

MINUTES
April 17, 2007
Town Council Meeting
7:00 PM
Prosperity, SC 29127

Council Attendance: Mayor Larry Spotts, Councilmen: G.W. Dawkins
Allen Gallman, Chad Hawkins, & Derek Underwood

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Clerk Treasurer; Fred Sexton,
Utility Director, Hank Bufkin, Attorney; Acting
Chief, Scott Wilson

Mayor Spotts called the regular meeting to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There is one set of minutes to be approved. Mayor Spotts asked for a motion to approve the March 20, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Gallman to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2007 meeting; seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Spotts welcomed Cindy Pitts, news writer for *The Newberry Observer* to our meeting and stated that no one had signed up to speak during open session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Electrical, Fire Dept., Parade & Rescue Squad: Councilman Hawkins reported that there was a power outage on Duke Energy side early Sunday morning two weeks ago and hopefully it did not effect too many people in Town, he also reported that the high winds we had over the weekend caused some power to fade in and out but no line breakages or repairs that had to be made. Mr. Hawkins stated the fire department building is coming along good and is on schedule for completion in May. The Rescue Squad is having a Spaghetti Supper on May 5, 2007 and everyone is invited to attend. The Parade Committee will meet May 7 to discuss the route of the parade as well as the float repairs that are needed. With nothing further to discuss, Mr. Hawkins closed his report.

Sanitation, Streets, & Buildings Departments: Councilman Dawkins stated that last month he asked the Utility Department to check into getting paint from the Highway Department to paint the parking lot. The Highway Department is not able to provide the paint so Mr. Dawkins has asked Fred to get bids for the parking lot to be painted professionally. Mr. Dawkins asked Fred to also check on Natur-Chem to give us a price

to spray weeds on the railroad track banks throughout Town. Having nothing else to report, Mr. Dawkins closed his report.

Water and Sewer: Councilman Underwood stated that there was one sewage blockage on Brown Street and one new water meter put in on Wessinger Drive. Having nothing else to report, Mr. Underwood closed his report.

Police Department: Officer Wilson reported that for the month of February the Town served 9 warrants, wrote 89 citations, (58 moving, 31 non-moving), he further stated that there were 16 arrest; three were female. Having nothing else to report, Officer Wilson closed his report.

Recreation & Parks: Councilman Gallman reported that things are going smoothly with the YMCA coordinating our recreation sports. He reported that his baseball team is doing well and stated that the Y was doing a good job coordinating the recreation for the Town. The Mayor agreed that things are going smoothly with the Y. Mr. Gallman stated that the grant for the roadside park had been passed on the Representative McLeod and we should hear something soon about the award. Ms. Livingston stated that the signs for the park are here and will be placed in all parks before the next council meeting. Signs are being ordered for both parks that dogs are not allowed in the park. Mayor Spotts asked that we get with Old South Partners about posting signs at the Piggly Wiggly Shopping Center that the parking lot is patrolled by the Prosperity Police Department. Officer Wilson stated that he had made contact with Old South and this is in the works. Councilman Hawkins asked Councilman Gallman to check with Scott Sawyer concerning a Prosperity Football team to play in the Newberry City League. Ms. Livingston asked if before we talk to the City would we need to talk to the County to be sure we are not stepping on anyone's toes. It was agreed to talk to Joey Long before we addressed it with Scott Sawyer from the City. Having nothing else to report, Councilman Gallman closed his report.

Utility Department: Utility Director, Fred Sexton presented Council with bids for a new backhoe. After discussion, Mayor Spotts asked for a motion to purchase a new backhoe.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to purchase a new backhoe. No second was made.

Mayor Spotts stated that the backhoe would be tabled until the next council meeting and would be on the Agenda at that time.

Mr. Sexton then presented Council with bids for a mud hog since the one we currently have is worn out and for the most part unrepairable. Discussion followed.

A MOTION by Councilman Hawkins to purchase a mud hog from Rental Service Center Corporation for \$2200.00; Seconded by Councilman Underwood and so approved unanimously. Funds are to taken out of reserves and purchase now.

Mr. Sexton stated that the conduit had been purchased for the firehouse and Mike's Electric has cut the ditch for the conduit.

Town Attorney: Mr. Bufkin stated he has two minor traffic tickets that he is working on through opposing council. Having nothing else to report, Mr. Bufkin closed his report.

Clerk/Treasurer: Mrs. Livingston stated that we had 30 participants to respond to the automatic draft so we are going to move forward with automatic bank draft. With nothing else to report, Ms. Livingston closed her report.

OLD BUSINESS

Collection of \$36,000 Bill: Mr. Brodie has received the letter and is working on a reasonable compromise that both parties can live with. We will add this to the Agenda for next month and see where we stand.

NEW BUSINESS

Recognition of Benjamin Odum – Eagle Scout: Mr. Odum was not in attendance however Council recognized him for his accomplishment as an Eagle Scout. A certificate will be sent to him on behalf of the Council.

First Reading of 07/08 Budget: The Utility Budget comes in at \$1,357,095.00 and the Town Budget comes in at \$418,000.00. Our budget includes pay increases between 3-5 percent for all employees except Council Members with no increase in tax millage or utility rates and includes hand held meter readers.

A MOTION by Councilman Underwood to approve first reading of the 07/08 budget; Seconded by Councilman Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

Councilman Hawkins stated, that he and Councilman Underwood had reviewed the budget to see if any dollars could be found to cut the tax millage, however, the budget was in line as is and thanked Mayor Spotts and Ms. Livingston for the wonderful job they did on the budget.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prosperity was proud to host Hamm, Germany visitors on April 16 for lunch at Stables.

Council will be attending the Governmental Association Meeting on April 30th, hosted by Pomaria.

Council will also attend the SCAMPS meeting/supper on April 24th.

Let's work together to make Prosperity the cleanest city in South Carolina.

A MOTION by Councilman Dawkins to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM; Seconded by Councilman Underwood and so approved unanimously.

_____ Karen L. Livingston Clerk- Treasurer