

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**September 19, 2017**

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: Allen Gallman, Chad Hawkins, Mike Hawkins and Robert Martin

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Bundrick, Clerk Treasurer; Ed West, Utility Director; David Beddingfield, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

Mayor Underwood called the Regular Meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Mayor Underwood opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**OPEN SESSION:**

There was no one to speak in open session.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from August 15, 2017 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to approve the minutes from August 15, 2017; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance Providing for the Transfer of Authority for Conducting Municipal Elections to Newberry County:**

Mrs. Livingston stated the County will change the election from odd years to even years but she was not sure if they would shorten or extend the next term for the next election. Discussion followed. Council decided to table this reading until they receive clarification on the terms.

**Swearing in of Officer Marcus Fryer:** Mayor Underwood stated that Officer Fryer had been called for Hurricane relief and we would put this on next month's agenda.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Ordinance No 2017.0731-Text Amendment to add SIC Code 753-Automotive Repair Shop as a Conditional Use (Approved by Zoning Administrator if all Conditions are met)**. Mrs. Livingston stated the Planning and Zoning met on the text amendment to add SIC code 753-Automotive Repair Shop as a conditional use and the motion was made but they did not receive a second. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated we have a question from the audience if no one objects we will let him speak. Mr. Ken McBride stated he was on the Planning and Zoning board and a lot of people had a lot of questions and did not feel comfortable going ahead with the Ordinance. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated the building was designed for a garage and it was used as a garage. He stated we are trying to correct something that was overlooked in the past. Mrs. Livingston asked Mr. Ken McBride if there was any one item that was the holdup but he stated it was not clear for them to make a decision. Mayor Underwood stated going forward we need to take our agenda before the board and let them ask questions one month and then the next month they could approve to help with this communication gap. He stated we do take the County's advice and recommendations with zoning. Mrs. Livingston stated the text amendment rectifies the intended use of the building.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2017.0731-Text Amendment to add SIC Code 753-Automotive Repair Shop as a Conditional Use; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

**Electrical & Economic Development:** Councilman Mike Hawkins stated Mr. West would talk about the outages from the hurricane. He stated it is encouraging to see all the cars in town tonight.

**Public Safety, Streets & Sanitation:** Councilman Chad Hawkins stated the sidewalk project has been let and they will open bids next month. Mrs. Livingston stated the RFP has been published on the Sanitation and we will be opening bids on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Underwood suggested the Council have a work day for sidewalks in the next two weeks.

**Public Works, Buildings & Properties:** Councilman Robert Martin stated there is a piece of property that he is checking into that could be used for parking to support twenty five to thirty spaces in town. Councilman Allen Gallman stated he had bought some property located behind his house and was trying to clean up this area in town. He stated we could encourage our Citizens by Council going out, walking the town and cleaning up.

**Parks, Recreation & Events:** Councilman Allen Gallman stated our Utility Department took down the lights at the Dixie field to save money on the One Cent Project. Councilman Gallman stated we have twenty four soccer teams and seven football teams and we have received calls from travel ball teams wanting to use our facility. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated we just need a policy in place making it clear the

reasons why we do not let other teams besides Town of Prosperity and Newberry County recreation sponsored teams play on our fields. He stated he would like Council to have a policy to look at prior to the next meeting.

**Police Department:** Chief Beddingfield stated he was working on some community events. He stated his department would be doing some training classes in the next month. He asked Council if they had any questions for him concerning the policy manual. He shared traffic citation statistics with Council and reported on the cases during the current month. He stated he would like to have a community meeting before Spooktacular. Discussion followed. Council and Administration decided October 24<sup>th</sup> would be a good date for the Community meeting with the Police Department. Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he is pleased to see the Officers patrolling on McNeary Street. Councilman Chad Hawkins asked if our Police Department had put out the radar sign on Elm Street but the Chief stated it was Newberry County Sheriff's Department. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated this is an awesome tool and he would like us to get some numbers to see how much one of these would cost the town.

**Utility Department:** Mr. West stated there were some outages due to the high winds on Brown, Armfield, Eureka and Williamswood. He stated Citizens were prepared for the storm. He stated the community was very appreciative during this storm. He thanked the Chief and his staff for blocking the roads they were working on during the storm. He stated his crew had cleaned storm drains before the storm to prepare. He stated they had installed the lid at McNeary Street to get it opened back up. He stated we have a lot of new customers coming into town on Brown Street, Williamswood and Anderson Drive. He asked that everyone be patient with the utility department on limbs and debris from the storm. Mrs. Livingston requested the Main Street debris be picked up first and she stated we have a tree limb at our building that is hanging over the driveway. He asked everyone to keep his crew in thoughts and prayers as they have lost family members in the past few weeks.

**Town Attorney:** Mrs. Senn stated she has had more consultations than usual this month with Council and that is a good sign.

**Town Administrator:** Mrs. Livingston stated the RFP had been published on September 4<sup>th</sup> and would be opened on October 4<sup>th</sup>. She stated the downtown sidewalk bid opens in October.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**One Way Traffic in Town Square:** Mrs. Livingston suggested to have a meeting to go over the different ideas for the one way traffic in the square. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated we would have a special called meeting to include a work session on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30.

**Update on CPST Project:** Mrs. Livingston stated they had sent a preliminary working budget. She stated they would be putting out for bids in early October and opening bids early November. She stated lighting came in over budget and would like for us to put this on our agenda for the work session on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Update on Washington Street Water System Improvements Project:** Mr. West stated we have an engineer scheduled to come next week for pressure testing so that DHEC can approve for us to move forward on this project. He stated we would put taps in from South Main Street going down Washington Street in the first phase and would open the intersection; bore under the road to repair the main on McNary Street in the second phase.

**Discussion-Town Wide Ordinance Prohibiting Smoking:** Mayor Underwood stated he would like for us to look at what we proposed a while back and draft an ordinance for us to go over in October; with a Public Hearing and first reading in November and second reading in December to make effective January 1, 2018.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

There were no general comments.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: a. Contractual-Electrical Department**

**A MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to move into Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to move out of Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Underwood stated there was no action or vote to be taken.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:45p.m.

**Michelle Bundrick** Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer