

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
August 20, 2024

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

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

Mayor Underwood called the Regular meeting to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from July 16, 2024 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the Minutes from July 16, 2024 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

There was no one to speak in open session.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Livingston stated they are planning the Fall Crawl for October 11th, and they presented the bylaws for review.

CTC Committee:

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated the DOT is on go for paving around town. He stated the City of Newberry is ordering twenty-four speed signs and we would be getting four of those and if we wanted to continue the cloud after one year would be left up to us. He asked the County to look at Eureka Street in the curve to see if it could be repaired. He stated Conifer and Cedar Drive are on the radar for paving.

Capital Project Sales Tax Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated she has not been able to track Scott Sawyer down, but the county is still in the finalizing the plans stage. Mayor Underwood asked Mrs. Livingston to send an email or give him a call.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lawn Care Sidewalk Maintenance/Clearing:

Mayor Underwood stated the sidewalks are overgrown all over town and wanted the lawn care people to clean up like they did last year. Mrs. Livingston stated she talked with them to do that and add Church Street right of way to their monthly contract which would be an extra one hundred fifty dollars. She stated they were asked to do some extra maintenance for soccer practice/games coming up this season.

Review: Ordinance Chapter 51: Littering and Rubbish as it Applies to Property Abandonment and Dilapidation:

Mayor Underwood stated we have areas around town that are abandoned and dilapidated that people need to bring up to code. Discussion followed. He asked the Council to make a list of areas so we can get with Mrs. Senn to work on correcting language in our ordinance to bring to the County to get them on board.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:

Councilman Martin stated Mr. West is working with Vision Metering with a software problem. Mr. West has committed to getting all the meters in by the end of the 2024 year.

Public Safety and Streets:

Councilman Chad Hawkins did his report under the CTC update.

Economic Development, Buildings and Properties:

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated Mrs. Edwards is going to be moving into Cathy's building next month.

Parks, Recreation and Events:

Councilman Gallman thanked the utility workers for picking up the fence at the ballfield. He stated they have forty-one soccer teams and need more coaches. He stated they are having a Coaches meeting tonight. He stated Spooktacular is coming up October 31st.

Jessie stated there are twenty children on the waiting list for soccer and we are in need of eight coaches.

Police Department:

Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the Police Department assisted with the mobile food pantry. He stated Covid -19 is going around in the department, and he did not attend the PBA meeting. He stated National Night Out was a success even though it rained. He stated Sergeant Hunter will be attending training classes for the next three weeks at the Academy.

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated the 18-wheeler is back on the property on Shiloh. Discussion followed.

Town Attorney:

Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator:

Mrs. Livingston stated during the last storm our roof at the Civic Center is leaking at the Copula and damaged our floor in the hallway. She stated it may be recommended that we remove the copula. Mayor Underwood stated the copula needs to stay on the building. Discussion followed. Mrs. Livingston stated we called three people to look at the roof, including Thad Mays.

Councilman Chad Hawkins asked if we could contact Waldo to do a picture with the drone of the park area before and after the project.

OLD BUSINESS:

Brochures for Depot:

Mrs. Livingston stated she did not go to the PBA meeting but will get together with the Business Association on updating brochures.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

There were no comments, but Gina Mays asked if she could speak since she was late to the meeting.

Mrs. Mays stated they finished their bylaws. She stated they postponed movie night due to the cost. She stated the Fall Crawl would be on October 11th with more family kind of things to do since there were so many children at the last wine walk. She stated she has Dogman coming to her store Shopper's Walk night and would love to have him included with the tree lighting event. She stated she attended the Newberry County Accommodation Tax meeting for the Business Association. She stated a new PBA perk is giving the businesses the opportunity to utilize the billboard for four weeks to help promote their business.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 7:32p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer