

**MINUTES  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL  
APRIL 5, 2023**

**Present:** Chairman Demetrius Chatman; Mayor John McMeekin; Jason Taylor, Town Manager; Assistant Town Managers Chris Clauson and Kathy Belton; Patti L. Davis, Town Clerk.

The Finance Committee met on April 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Winnsboro Women's Club. In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date and location of this meeting: The Independent Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle and four hundred ninety-two other individuals.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Chatman called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Mayor McMeekin, seconded by Chairman Chatman, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried.***

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**4. NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** Request of Action – Approval of New Auditing Firm for Next Year's Audit. Mr. Taylor stated by law, the Town is required to engage an auditor to perform an audit of the books. The same auditor has been used for the last 16 years. Although not required, good practice typically is to change auditing firms periodically, such as every six to eight years. This request was put out for proposals, and four proposals were received, one of which was not local. Three other firms were local, including the existing firm and two others, Mauldin & Jenkins and Love Bailey & Associates. Mauldin & Jenkins specialize in municipal and local government audits. Love Bailey also does but is a smaller firm. The Town's existing auditing firm was scheduled for an interview, but this did not work out. After interviewing the remaining two firms, Mr. Taylor felt they were both fine firms. Mauldin & Jenkins cost is at \$36,500 and Love Bailey & Associates firm is at \$22,500. Mauldin & Jenkins is a larger firm, they work for more municipalities akin to the Town of Winnsboro, and they also do a lot of

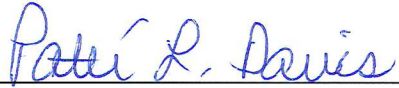
utility work. Therefore, Mauldin & Jenkins is being recommend. Chairman Chatman stated he did notice that most of the municipality clients of Love Bailey & Associates do not have utilities associated with them whereas most of the clients of Mauldin & Jenkins do have utilities. The Town of Winnsboro is unique and requires a specific type of service. Mr. Taylor stated this contract would commence July 1 and schedule moving forward should the decision be made to stay with them. Chairman Chatman stated being that the Town has been with the current firm for 16 years, he knows the same firm should not be used over and over again. Mr. Taylor agreed in that it is good for a new set of eyes to see the information from a different perspective. Chairman Chatman further stated that an audit is required and something the Town has to have performed. Mayor McMeekin made a motion to approve the selection of Mauldin and Jenkins as the Town's auditing firm, seconded by Chairman Chatman. ***The motion carried.***

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**6. ADJOURN**

At 6:06 p.m., it was moved by Mayor McMeekin, seconded by Chairman Chatman, to adjourn. ***The motion carried.***



PATTI L. DAVIS  
TOWN CLERK



DEMETRIUS CHATMAN  
CHAIRMAN