

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Audio Conference
December 15, 2020

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

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

Council absence: Councilman Allen Gallman.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from November 17, 2020 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from November 17, 2020 Regular 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:

Mr. West stated there were no updates on this project.

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Livingston stated the Chief attended the meeting and there was a discussion concerning the Open Town Event with cancelling Sunday in the future. They thanked Council for the tree lighting event.

Mayor Underwood stated a group text has been set up for the members of the PBA and Council to receive notifications on power outages, water main breaks, etc. for the town.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated there was no report due to no meetings at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation of Property and Transfer of Land-Tax Map#462-1-6-34:

Mrs. Livingston stated Mr. Bufkin dropped off the deed and the keys to the Bedenbaugh building and Mrs. Senn has the County property paperwork. She stated it was a full donation from Mrs. Bedenbaugh. Mrs. Senn stated the property and land are now The Town of Prosperity. Mrs. Livingston stated that was a very generous donation from Mrs. Bedenbaugh. Council asked Mrs. Livingston to get a thank you card for everyone to sign. Mrs. Livingston stated we would make her a Prosperity gift basket too.

Resolution No. 2020-1215- A Resolution Authorizing the Town Administrator to Notify Comcast of the termination of Pole Attachment Agreement:

Mrs. Livingston stated Greg Fender had contacted her this afternoon and received updated paperwork. Discussion followed.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to postpone this resolution until the next meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood stated we would put under old business for the next meeting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he was glad that Newberry County Water and Sewer got the water back up as quickly as they did yesterday. He asked about a damaged pole at McNeary and Dominick Street. Mr. West stated the District Representative is supposed to be here Friday or Monday to go over discrepancies with poles from the Newberry Electric pole project and some other poles that are rotten between Dominick and Miller Street Apartments. Mrs. Livingston stated we will draft a letter if you have

not heard from the District Representative on Monday so they will know the importance of our situation.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins had nothing to report.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Robert Martin just wanted to let everyone know he has heard from so many people on how beautiful the lights in our town are. He gave kudos to whomever had this idea and thanked the Utility Department for getting them up.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman was absent from the meeting. Mrs. Livingston stated Jessie Long had a softball clinic on December 5th and had nine in attendance. Mr. West thanked Wilbur with Newberry County on doing some upgrade to the fields.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the Police Department attended a luncheon the Newberry Electric Cooperative hosted and they donated one thousand dollars to our Police Department. He stated he would like to use this money for traditional uniforms. He stated he attended the Police Chief Conference and he was elected to the SC Police Chief's Executive Board as the Midland Region Representative. He stated the Police Department assisted Chapin We Care on the distribution of food and assisted the blood mobile testing for Covid-19. He thanked the Council and staff for their support and appreciated the gifts from the town. He stated they have had radar and leadership training this month. He stated he has been discussing Freedom of Information Act with the Attorney. Mayor Underwood stated everyone is impressed with our new design on the police cars and thanked the Chief. He stated there has been some discussion with Freedom of Information Act due to an incident that happened in the City of Newberry. He stated we as the town designate one person; which is Karen Livingston the Town Administrator to answer the questions concerning any kind of FOIA request. .

Utility Department: Mr. West stated we had a bad insulator on the transmission line when the substation went down and the whole town was down for about forty two minutes. He thanked the Newberry Electric Cooperative for coming down and being there for us. He stated we have had some small electrical issues from Main Street to Miller Street Apartments. He stated we are trying to maintain the necessities and basics right now and some of the other projects have been put on hold due to sickness in our Utility Department. He thanked the Citizens, Council and staff for their support. Mayor Underwood thanked the Utility Department for getting the lights up and hoped everyone would be feeling better soon. Mayor Underwood stated we have some drainage issues in Williamswood, Elm Street, Elm Street Extension, Brown Street and Brookside Drive that need to be addressed with Newberry County. He stated he had put a few work orders in but there has been no action taken and would like if we could do it if there is no action from the County. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated he would like a meeting set up with Newberry County to discuss these issues and a timeline along with Mr. West and Councilman Chad Hawkins.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston asked Council if we could have December 24th, 25th and 28th for the Christmas holidays.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to give December 24th, 25th and 28th for the Christmas holidays; seconded by Councilman Mike Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

An Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of The Town of Prosperity adopted April 10, 1999, So as to amend the Zoning Map acting on a request to amend the Official Zoning Map established, codified in Chapter 153 of The Town of Prosperity Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone a real estate parcel totaling point six hundredths (0.06) acres designated as TMS parcel No. 462-1-6-41 from Core Commercial (CC) to Neighborhood Commercial (NC):

Mayor Underwood stated the owner of this property has withdrawn his request to rezone.

Park Maintenance:

Mayor Underwood stated he walked through our park a couple of weeks ago and they are being maintained.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Underwood and Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and to stay safe.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 5:49p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer