

MINUTES
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PROSPERITY, SC 29127
September 26, 2005
6:00 PM

Council Members Attendance: Mayor Bruce Connelly, Councilmen Allen Gallman, G.W. Dawkins, Larry Spotts & Derek Underwood

General Attendance: Andrea Cantrell, Town Administrator; Melissa Grubbs, Clerk/Treasurer; Fred Sexton, Public Works Director; Chief Benji Sease; and Hank Bufkin, Town Attorney.

Councilman Allen Gallman opened with prayer.

Second Reading of Commercial Tap Ordinance – Water: Mayor Connelly presented the ordinance to Council. Ms. Cantrell stated that there had been no changes since the first reading.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to approve the second reading of the commercial tap ordinance for water; Seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

Second Reading of Commercial Tap Ordinance – Sewer: Mayor Connelly presented the ordinance to Council. He stated that this ordinance is in compliance with DHEC regulations.

A MOTION by Councilman Underwood to approve the second reading of the commercial tap ordinance for sewer; Seconded by Councilman Gallman and so approved unanimously.

First Reading of Cut-Off Procedures Ordinance: Mayor Connelly stated that the Town had been faced with some issues regarding cut off procedures. This new ordinance complies with these regulations. Ms. Cantrell stated that Mr. Bufkin had been to a SCAMPS meeting and received new information regarding regulations for termination of utility services. Mr. Bufkin stated that at the meeting he received a handout that reviewed cut off procedures. The regulation states that a municipality cannot cut off utility services in a period less than twenty-five days from the time of billing. The Town has previously used a twenty-one day period. He stated that there was also significant discussion regarding consequences of cutting off the elderly during the colder months. All utility companies are trying to be more conscious of this and are trying to work with the elderly customers during these extreme weather months. Ms. Cantrell stated that the amendment to the ordinance corrects the twenty-five day period for cut off but weather situations were not incorporated into this ordinance at this time. These will be dealt with

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on a case-by-case basis. If there is extreme weather then the decision will be made at that time whether or not to cut off utilities for nonpayment during that month. Councilman Underwood questioned where in the ordinance it discussed if the 10th or 25th fell on a holiday or weekend. Ms. Cantrell stated that section is not reflected in this amendment because it was not being amended. Mr. Bufkin stated that most of the discussions at the meeting revolved around larger utility companies. He stated that the Town of Prosperity is small and these issues can be dealt with on a more personal level. Councilman Dawkins pointed out that the major change in this ordinance was the twenty-five day period until utilities are cut off for nonpayment. Ms. Cantrell stated that this was the major change however there were two other small amendments. Previously the second \$15.00 fee was applied at 2:00 pm. This ordinance amends this and the second \$15.00 fee will be applied if reconnection is requested between 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm. She stated that this ordinance also added that no payments or reconnection request will be accepted after hours. This will eliminate the utility workers from being called out in the middle of the night and also eliminate them from having to accept money.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to approve the first reading of the ordinance governing cut off procedures; Seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm; Seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

Melissa Grubbs
Clerk/Treasurer