

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers
April 19, 2022

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 and asked to pause in Recognition of Mayor Spotts who passed away. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from March 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from March 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Mr. El Murray Bookman stated they are working on some ideas for the Juneteenth celebration and the agenda is not finalized.

Mr. Eric Lemoine asked about the status of the internet in Prosperity. Mrs. Livingston stated she met with Newberry Electric Cooperative. She stated we have to give forty five days to correct what they need to do and we have some lines that need to be corrected too. She stated Wessinger Drive, Shealy Drive, Forest Hills Blvd, Langford Street Wessinger Drive and Williamswood could possibly be complete by the end of the summer. She stated they have no fiber to connect anything new but the projection for the whole town to be completed would probably be 2023 or early 2024.

Mrs. Tammy Johns introduced herself to Council and stated she is running for House District 40. She asked about the Sign Ordinance to make sure she is in compliance.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Lorraine Bradley stated Terrance Gallman is working on a film “Just Us” that will be filming in Prosperity this summer. She stated Hoppin’ was the main discussion in the Business Association meeting. She stated Southern Crush will be closing June 30th and Uppercut is open on Main Street.

Vision 2020 Committee:

There were no updates.

CTC Committee:

Mrs. Livingston stated we would talk about this with the street signs. Mayor Underwood stated Circle Drive has been approved to pave and they will let us know when the project is let. He stated there are some drainage issues that Citizens will have to address on their private property but the County can divert water too in some areas.

Parking and Fencing at Substation Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated we have cleaned up around the fence, removed some dirt and hauling rock to the location. She stated the project will be completed by the end of April.

CPST Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated the Mayor presented on the water tower and wells and Councilman Mike Hawkins presented on the parks. She stated our water project was our first priority. She stated the Commission would like for us to prioritize the parks.

NEW BUSINESS:

First Reading of Ordinance 2022.0403 an Ordinance Authorizing Fees Amounts for Candidacy for Mayor and Town Council Members in The Town of Prosperity:

Mayor Underwood explained that these fees offset the cost of an election. Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he initially opposed this but seeing the cost of the election that changed his mind.

A MOTION by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2022.0403 An Ordinance Authorizing Fees Amounts for Candidacy for Mayor and Town Council Members in The Town of Prosperity; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

First Reading to Adopt Newberry County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 154: Subdivision Regulations:

Mayor Underwood stated Newberry County recommended us to adopt this Ordinance on Subdivision Regulations.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to accept the first reading to Adopt Newberry County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 154: Subdivision Regulations; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 2022.0401 Amending the Text in Section: Compensation of Town Council Ordinance number 30.33:

Mayor Underwood explained this ordinance is stating any elected official cannot accept any other positions in the Town if they have an elected position. Mayor Underwood thanked Mrs. Senn for preparing this.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2022.0401 Amending the Text in Section: Compensation of Town Council Ordinance number 30.33; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 2022.0402 Amending Text in Section: Committee Ordinance Number 30.30 Appointment of Standing Committees:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2022.0402 Amending Text in Section: Committee Ordinance Number 30.30 Appointment of Standing Committees; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

Schedule Budget Workshop April 26, 2022:

Councilman Chad Hawkins asked to postpone the budget workshop until Wednesday April 27th at 5:30 because he needed to attend an Eagle Scout presentation on the 26th.

Councilman Chad Hawkins asked to move the next Council Meeting to May 24th since we have two people who will be absent from the meeting next month on the 17th and it will be the first reading of the budget.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to move the Council Meeting to May 24th; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

Street Sign Review and Approval for Purchase:

Mrs. Livingston stated we are replacing the street signs for the entire town and gave Council samples on paper to look at. Discussion followed.

Golf Cart Regulation Review:

Councilman Mike Hawkins asked about the golf carts not being allowed on Main Street. He stated he understood enforcing the law for under aged drivers, too many people on the golf cart or driving at night. Discussion followed on driving on primary roads and speed limits under 35 miles per hour. Mayor Underwood suggested to give out the pamphlet the Chief made.

Solicitation Sign Review:

Mayor Underwood suggested for church events, yard sales or bake sales we look at and consider permitting for one week to allow them to put signs up for a short period of time in town. He stated we would bring up at next Council meeting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin stated we have installed twenty four radio read meters and moving forward with this project.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated on April 12th Chief Kyle Vaughn retired from the Fire Department. He stated the new interim Chief is Major Robert Dennis. He stated the AED'S are on back order at this time. He stated he did not get in touch with the DOT about the truck route.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated Upper Cut on Main is now open. He stated we need to be proactive with the school board and letting them know people are coming with all these housing developments coming.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated our parks are doing well. He stated Prosperity's Hoppin' would be May 7th with vendors, live music and car cruise in. He stated we have some great people on our committee for the Juneteenth celebration.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated Chapin We Care cancelled this month due to bad weather. He stated the Fire Department had a successful 5K/10K run on March 19th. He stated the department attended the Business Association meeting. He stated the Utility department installed all the radar signs. Chief stated a lot of cars are coming through Prosperity. He stated the department assisted

Wightman with Easter egg hunt. He thanked all Dispatchers for Dispatcher Appreciation Week. He attended grand openings for Evolution and Upper Cut. He stated Officer Gauze attended radar training. He stated the department will assist with the Hoppin' event and Juneteenth celebration.

Mayor Underwood stated he has been getting complaints every other week from business owners about a man standing on Main Street talking through a horn. Discussion followed.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn stated she reviewed the County Ordinance on the Subdivision Regulations. She stated she received a call this week from Mr. Bufkin and he has not met with his client on the parking lot lease agreement.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated The Boys and Girls Club is wanting to use the Civic Center June 6th through August 5th for their summer camp. She stated we need to prioritize the CPST park projects. She stated the Great American Clean up in Prosperity will be May 28th at Town Hall from 8:30-11:30. She offered a tent to the Juneteenth Committee for Hoppin'. Mr. El Murray Bookman stated Chief Palmore would be speaking on resolving conflict at the Juneteenth celebration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second Reading of Parking Lot Lease Agreement:

Mayor Underwood stated we would table to the next meeting.

Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0315 for 174 Shealy Drive:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Mike Hawkins to accept the second reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0315 for 174 Shealy Drive; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

Second Reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0316 for 178 Shealy Drive:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the second reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0316 for 178 Shealy Drive; seconded by Councilman Mike Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Rerouting of Truck Traffic on Main Street:

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he did not know what engineer measured twelve miles farther on this truck route. He stated it is 7.9 miles coming from Bethel Church Road 4 way stop, straight to Hwy 76 to Georgia Pacific. He suggested a possible route not turning on Broad Street, coming straight onto McNeary and crossing at Pearl Street and going out Elm Street. Discussion followed.

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he would talk to the DOT.

Installation of Additional Crosswalks on Main Street @ Pearl Street and Broad Street:

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he would talk with DOT on this too but we also need to talk with Bowers BP.

Mayor Underwood and Council decided on the priority of the parks as follows:

- 1) Langford Street
- 2) Town Center Complex
- 3) Town Square
- 4) North Main Street
- 5) Town Center Parks
- 6) Roadside Park

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Underwood suggested doing something to recognize past Police Chief Herbert Payton and Kyle Vaughn on retirement from Fire Department and asked the Chief if there is a particular month of recognition for Public Safety.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:25p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer