Disbursements - $46,317.29, Decrease in cash -$3,755.18, Ending cash balance - $80,636.92 ($23,461.02 available for operations; $57,175.90 for restricted grant funds).

Ann Huyler, Urban Forestry Specialist for the Pee Dee Region of the SC Forestry Commission gave a presentation on behalf of the commission which included information on becoming a "Tree City", the available 2023 Urban Forestry Grants, and sample proclamations for various tree-related projects. Ms. Huyler also provided contact information and a schedule for upcoming webinars. She stipulated that that if the Town was to become a "Tree City<, the trees could only be planted on land owned by the Town.

Lindsay Privette of the Pee Dee Council of Government didn't have a formal report, but she was in attendance to address the council personally. Besides the Quarterly Report being submitted to RIA, there was no news or updates. Ms. Privette spoke to Abby Linden of RIA about funding, but there were no updates. She mentioned that there may be more funding available in the fall, but it will not be enough to cover the Town's shortfall. There is also no guarantee that the Town will get the funds. Ms. Privette stated that the Town is still in better shape than most of the surrounding municipalities. Ms. Privette stated that she could not speak for Davis & Floyd (Engineer for the Railroad Project) to which Mr. Dargan suggested council members submit questions to him to forward to Davis & Floyd for answers.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report. As of July 8, 2024:

- 121 business license renewal letters were mailed out.
- 96 business licenses were renewed.
- 57 new business licenses were issued.
- 25 business Licenses are pending renewal Councilwoman Bradley encouraged business to obtain their business license before the deadline to avoid costly penalties.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Councilwoman Lee reported that the Beautification Commission is continuing with their "Great American/Palmetto Pride Clean-up" project and are hoping to partner with the are schools to create a "Day of Caring". This event is not set in stone, but hopefully it will transpire in the future. The SC Forestry Commission Presentation was part of the Beautification Commission Report.
Water Line Repairs / Alarm Issues:

- Warren Avenue leak, and (2) leak at Main St. entrance to Police Department have been repaired.

- A work order has been placed for Pearl Street.
- The Grooms Water Tank alarm started going off on Thursday. Hopefully, this issue will be resolved soon.

*For water breaks, please call Councilwoman Inez B. Lee at (843) 230-7137.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:
Water Loss Report for the Month of June 2024:
Gallons Purchased:3,754,100 Gallons Billed: 2,632,895 Gallons Loss: 1,121,205
(Did not include the amount of the June invoice)

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:
- Councilwoman Mack reported that the new trash roll carts that were ordered for the Town's citizens have arrived.
- Continuing to monitor and report street light outages. Reminded citizens to report outages as well.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:
- Lamar Fun Day is July 20, 2024, from 11 am – 2 pm at 400 Cartersville Highway.
- The next quarterly report for the South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant is due at the end of July. .
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Councilman Cook did a brief recap of the proposed Chicken Amendment to the Town of Lamar Ordinances. He is going to add goats, ducks, and pigs to the ordinance. Councilman Cook would like to have the first reading at the next council meeting. Mr. Dargan said that citizens should be aware of the proposed ordinance by that time.

Tim Dargan discussed the upcoming events:
- The Christmas on Main Committee is hosting a "Christmas in July" raffle tickets event (drawing daily throughout the month of July).

Councilwoman Bradley 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 7:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee called for a moment of silence in memory of former Town of Lamar Municipal Clerk Sherrill Dorriety. She then gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan, Carl Scott, and Edell George.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the August 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Edell George, a Citizen of Lamar, addressed the council concerning a few citizens that have or have had chickens on their property within the town limit. She spoke of the foul smell and the possibility of chickens attracting flies. Ms. George presented a signed petition from several citizens and asked the council to consider their point of view as the council proposes changing the animal ordinance to allow citizens to have chickens.
`

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

General Fund (June 2024): Receipts - $138,418.37, Disbursements - $48,088.05, Increase in cash - $90,330.32, Ending cash balance - $617,342.38 ($197,204.69 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (June 2024): Receipts - $39,715.30, Disbursements - $31,915.61, Increase in cash -$7,799.69, Ending cash balance - $88,436.61 ($31,252.66 available for operations; $57,183.95 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Poston explained that most of the $90,330.22 increase in cash for the general fund was from a broker check from MASC (Municipal Association of South Carolina).

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee COG (Council of Government). Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

An email sent in the form of a status report was submitted by Preston Watson and John Reynolds of the Davis & Floyd Engineering Firm. After stating that she was unhappy with the report, Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Codes and Business Report. As of August 12, 2024:

- 121 business license renewal letters were mailed out.
- 104 business licenses were renewed.
- 65 new business licenses were issued.
- 7 business Licenses are pending renewal Councilwoman Bradley encouraged business to obtain their business license before the deadline to avoid costly penalties.

Councilwoman Mack asked how the cost of a business license was determined. Mr. Dargan, along with Councilwoman Bradley and Mayor Howell, explained that it was determined by the profession and gross income earned in the Town of Lamar for the previous year.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Councilwoman Lee reported that the Beautification Commission did not meet on August 9, 2024, due to Tropical Storm Debby. She said that the commission is continuing with their "Great American/Palmetto Pride Clean-up" project and are hoping to partner with the area schools to create a "Day of Caring". This event is not set in stone, but hopefully it will transpire in the future. The SC Forestry Commission Presentation was part of the Beautification Commission Report.
Water Line Repairs / Alarm Issues:

- Warren Avenue leak, and (2) leak at Main St. entrance to Police Department have been repaired.
- A work order has been placed for Pearl Street.
- Sandbags were distributed by the town as needed during Tropical Storm Debby.

*For water breaks, please call Councilwoman Inez B. Lee at (843) 230-7137.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:
Water Loss Report for the Month of July 2024:
Gallons Purchased:4,579,200 Gallons Billed: 2,523,674 Gallons Loss: 2,055,526 [$14,755.81 paid to DCWSA]

Councilwoman Bradley asked about the discrepancy (increased in gallons used and the cost) between the May, June, and July DCWSA water bill. Councilwoman Lee, along with Councilwoman Mack and Mr. Dargan, explained that DCWSA billed for fewer days in the month of May and more days for the month of July.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Continuing to monitor and report street light outages. Reminded citizens to report outages as well.
- Concern about lighting on Pearl Street since Craig's closed. Mayor Howell is going to contact Mr. Jebaily (Blackhorse owner) to address this concern.
- Recent rains have caused or increased several problem areas. Identified sink holes at Jackson (Reynolds) and Main & Pettigrew. Barriers that were placed to warn citizens are being moved by citizens.
- Councilwoman Mack mentioned that Tonya Brown from WPDE TV-15 featured a story on the condition of Lamar's recreation football field. She thanked the Recreation Department, local staff, and concerned community members. Mayor Howell added that he has located bleachers to place on the field.
- Stated that the Town should use the balance of the Duke Energy Grant to prepare for tropical and winter storms (including purchasing sandbags, traffic cones, traffic signs, traffic barriers, traffic barrels w/lights.
- Town needs to prepare an Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Councilman Cook thanked everyone who supported and participated in Lamar Family Fun Day. In addition, he named and thanked some of the sponsors individually.
- The South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant was submitted on July 30, 2024. Councilman Cook gave a breakdown of the expenditures.
- The Lamar Police Department coordinated with SCDOT to clean storm drains with the vac truck in advance of Tropical Storm Debby. There were two road closures due to sink holes (East Jacksin & Reynolds, and Pettigrew & Main).
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).
- There have been several break-ins on the outskirts of the town limit.
- Chief Scott pointed out that ac units have also been stolen.

Councilman Cook read a summary of a letter submitted by former Town of Lamar mayor, Darnell McPherson, lauding the success of Lamar Fun Day. She also thanked Chief Carl Scott, the other officers, and the Public Works Employees for a dedicated, well planned, and well executed event.

Councilman Cook read a portion of the Proposed Chicken Amendment for the Town of Lamar including:

(1) Drainage of the run, (2) coops being screened by shrubbery or a privacy fence, and (3) changing the language in Lamar Town Ordinance Book Section 3.108 to identify certain animals that will be unlawful for citizens to have.

Councilman Cook stated that he modeled the proposed amendments after Columbia, SC Animal Ordinance.

Councilwoman Bradley suggested that the first reading of the ordinance be postponed until the penalty and fee structure is put into place. Councilwoman Lee stated her concern about the smell and asked if there was chemical that could be used to reduce the smell. The ordinance amendment will be discussed at a future council meeting.

Mayor Howell thanked everyone that assisted the Town of Lamar during Tropical Storm Debby. He also said that the pediatrician office will be opening in late August or early September. Lastly, Mayor Howell mentioned that the Town of Lamar now has a steakhouse – "Log Cabin Steakhouse". It is located at the Lamar Country Club (Governor's Run).

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 7:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2024

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: Mayor Howell, Councilwoman Angele White- Bradley, Councilman Tyler Cook, and Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack, and Councilwoman Inez B. Lee were all present.

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan and Carl Scott.

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the October 14, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 9, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Pamela Johnson of the Pee Dee Coalition gave a brief overview of Domestic Violence Month. Ms. Johnson left contact information for those that wish to speak to her or the agency. The Domestic Office (843—383-0420) and her cell phone (843-624-0015). Councilman Cook read the Domestic Violence Month Proclamation.

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

General Fund (September 2024): Receipts - $33,788.65, Disbursements - $37,788.66, Decrease in cash - $4,000.01, Ending cash balance - $597,271.79 ($175,094.95 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (September 2024): Receipts - $35,774.00, Disbursements - $28,546.53, Increase in cash -$7,227.47, Ending cash balance - $99,862.14 ($42,653.48 available for operations; $57,208.66 for restricted grant funds).

Mr. Dargan pointed out that the Utility Fund Report had a date of August 31, 2024, but should have been September 30, 2024. Mr. Poston verified this information.

Mr. Dargan gave an update on the 2023 Municipal Audit. He stated that the accountant conducting the audit, Foster McKinney of Hamilton, McKinney, and Moss, would present the financial statements at the November Lamar Town Council Meeting.

Mr. Dargan and Councilwoman Mack stated that the remaining ARP funds must be allocated before the end of 2024. The funds must be spent by the end of 2026. Councilwoman Mack went on the record to say that she thought the premium pay given to the Town of Lamar staff should have been a much larger amount.

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee COG (Council of Government). Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley will give the Codes and Business Report at the November Town Council meeting.

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Councilwoman Lee stated that her cell phone crashed and therefore the commission canceled their regularly scheduled meeting.

Waterline Line Issues:
Teachers Drive – water break issue

Warren Street – water break issue
Grooms Water Tank – no issues
Darlington Ave – Leak has been repaired

*For water breaks, please call Councilwoman Inez B. Lee at (843) 230-7137.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:
Water Loss Report for the Month of September 2024:
Gallons Purchased:**5,161,080** Gallons Billed: **2,708,172** Gallons Loss: **2,452,908** [$17,142.13 paid to DCWSA]

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:

- Councilwoman Mack continues to monitor and report street light outages. Thanked Chief Scott, his officers, and staff for assisting with reporting outages that they find.
- Asking homeowners to check their shrubbery that are near the street. Overgrown shrubs are creating driving hazards by being in the path of the drivers causing them to cross lanes. We appreciate your help in addressing this problem.
- Working with Councilwoman Lee to identify properties located on the ditched in town. Using the County Tax maps, all ditches and properties have been identified within the town limit (of Lamar). The purpose of this exercise is to get new easements signed in advance for properties that need to be cleaned. We think that going door-to-door is not feasible; therefore, we will set dates for citizens to come in and sign the easements.
- Some ditched are maintained by the county, some are maintained by the state. Councilwoman Mack asked Mayor Howell to ask the county if they would cut back the trees. The mayor will check and get back with her.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- The Town of Lamar will host Trunk-or-Treat on Thursday, October 31, 2024, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- If any church in the area is interested in sharing meals for the less fortunate during the Thanksgiving holiday, please contact the Lamar Police Department for additional information. Chief Scott said that interested parties should contact Lee Knight at 843-245-4722.
- The South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant update is due on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Updates will be given at the November 11, 2024, Council meeting.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Mr. Dargan gave the following updates: Lamar Recreation Lunch Trip (October 17), Lamar High School Homecoming (October 18) & Alumni Tailgate (October 19), Christmas on Main Festivities (December 7), and Christmas on Main "Christmas Wreath Tribute Wall" (deadline November 1).

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 6:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee Dargan gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: W. Foster McKinney, Tim Dargan, and Carl Scott.

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the agenda for the November 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 14, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no comments from citizens during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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

General Fund (October 2024): Receipts - $8,561.95, Disbursements - $41,274.01, Decrease in cash - $32,712.06, Ending cash balance - $564,559.73 ($170,945.37 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (October 2024): Receipts - $37,719.91, Disbursements - $39,021.67, Decrease in cash -$1,301.76, Ending cash balance - $91,332.91 ($34,115.91 available for operations; $57,217.00 for restricted grant funds).

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

W. Foster McKinney of Hamilton McKinney & Moss presented the Financial Statements from the FY2023 Municipal Audit to the Lamar Town Council. Mr. McKinney concluded that the Town of Lamar received a clean opinion (the financial statements were presented fairly and in accordance with accounting principles, and there were no major issues with internal controls), and that the Town was in good financial standing. Mr. McKinney thanked Mr. Dargan, Gloria Joye, Doug Poston, and Chief Scott for their assistance. Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the results of the audit. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Dargan reminded the council that they had to allocate all remaining ARP funds by December 31, 2024. Councilwoman Bradley called for an Arp Workshop to allocate the funds and to table all discussions until that time.

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee COG (Council of Government). Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Preston Watson of Davis & Floyd). Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Business License Report. As of November 11, 2024:
Business License Letters Mailed Out:**121,** Licenses Renewed:**105,** New Licenses:**80**, Pending Licenses:**16**

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Thanked Christmas on Main Committee for Christmas Decorations displayed throughout the Town of Lamar. She also reminded businesses and residents to clean around their properties.

Waterline Line Issues:

- Ongoing issue with water line at Waren & Rogers. Mayor Howell said the issue would be evaluated this week.
- Grooms Water Tank Issues. Alarm keeps going off. She thinks that this may be an electrical problem.
- Leak at Main & Darlington Ave has been repaired.
- For water breaks, please call Councilwoman Inez B. Lee at (843) 230-7137.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:
Water Loss Report for the Month of September 2024:
Gallons Purchased:**14,726,000** Gallons Billed: **1,742,625** Gallons Loss:**2,983,375 [$15,706.37** paid to DCWSA]

Councilwoman Bradley apologize to citizens for receiving late announcements about water breaks.

Council to evaluate a possible hike in the water & sewer rates.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report

- Councilwoman Mack continues to monitor and report street light outages.
- Barrels are still in the streets. They need to be removed in a timely manner.
- Tim Dargan to check on Street signs.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Thanksgiving Dinners. If any church in the area is interested in sharing meals for the less fortunate during the Thanksgiving holiday, please contact Lee Knight at 843-245-4722.
- The South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant update is due on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Updates will be given at the November 11, 2024, Council meeting.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).

Mr. Dargan gave the following updates: Lamar Recreation Bingo Trip (November 19), Christmas Tree Lighting (November 28) and Christmas on Main Festivities (December 7).

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

Councilwoman Mack made a motion to re-enter the regular Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

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 7:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

Lamar Town Council Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2024

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

Councilwoman Inez B. Lee Dargan gave the invocation.

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

Others in attendance: Tim Dargan

Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the agenda for the December 9, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting. Councilwoman Mack seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no comments from citizens during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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

General Fund (November 2024): Receipts - $59,888.75, Disbursements - $58,245.33, Increase in cash - $1,643.42, Ending cash balance - $566,203.15 ($162,745.79 of these funds are from the American Rescue Funds).

Utility Fund (November 2024): Receipts - $36,123.80, Disbursements - $41,943.82, Decrease in cash -$5,820.02, Ending cash balance - $85,512.89 ($28,287.82 available for operations; $57,225.07 for restricted grant funds).

Councilwoman Bradley made a motion to receive the financial report as a record. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee COG (Council of Government). Councilwoman Mack made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilwoman Bradley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A status report on The Railroad Avenue Lift Station Project was submitted by Preston Watson of Davis & Floyd). Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the report as information. Councilwoman Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Bradley gave the Business License Report. As of December 9, 2024:
Business License Letters Mailed Out:**121,** Licenses Renewed:**107,** New Licenses:**90**, Pending Licenses:**14**

Councilwoman Lee Beautification Commission Report:
Thanked the Christmas on Main Committee for the Christmas Decorations displayed throughout the Town of Lamar, and for the Christmas on Main Festival and Parade.

Waterline Issues:

- Ongoing issue with water lines at Waren & Rogers, Darlington & Reynolds, and Main & Reynolds. Mayor Howell said the issue would be evaluated this week and worked on when the local schools are for Christmas break.
- Jackson & Darlington water leak. Mayor Howell said that there is an issue with the valve that prevents it from cutting the water off. This is being addressed.
- For water breaks, please call Councilwoman Inez B. Lee at (843) 230-7137.

Councilwoman Lee gave the Water & Sewer Report:

Water Loss Report for the Month of September 2024:
Gallons Purchased:**4,588,900** Gallons Billed:**2,250,132** Gallons Loss:**2,338,768** [$15,253.94 paid to DCWSA]

Councilwoman Lee reported that DES (formerly DHEC) visited the Town of Lamar to conduct the Annual Sanitary Water (drinking water) Survey Inspection. This inspection included checking reports from fire hydrants, valves, water leaks, and the town's elevated water tanks. The results of the inspection have not been received; they will be made available upon receipt.

Mr. Dargan thanked SERCAP (Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project) and SCWRA (South Carolina Rural Water Authority) for the technical support they provided to town in preparation for the inspection.

Councilwoman Bradley asked citizens to please slow down and drive with caution when they see hazard cones and flashings hazard lights. This is for the safety of town employees and the town's citizens.

Mayor Howell stated that the town's water bill has been higher than usual for the past 3 months. He pleaded with citizens to please report water leaks when they see them.

Councilwoman Mack gave the Streets and Sanitation Report:
Councilwoman Mack continues to monitor and report streetlight outages.

Councilwoman Lee asked about the manholes that are not properly covered. Mayor Howell remarked that they must use coal patch to cover the lids for now; however, they must be marked for the records.

Councilwoman Bradley stated that the water valves needed to be clearly defined. Mayor Howell and Councilwoman Lee said that SCWRA is coming in January to assist with that project.

Councilman Cook gave the Lamar Police Department Report:

- Chief Carl Scott resigned as the Chief of Police on Friday, November 15, 2024. Chief Scott is assisting with the transition as the Town seeks a new Chief of Police. He will maintain his Town e-mail address and phone number for the time being. The Darlington County Sheriff's Office and the Lamar Police Department's Officer Calip Floyd are covering the Town in the interim. Councilman Cook is scheduling officers until a new Chief of Police is found.
- The Town of Lamar is hiring a new Chief of Police.
- The Police Department received an indefinite extension for the South Carolina Department of Commerce Grant. Next quarterly report is due on January 31, 2025. Councilman Cook and Mr. Dargan (Town Administrator) will manage grant until a new Police Chief is hired.
- Reminded citizens to watch their speed when driving around town.
- Please contact the Animal Shelter if you need a trap in your area at 843-398-4011.
- Encourage residents to call the Anonymous Tip Line at 843-326-1449 (non-emergency calls).
- A citizen complained that they called the county for law enforcement, but her call was not answered.

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 6:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Timothy L Dargan

LAMAR TCOUNCIL ARP ALLOCATION WORKSHOP
DECEMBER 9, 2024
7:00 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
3. **Discussion of Allocation of ARP Funds**
4. **Assignment of ARP Funds**
5. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for December 9, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from November 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell**
7. **Financial Report – Submitted Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
8. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Teresa Jacobs, Pee Dee COG**
9. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Preston Watson, Davis & Floyd**
10. **Code & Business – Submitted Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley**
11. **Beautification Commission Report – Submitted Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
12. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Submitted by Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Submitted by Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
13. **Police Department Report – Submitted by Councilman Tyler Cook**
14. **Upcoming Events – Submitted by Tim Dargan**
15. **Questions / Comments**
16. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 11, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

3. Roll Call – Mayor James Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for November 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from October 14, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

6. Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell

7. Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA

8. Town of Lamar Financial Statements – W. Foster McKinney, II, CPA PA

9. ARP Funds Allocation – Tim Dargan and Councilwoman Angele Bradley

10. Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Teresa Jacobs, Pee Dee COG

11. Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Preston Watson, Davis & Floyd

12. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley

13. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

14. Public Works Department Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
- **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**

15. Police Department Report – Submitted by Councilman Tyler Cook

16. Potential lease agreement with County for Recreation football field – Councilwoman Mack

17. Upcoming Events – Tim Dargan

18. Executive Session:

- **<u>The FOIA South Carolina Code Section 30-4-70 (A)(1)</u>**
  Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, or an appointment to a board.

19. Questions / Comments

20. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation – Deacon Tim Dargan**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for October 14, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell**
7. **Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Pamela Johnson, Pee Dee Coalition**
8. **Financial Report – Submitted by Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
9. **Status Report on Town of Lamar Municipal Audit – Tim Dargan**
10. **Status Report on ARP (American Rescue Plan) Funds – Tim Dargan / Councilwoman Mack**
11. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Teresa Jacobs, Pee Dee COG**
12. **Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley**
13. **Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
14. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
15. **Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook**
16. **Upcoming Events – Tim Dargan**
17. **Questions / Comments**
18. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for September 9, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell**
7. **Financial Report – Submitted by Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
8. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Teresa Jacobs, Pee Dee COG**
9. **SCIIP Grant Update – Lindsay Privette, Pee De COG**
10. **Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley**
11. **Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
12. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
13. **Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook**
14. **Hometown Economic Development Grant Resolution – Councilman Tyler Cook**
15. **Upcoming Events – Councilwoman Angele Bradley**
16. **Questions / Comments**
17. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation (Pause for a moment of silence for Sherrill Dorriety) – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for August 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from the July 08, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell**
7. **Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
8. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station Report – Submitted by Teresa Jacobs, Pee Dee COG**
9. **Railroad & SSES Report – Submitted by Preston Watson & John Reynolds of Davis & Floyd**
10. **Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley**
11. **Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
12. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
13. **Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook**
14. **Amendment to Animal Ordinance – Councilman Tyler Cook**
15. **First Reading of Amended Animal Ordinance – Councilman Tyler Cook**
15. **Upcoming Events - Tim Dargan**
16. **Questions / Comments**
17. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 8, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor James Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for July 13, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from the June 10, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell**
7. **Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
8. **SC Forestry Commission - Ann Huyler, Urban Forestry Specialist Pee Dee Region**
9. **Railroad Ave. Lift Station update – Lindsey Privette, Pee Dee COG**
10. **Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley**
11. **Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
12. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
13. **Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook**
14. **Animal Ordinance – Councilman Tyler Cook**
15. **Upcoming Events - Tim Dargan**
16. **Questions / Comments**
17. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 10, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

3. Roll Call – Mayor James Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for June 10, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from the May 13, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting and May 28, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting (First reading of Municipal Budget).

6. Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor James Howell

7. Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA

8. Second Reading of Town of Lamar Municipal Budget FYE 2025

9. Railroad Ave. Lift Station update:

- **Pee Dee Regional COG – Report Submitted by Lindsay Privette & Teresa Jacob**
- **Davis & Floyd – Report Submitted by Preston Watson**
    - Davis & Floyd is on hold for rescoping R/R Ave pending the Town's agreement modification.
    - The SSES is still in progress. Field work is roughly 90% complete. We anticipate completing the field work and subsequent report in the next 6 weeks.

10. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley

11. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

12. Public Works Department Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
- **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**

13. Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook

14. Animal Ordinance – Councilman Tyler Cook

15. Upcoming Events - Tim Dargan

16. Questions / Comments

17. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR PUBLIC HEARING

May 28, 2024

6:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

3. Roll Call – Mayor Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for May 28, 2024, Town of Lamar Public Hearing.

5. Discussion of Town of Lamar Budget FYE 2025

6. First Reading of Town of Lamar Budget FYE 2025

7. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 13, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

3. Roll Call – Mayor Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for May 13, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from the April 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting and May 2, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting.

6. Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor Howell

7. Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA

8. Audit Update and Budget Schedule – Tim Dargan

9. Railroad Ave. Lift Station update:

- **Pee Dee Regional COG – Lindsay Privette & Teresa Jacob**
- **Davis & Floyd – Preston Watson & John Reynolds**

10. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angels White-Bradley

11. Code Enforcer Introduction & Building Codes Adoption – Brent Bullard

12. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

13. Public Works Department Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
- **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**

14. Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook

15. Announcement – Mayor Howell

16. Upcoming Events Tim Dargan

17. Questions / Comments

18. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 2, 2024
6:30 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor James Howell**
2. **Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
3. **Roll Call – Mayor Howell**
4. **Approval of Agenda for May 2, 2024, Lamar Town Council Called Meeting.**
5. **Set Schedule for Budget Workshop, First Reading, and Second Reading for FYE 2025.**
6. **Discussion of Ordinance 3.108. (Animals: Unlawful to Pen. Certain.).**
7. **Executive Session:**
   - The FOIA South Carlina Code Section 30-4-70 (A)(2))
   - Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.
   - For the discussion to renegotiate the town's contract for the town administrator and to receive legal advice from our municipal attorney.
8. **Return to General Session**
9. **Questions / Comments**
10. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 8, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

3. Roll Call – Mayor Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for April 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from the March 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

6. Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor Howell

7. Sexual Assault Awareness Month – Pamela Johnson, Pee Dee Coalition

8. Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation – Councilman Tyler Cook

9. SCIIP Grant Report - Submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee Regional COG

10. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angels White-Bradley

11. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

12. Public Works Department Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
- **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**

13. Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook

14. Announcement – Mayor Howell

15. Upcoming Events Tim Dargan

- **Spring Pick-A-Palooza, Saturday, April 13th, 11:00 am – 3:00 (Mercantile213 / 213 W. Main)**

16. Executive Session (Two Items for Discussion):

- The FOIA South Carlina Code Section 30-4-70 (A)(2))
- Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements, and the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.
- For the discussion to renegotiate the town's contract for code enforcement services and to receive legal advice from our municipal attorney.

- The FOIA South Carlina Code Section 30-4-70 (A)(2))
- Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed sale of property, and the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.
- For the discussion to negotiate the sale of property related to an easement.

17. Return to General Session

18. Questions / Comments

19. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 11, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. **Call to order – Mayor Pro Tem Angele Bradley**
2. **Invocation – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee or member of the Clergy**
3. **Roll Call – Councilwoman Bradley**
4. **Approval of Agenda for March 11, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
5. **Approval of Minutes from the February 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.**
6. **Comments from Citizens [Signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Councilwoman Bradley**
7. **Girl Scout Proclamation – Council Member**
8. **Financial Report – Submitted by Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA**
9. **SCIIP Grant Report - Submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee Regional COG**
10. **Code & Business – Councilwoman Bradley**
11. **Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
12. **Public Works Department Reports:**
    - **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
    - **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**
13. **Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook**
14. **Letter from Citizen Concerning an Easement from the Town – Council Member**
15. **Upcoming Events:**
    - **DCSO Informational Brunch – Wednesday, March 20th, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM [Lamar Library]**
    - **Egg Scramble Taste – Saturday, March 23rd. 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM [Spaulding Middle School]**
    - **Harvest Hope Food Giveaway – Thursday, March 28, 12:00 PM [Lamar Town Hall]**
    - **Egg Scramble Jamboree – Friday, April 5th & Saturday, April 6th [Railroad Ave. & Main St.]**
16. **Adjourn**

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Rev. Adrian Allen (Lamar Baptist Church)

3. Pause for a moment of Silence for Edward "Ed" Johnson

4. Roll Call – Mayor Howell

5. Approval of Agenda for February 12, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

6. Approval of Minutes from the January 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting, and the December 18, 2023, Called Lamar Town Council Meeting.

7. Comments from Citizens [Those that signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor Howell

8. American Luxury Coach – Joe Jebailey

9. Financial Report Submitted by Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA

10. SCIIP Grant Report Submitted by Teresa Jacobs of the Pee Dee Regional COG

11. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley

12. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

13. Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

Delinquent Water Bills – Mayor Howell

14. Streets and Sanitation Report & Citizen Issue – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack

15. Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook

16. Upcoming Events – Tim Dargan

17. Adjourn

TOWN OF LAMAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 8, 2024
6:15 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to order – Mayor James Howell

2. Invocation – Deacon Tim Dargan

3. Roll Call – Mayor Howell

4. Approval of Agenda for January 8, 2024, Lamar Town Council Meeting.

5. Approval of Minutes from the December 11, 2023, Lamar Town Council Meeting, and the December 18, 2023, Called Lamar Town Council Meeting.

6. Comments from Citizens [Those that signed up in advance] (2 minutes) – Mayor Howell

- **Chip Kempson**

7. Financial Report – Doug Poston of Douglas R Poston, Jr. CPA

8. SCIIP Grant Report Submitted by Lindsay Privette of the Pee Dee COG

9. Code & Business – Councilwoman Angele White-Bradley

10. GovPossible Business Licensing – Karl McCollester

11. Beautification Commission Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee

12. Public Works Department Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Report – Councilwoman Inez B. Lee**
- **Streets and Sanitation Report – Councilwoman Mary Ann Mack**

13. Police Department Report – Councilman Tyler Cook

14. Dr. Martin Luther King Day Proclamation -

15. Upcoming Events – Tim Dargan

16. Announcement – Mayor Howell

17. Adjourn