

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**September 20, 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 Regular meeting to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Underwood asked to add two items to new business: D) Voting delegate for SC Rural Water Association. E) Approval for pipe for Substation.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to add items D and E to the agenda; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from August 23, 2022 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to approve the minutes as presented from August 23, 2022 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION:**

Angela Baxter Co-Director of New Life Change Youth Center introduced herself to Council and stated they have an after school and tutoring program at 128 Broad Street. She asked Council for funding and support for their center or if they had any ideas to raise money for their center. Mayor Underwood stated we would take for information and research and put on the agenda for next month.

Councilman Chad Hawkins recognized Troop 315 and stated they are working on their communication merit badge.

**UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Prosperity Business Association:**

Mrs. Livingston stated Lorraine Bradley had sent the minutes from the PBA meeting. Mayor Underwood asked for a motion to accept the minutes and send to Council.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the minutes from September 13, 2022 Prosperity Business Association meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**Vision 2020 Committee:**

Mayor Underwood stated there was no report.

**CTC Committee:**

Mayor Underwood stated there was no report. He explained that our roads are either owned by the State or the County and the CTC provides funding on paving roads in our county and they have 1.6 million dollars set aside to do some paving projects in our county including our town in this project.

**CTC Street Sign Project:**

Mayor Underwood stated our street sign project will be completed November 30, 2022 and the CTC is funding this project too.

**Carolina Connect Installation:**

Councilman Robert Martin stated Newberry Electric is working on a project right now that will be completed in 1 ½ to 2 months and we will be next on their agenda. Discussion followed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Prosperity Sesquicentennial (150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1873-2023) Planning Committee Appointment:**

Mayor Underwood stated next year we are having 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for our town and we will be including this Sesquicentennial in all our events for next year. Council will be appointing a committee of five people and we will need lots of volunteers for all the planning for these events.

**Parade Theme for 2022:**

Mayor Underwood announced our parade theme for 2022: “A Classic Hometown Christmas.”

**Approve Police Vehicle Purchase from ARP Funds:**

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to approve the Police Vehicle purchase from ARP Funds; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**Delegate for SC Rural Water Association:**

A **MOTION** by Mayor Underwood to make Mr. Ed West our voting delegate for SC Rural Water Association; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

**Approval for Pipe for Substation:**

Councilman Robert Martin stated we have bids in for the pipe at the Substation and our lowest bid is \$11,122.65. He stated this material is a few weeks out from receiving but once we get it we can get this project completed including stabilizing and fixing the fence area too.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Allen Gallman to approve the funds for the pipe at the Substation; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

**Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:** Councilman Robert Martin stated the Utility department had a water issue on Shealy Drive. He stated Tom Mack’s building has been completed with combining all his electric into one meter.

**Public Safety and Streets:** Councilman Chad Hawkins stated we are still waiting on AED’s. Mrs. Livingston stated she was going to reach out to the Red Cross about ordering from somewhere else since she has had no response on the ones that had been ordered. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated we have some areas in town that are overgrown at Forest Hills Blvd, Pine Street and Brown Street that we will see improvement on in the coming weeks. He stated he will keep up with CTC paving projects.

Councilman Robert Martin stated there was a piece of a bumper on the side of road that he picked up and he stated the Police Department and the Utility

Department both rode by this location and could have picked this up. He stated we need to look around and pick things up that we can to make our town look better.

**Economic Development, Buildings & Properties:** Councilman Mike Hawkins stated downtown continues to look better. He stated in the corridor riding into town we need to clean up some areas and he stated one of the properties is in his family and he will be talking with them about starting a clean up by the next meeting.

Councilman Allen Gallman stated he has a neighbor complaining about the property across from him because he is going to be selling his property. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood suggested Council sending a list of properties that need to be addressed.

**Parks, Recreation & Events:** Councilman Gallman stated we have thirty five soccer teams and they will begin games on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. He stated the Cruzin' in the Square will be October 15<sup>th</sup> 3-5pm, Spooktacular in the Square on October 31<sup>st</sup> 5:30-7pm, Shopper's Walk on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2-8pm and the Christmas Parade on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**Police Department:** Chief Palmore thanked Council for approving their new vehicle. Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated 207,403 cars came through our town in the past month. Mayor Underwood asked how many tickets are written per shift. Chief Palmore stated two to three tickets are being written per shift. Mayor Underwood asked about the sign investigation. Sgt. Jones reported it was a large rock thrown or came off of a truck and damaged all the electronics and it rained that night too. Councilman Martin asked Sgt. Jones to explain the new LIDAR Laser equipment the police department received and how it works. Chief Palmore stated they received a grant for a mobile sign so that can replace the one that is damaged. He stated they assisted Chapin We Care, attended the Prosperity Business Association meeting and assisted with security for Governor McMaster on August 18<sup>th</sup>. He stated CNNGA will be hosting an underground pipe training at the end of September. He stated the Chief's convention would be October 8<sup>th</sup>, drone training will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and Norcan training will be October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Underwood wanted to let people know about the dog attack on Brown Street and asked if you see dogs running at large or on public property to call the police. Discussion followed.

**Town Attorney:** Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

**Town Administrator:** Mrs. Livingston stated we have replaced the Depot doors to help insulate our building. She stated the Civic Center lights have been repaired.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Stabilize Fencing at Substation:**

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

**Install Charging Station in Prosperity:**

Mayor Underwood stated there is nothing new to report and to leave on agenda for next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Dog Ordinance Enforcement**

(Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in executive session.)

**A MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to move into Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Allen Gallman to move out of Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood state there was no action to be taken for a vote at this time.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated we are told we are not to micromanage because we make policies and hire people to govern those policies. He stated he reported trash not being picked on Main Street last Friday and on Monday morning it was still not picked up. He expressed his opinion that if there no power outages, no major water leaks or sewer backing up there is no reason why the trash cannot be picked up at 7am on Friday mornings. He stated we are trying to promote our town and this is upsetting. He stated the owner of the truck that is parking at this location came to see him today and told him the School District has given him permission to park at this location. Mayor Underwood stated the School District owns the parking lot but not the grass area. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood suggested for us to talk with the School District about this situation.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:05p.m.

*Michelle Bundrick* Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer