

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Audio Conference
February 16, 2021

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

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Bundrick, Clerk Treasurer; Wesley Palmore, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

Administrative Absence: Ed West, Utility Director

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. He asked Councilman Robert Martin to recite The Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from January 19, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, January 26, 2021 Special Called Council Meeting and February 2, 2021 Special Called Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from January 19, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, January 26, 2021 Special Called Council Meeting and February 2, 2021 Special Called Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

There was no one to speak in open session.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Williamstown Water System Improvements Projects:

Mrs. Livingston stated no update.

Prosperity Business Association:

Mayor Underwood stated the Business Association wants us to move forward with Hoppin'. Mrs. Livingston stated there is not much time to plan our regular event but she would get with Kimberly and Carter to see what we can plan. Discussion followed.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated there were no updates from this committee.

CTC Update:

Mayor Underwood stated the CTC has approved funding for the sidewalk. He stated the patch of sidewalk in front of Linda Renwick on Main Street will be repaired too. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Schedule Budget Workshop Date:

Mayor and Council decided March 9, 2021 at 5:30pm for the first budget workshop.

Review Gateway Corridor Overlay District Ordinance:

Mayor Underwood stated in reviewing the Gateway Corridor Overlay District Ordinance only an act of God such as tornado or fire would it be allowed to put a mobile home back on the property. Discussion followed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin stated the sidewalk at State Farm looks good. He stated the price of what it will cost on the pole count will be sent to us next week.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he had nothing to report with Public Safety. He stated Little Mountain has two LED speed limit signs that are run by solar power and would like for us to check to see how much they are. He stated he would get with Glenn Hamm and make a list of the sidewalks and roadways that need to be fixed. He asked Council if he could start attending the CTC meetings as our town representative.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he is totally for the speed limit signs because people are not respecting the speed limit in our town. He stated a couple from the Gilbert area have bought the old gin property for an event venue. He stated Dave's Little Cranks closed and is looking for a place and

Carolina General has moved in the building beside Bower's BP. He stated there has been a rumor that Food Lion is not coming but talked with Mrs. Livingston and the contractor has bought the business license for the repairs to the building. He watched a video on the abandoned buildings act and wants to follow up with Jeff Shacker on what we can do.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated we have talked about renovating our park area and now we are going to be able to get a new fence and some things done at the ballfield from the accident that happened.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the Supreme Court has cancelled court due to Covid-19 numbers and hopefully we will be able to resume court in May. He stated Officer Hunter is a nominee for Prosperity for the Officer of the Year with the Exchange Club. He thanked the Prosperity Police Department and the Newberry County Sheriff's Deputies for assisting with the subject who drove his vehicle into the Prosperity baseball field. He stated his department is doing their yearly weapons, emergency vehicle operations and policy training. Chief Palmore stated he was honored to be invited to FBI seminar training. He stated he would check on the LED sign for Councilman Chad Hawkins. He applied for a littering grant with the State. He stated we have a lot of illegal dumping in this town. Discussion followed. He stated he wanted to have a Community clean-up day in the future.

Utility Department: Mr. West was absent from the meeting.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn asked Council if Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh had provided a signed quick claim deed and release for the town. Mrs. Livingston stated we have not received in the office. Mrs. Senn stated she would call Mr. Bedenbaugh tomorrow.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston thanked everyone for their prayers and support during Stuart's illness. She stated there has been some confusion on ownership of the pole on McNeary Street but she talked with AT&T and hoping they can set the pole for next week and coordinate with Mr. West to move all services.

OLD BUSINESS:

Park Maintenance:

Mayor Underwood asked for everyone to check on parks and make sure they are maintained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Underwood stated we have a personnel issue in the Police Department to discuss. (Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session).

A MOTION by Councilman Chad Hawkins to move into Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

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

Mayor Underwood stated we discussed a personnel issue in the Police Department and there is no action or vote to be taken at this time.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 6:14p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer