

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Audio Conference
August 17, 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.

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order. He stated we decided to do this meeting remotely due to family members and town employees being exposed to Covid. He asked if we could go ahead and do the proclamation of emergency which allows us to have proxy meetings since the pandemic is coming back stronger right now. He stated we are doing the proclamation of emergency due to the health crisis in our Nation, our State and our Community.

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 July 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Robert Martin to approve the minutes as presented from July 20, 2021 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Mr. Eric Lemoine explained he had a crushed line due to heavy equipment from the new house that was built across the street from him that has restricted the water flow at his driveway. He stated Mr. West indicated three weeks ago that he would take care of this problem before the project was completed. Mr. Lemoine asked Council if he needed to call the County to fix this problem. Councilman Robert Martin stated he thought it had

been repaired. Mayor Underwood stated the town will reach out to Newberry County to see if they can do but if they can't do it then the town will fulfill this obligation to fix.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Williamswood Water System Improvements Projects:

Councilman Robert Martin stated it is scheduled to be completed by the end of August. He stated the Town Square Clock has been ordered and would be delivered and installed in September. He stated meter readings are being done this week. He stated Elm Street Extension project is in progress. He stated they have been working on a water leak at Eureka Street. He stated some of the Christmas lights on the business roof lines have been removed and some will be replaced before the tree lighting in December.

Prosperity Business Association:

Lorraine Bradley stated at their last meeting they sorted all the supplies that were donated to go to Prosperity-Rikard School. She stated herself and Chief Palmore went to Gleamns and talked with the Director and Secretary about donating supplies to their school. Mrs. Bradley stated she went to Wal-Mart with monetary donations from the Association and bought supplies. She stated herself and Chief Palmore presented the supplies to Gleamns and they were very appreciative. She stated they mentioned Spooktacular being on Sunday October 31st and Shopper's Walk depending on the pandemic issue. She stated they contacted Tom Mack by email concerning the 60's /70's car show event and was told that Councilman Robert Martin would be handling and would report at the next meeting.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated the committee was interested in the one way design to help with parking and would provide the information to Council for review and approval.

CTC Update:

Mayor Underwood stated there are no updates this month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proclamation of Emergency:

Mayor Underwood read the proclamation earlier in the meeting.

Introduction of New Police Officer(s):

Chief Palmore introduced Officer Don Johnson with thirty years of experience and great leadership skills and welcomed him as a part-time Officer.

Chief Palmore introduced Officer Jamaurie Gause, who has worked at Richland County Sheriff's Department and served with the Bureau of Protective Services who has a passion for community policing. Officer Gause thanked Council for the opportunity to work for Prosperity.

Chief Palmore stated both Officers will do an outstanding job.

Promotion of Corporal Jones to Sergeant:

Chief Palmore presented Corporal Jones with a certificate of promotion to Sergeant Rank along with a new badge on August 17, 2021.

Mayor Underwood asked the Chief if he would get pictures on all these promotions since we are not meeting in person to recognize the employees.

Promotion of Patrol Officer Selestino to Corporal:

Chief Palmore presented Officer Selestino with a certificate of promotion to Corporal rank along with a new badge on August 17, 2021.

Promotion of Patrol Officer Hunter to Corporal:

Chief Palmore stated Officer Hunter is serving military orders at this time but he wanted to present his certificate of promotion to Corporal rank along with a new badge on August 17, 2021.

Chief Palmore stated it is important to promote people for the work they have done. Mayor Underwood thanked the Chief for a respected department and promoting hard work and developing a community Police force.

Toddler Area and Playground Repairs:

Mayor Underwood stated our toddler areas equipment has exceeded its lifespan and would like for us to talk with some people to see what they would like to have in those areas. He stated we need to look at all our parks in general because we need safe areas for the kids to play.

Adopt-A-Highway Program Volunteers:

Mayor Underwood stated we need to set a date to clean up Prosperity. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he has all the supplies for this project. Discussion followed. Council recommended September 4th from 9 until 12 and meeting at Town Center.

Resolution Designating an Authorized Representative and Contact Person for Purposes of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Mike Hawkins to authorize Mrs. Livingston as our contact person for purposes of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin reported earlier in the meeting.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated the Fire and Rescue have been doing special training to help increase training for our volunteer firemen and rescue personnel. He stated some of our residents have complained about the sidewalks being overgrown and we need to clean our sidewalks up. Discussion followed. Mrs. Livingston stated the CTC has allotted twenty thousand dollars to Prosperity for paving roads that are patched now from utility work that has been done. She stated we needed to get our list together by the middle of September.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated there has been some progress at the Old Mill property on McNeary Street and that is encouraging. He stated A Beautiful Home has posted they are going out of business.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated National Night Out was very encouraging and our Police was recognized as the “Good Guys”. He stated A Beautiful Home donated two bicycles to be given away for this event.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the department assisted with the mobile food pantry. He stated National Night Out went well. Chief Palmore thanked Mrs. Livingston for her assistance with hiring the two new Police Officers. He stated the new open carry of fire arms is in affect and our Officers will need to be extremely diligent. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood asked if we have the proper signs at our buildings. The Chief stated our signs are appropriate and we do the best we can at the present time to interpret the law.

Utility Department: Councilman Martin stated there was a report of a water leak in front of the Food Lion which ended up a sewer leak before making this call for the meeting.

Town of Prosperity Council Meeting
August 17, 2021

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated everything has been covered earlier in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Parking area and fencing at Depot:

Mrs. Livingston stated we are waiting on the engineer drawing to come back. She stated we have a grant from the MASC that will have to be used by December 31st for this project and we have already approved the paving as asphalt.

Parking and Fencing at Substation to include parking behind The Blend:

Brigman Contractors reported that more grading is needed with an update to follow.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Underwood stated for everyone to be safe and please take precautions and talk to your Doctor about what is best for you to do with the Covid vaccine. He stated having this meeting remotely was a good call.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 7:57p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer