

**MINUTES**  
**July 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 Administrator; Acting Chief Scott Wilson; Fred Sexton, Utility Director, Hank Bufkin, Town Attorney

Mayor Spotts called the regular meeting to order. Councilman Gallman opened the meeting with prayer.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Spotts stated that there is one set of minutes to be approved. He presented the minutes from the June 19, 2007 meeting for approval.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Gallman to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2007 meeting as written; seconded by Councilman Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION**

Daniel Hare signed up to speak. Mr. Hare asked if it would be ok if he advertises youth football sign ups in Prosperity. Mr. Hare was told that he could advertise that a team from Prosperity would be accepted as a part of the City of Newberry's Recreation Program but would not be coordinated through Prosperity Administration. Councilman Hawkins stated that Mr. Gallman would discuss the details of a football program during the recreation report. No one else signed up to speak.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

**Electrical, Fire Dept., Parade Comm. & Rescue Squad:** Councilman Hawkins stated that there was few minor electrical issues. Budget items look to be in line for the year-end. The meeting with Wesco was held and the lights at the walking track are too old to be upgraded and will need to be completely replaced. At this time the lights will be left as they are. The new fire department building is finished except for a few punch list items that need to be addressed. The Fire Department donated \$5000.00 to the County Council to aid in the cost of the new building. Councilman Hawkins reported that the fire hydrant painting project is underway. The fire department has painted the hydrants using the standards of the National Fire Protection Code. The color of the top coincides with the flow of the hydrant and will aid the fire department upon a fire emergency. The rescue squad raised \$800 during the Fourth of July Fireworks display in Newberry. The

rescue Squad also asked if they could have the same spot they had last year for Hoppin' Ms. Livingston stated she would work it out. The rescue squad also gave \$5000.00 to the County in support of the new fire station. The rescue squad is not sure when they will move into the old fire department building, but understands that the Town will only pay utilities on one building. The parade committee will meet in August.

**Sanitation, Streets, & Buildings Departments:** Councilman Dawkins reported that the sidewalks are being worked on however; we ran out of tile and will get more Monday. Mr. Dawkins reported that the new hire in the Sanitation/Street Department is working out good. The parking lots have been lined. The railroad banks will be sprayed for vegetation in August. Letters to abandoned and unkept properties will be sent out this month. Mr. Bufkin stated that he had a draft letter to present during his report. Councilman Hawkins stated that he had communicated with the DOT concerning the traffic flow at the Post Office. The traffic engineer stated there was not enough room for the painted X that we had previously discussed. The engineer has volunteered to meet with Post Office and Town of Prosperity representatives to discuss an alternate route into and out of the Post Office and Council agreed that this should be done. This meeting will take place before the next Council meeting. Councilman Underwood stated that we need another trash cleanup date. Mayor Spotts asked that we add trash pickup to the agenda for next month and set a date in September to continue our Adopt a Highway program.

**Water and Sewer:** Councilman Underwood stated that there was a budget overage on overtime and lift station number 2. Four new taps have been installed on Wessinger Drive. Other budget items look in line and Councilman Underwood closed his report. Fred Sexton noted that the taps on Wessinger Drive have not been installed however; they are scheduled for next week. Councilman Gallman asked Fred about the new backhoe that was delivered. Fred stated that the backhoe had been delivered and is running good and thanked Council for purchasing.

**Police Department:** Officer Wilson reported 67 calls for the month of June, 41 moving violations, 26 non moving, 13 arrest warrants were severed. Officer Wilson stated that all officers completed and passed state conducted blood borne pathogens training. Mayor Spotts asked about the possibility of Transport Police tickets running through our court. Wilson stated that most of their tickets are not criminal tickets and are not assessed through the court systems. Councilman Gallman asked that after midnight an officer drive the street once per hour each night. Mayor Spotts stated that each officer fills out a daily sheet that shows what time each officer makes patrol each night and the buildings that are checked. Wilson stated that new check cards have been ordered to slide under merchants' doors to give them comfort that their buildings are being physically checked and not just visibly checked.

**Recreation and Parks Department:** Councilman Gallman thanked the Mayor and Council for the completion of the basketball court on Langford Street. Mr. Hare and Mr. Kibler approached Council about having a softball league in Prosperity and Mr. Gallman asked them to solicit players and get back with Council to see what interest is in

Prosperity. Mr. Gallman reiterated that we are working with Newberry to provide recreation for all age levels and sports. Mr. Hare wants to post signs throughout Prosperity to advertise football. Councilman Underwood suggested that the Town Administration take applications for the City of Newberry Football League. Daniel would like to be the coach for the football team and was told to call Johnny Caldwell in Newberry to fill out the proper paperwork to be the coach. Councilman Hawkins asked for a motion to begin the procurement procedure for the tennis court renovations.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Hawkins to begin the work on the tennis court as quoted in the scope of work for the PARD Grant, the funds are to be taken from the Town reserve and replenished by grant funds when received; seconded by Councilman Underwood and so approved unanimously.

Mr. Bufkin stated that we are currently under contract with the County for recreation and as a Town we need to support the movement forward to countywide recreation. It is not fair to the taxpayers in Town to absorb the cost of recreation for county citizens and as a council we need to take opportunities to talk to other municipalities and county councilmen to ensure the forward movement to countywide recreation continues. Mayor Spotts stated that since the contract with Prosperity has been successful, perhaps other municipalities would become part of the countywide recreation. Councilman Hawkins noted that the Mid-Carolina Dixie Youth AAA Minor ball team and the U-12 Ozone were going to play in state tournaments and asked that the Town donate \$100.00 to the Mid-Carolina Dixie Youth.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Hawkins to donate \$100.00 to the Mid-Carolina Dixie Youth All Stars; seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

Councilman Underwood asked about the marking for the basketball court on Langford Street. Ms. Livingston stated that the marking kit had been ordered.

**Utility Department:** Mr. Sexton had no report at this time.

**Town Attorney:** Mr. Bufkin introduced a draft letter to be sent to property owners who need to clean up or fix up their property. A copy of the ordinance is to be attached to each property owner's letter. Ms. Livingston stated that she would send the letters out to the consolidated list from Council. Mayor Spotts stated that several businesses downtown have complained about the properties on the list as well as the Prosperity Business Association and private citizens.

**Clerk/Treasurer:** Ms. Livingston stated that the Newberry Business Alliance asked Prosperity Civic Center to host a Business After Hours. This event does serve beer and wine and a vote by Council would be needed to approve the serving of alcohol before it can be scheduled. Bob Burch along with the Prosperity Business Association will pay for the food and drink. The Town would have no financial responsibility for the event. Councilman Underwood asked about the Town liability for people over drinking at this

event. Mr. Bufkin stated there would be no liability to the Town in the event of an accident.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Hawkins to approve the serving of beer and wine at the Business After Hours date to be announced; seconded by Councilman Gallman and so approved unanimously

Ms. Livingston stated that the Clinic Well is covered by insurance and a claim is being filed for repair or replacement of the well. McKinley Cooper is still on track for the 26<sup>th</sup> of July to begin our annual audit.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Piggly Wiggly Bill:** No report.

**Rezoning of Hamm Property:** This item is going to be postponed due to proper procedures not being followed as far as posting etc. This will be put on hold and added to the agenda next month. Councilman Hawkins asked for a reason why this has not been approved. Mr. Bufkin took complete responsibility for the situation and ensured council that the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading would be held in August.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Municipal Election Commission: Postponed until August meeting due to vacations of potential members.

Service Awards: Mayor Spotts presented service awards to the following people. Scott Wilson – 5 years of service, Demetrius Dewalt – 10 years of service, Stanley Dominick – 10 years of service, Fred Sexton – 10 years of service.

Promotions: Craig Nelson – Promotion to Corporal, Jonathan Silcox, Promotion to Lance Corporal and Adrian Navarrete to Patrolman First Class. Officer Navarrete was also recognized for his calmness under pressure. Officer Navarrete during a routine traffic stop was shot at. He remained calm and brought himself and his subject to safety.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Mayor Spotts stated that Mr. Gallman, Ms. Karen and himself had a real good meeting in Greenville.

Mayor Spotts solicited help for the Hoppin' festival.

Mayor Spotts asked citizens to remember that Prosperity is your town and lets do all we can to keep it clean.

**Executive Session:** Mayor Spotts stated the need for an executive session to discuss two legal matters and a personnel matter.

Town of Prosperity Council Meeting  
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**A MOTION** by Councilman Underwood to go into Executive Session; Seconded by Councilman Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Underwood to come out of Executive Session; Seconded by Councilman Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Spotts stated that no decisions were made in executive session.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Dawkins to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm; Seconded by Councilman Underwood and so approved unanimously.

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Karen L. Livingston/Clerk Treasurer