

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers
May 24, 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 budget review meeting to order. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Budget Review A. Discussion related to Employee Compensation. Discussion related to Utility Contracts. B. Great Southern Home Contractual Impact Fee for Church Street Tract.

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

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to move into Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

A MOTION by Councilman Martin to move out of Executive Session; seconded by Councilman Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood stated we discussed employee compensation, utility contracts and talked with Great Southern Homes on a potential housing development within our town limits in Executive Session.

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 April 19, 2022 Regular Council Meeting and April 27, 2022 Special Called Budget Workshop Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from April 19, 2022 Regular Council Meeting and April 27, 2022 Special Called Budget Workshop Meeting; seconded by Councilman Martin, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Mrs. Peggy West and Mrs. Rose Marie Favors shared with Council some of their programs coming up at the Museum for this year.

Mrs. Lorraine Bradley asked Council about the signs she puts out the week before the Community Yard Sale. Mayor Underwood stated these are town signs and they do not apply.

Mr. Joe Steets introduced himself to Council as a resident of Prosperity but not in the town limits.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Lorraine Bradley stated she emailed the minutes to everyone. She stated the car show had fifty seven entries, the band did not bring in too many people. She stated the PBA would like to plan the entertainment throughout the day for the next Hoppin'. She stated Terrance Gallman discussed his book and PBA decided to have morning meetings only.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mr. Glenn Hamm II thanked the Mayor, Council and Administration and stated the penny sales tax would be a huge impact to our Community and asked how the Committee could be supporters for this project.

CTC Committee:

Mr. Glenn Hamm II stated we are waiting to see when paving will begin on School Drive, Connelly Drive and Circle Drive. He stated the CTC has ten thousand dollars set aside for road signage and there is money for pothole repairs in the Town of Prosperity. He stated any roads that need to be on the list to let him know. He stated we are still in favor of the parking project with the Town of Prosperity but it will have to be put on hold for a couple of months due to his Dad being scheduled for open heart surgery in June.

Mrs. Karen asked about Conifer Drive and Cedar Drive being paved. Mr. Glenn Hamm II stated you would need to call the County Administration for those roads.

Parking and Fencing at Substation Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated the parking project is complete at the Substation.

CPST Update:

Mayor Underwood stated the CPST committee accepted the 3.1 million project for park enhancements for the Town of Prosperity. He thanked Councilman Mike Hawkins, Councilman Chad Hawkins and Mrs. Livingston for attending the meetings. He stated this would be a continuation of the one cent solution.

CTC Street Sign Project Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated we are waiting on the two samples of street signs before making our decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

Great American Clean Up- Pride in Prosperity Rescheduled to May 28th 8:30am:

Mayor Underwood stated we have a great partnership with Newberry County Soil Conservation District and we are meeting at Town Hall on May 28th at 8:30am. He encouraged the community to come out for this project.

First Reading of Carolina Connect Pole Attachment Agreement:

Mayor Underwood stated we do not have the final copy of this pole attachment agreement but would like to go ahead with the first reading and have Mrs. Senn to email the finished copy to our Council when she receives it.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to accept the first reading of Carolina Connect Pole Attachment Agreement; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

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.

Feral Cats Business District:

Mayor Underwood stated he has received numerous complaints from business owners about feral cats. Mayor Underwood stated he did not agree with returning feral cats that are fed on public property. Mrs. Senn stated we could address through our Ordinance with trespassing on private property. Discussion followed.

First Reading of 2022/2023 Budget:

Mayor Underwood stated the 2022/2023 Budget as follows:

Water and Sewer rate increase of 5% as passed on from Newberry County Water and Sewer.

Electric rate increase of 2% for Operations and Maintenance of Lines.

COL salary increase to all Employees of 3%.

2% merit increase for Police and Utility based on training and certifications received in 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Other salary adjustments due to industry trends and wage surveys from MASC participating Municipalities.

No tax increase-Millage remains at 41.0 mills.

Mayor Underwood stated the total revenues for the General Fund is \$675,400. He stated the total revenues for the Utility Fund is \$2,444,700; with the total operating budget being \$3,120,100 at a percentage change of 3.49%.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to accept the first reading of 2022/2023 Budget; seconded by Councilman Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin stated we have a new hire in the Utility department for a Class A Lineman; Jesse Folk. He stated they are working on installing water radio read meters but the electrical part of this project is on hold until October because we are waiting on the chips which go in the meters.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he would like to do something for Kyle Vaughn with his retirement from the Fire Department. He stated he would like to add Church Street to the list on repairing potholes.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins had nothing to report.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated our parks are filled with people. He thanked the staff for all they do to make our parks better. He stated Hoppin' went great.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the police department attended the Prosperity Business Association meeting. He stated Hoppin' was a success and they provided safety for this event. He stated they participated with Prosperity Rikard's field day for the kids and would be attending career day tomorrow. He stated they would be attending an active shooter training the middle of June and the last week of June in Newberry. He stated the department would assist with the Great American Clean Up in Prosperity on May 28th.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston wanted to remind everyone about Pride in Prosperity on May 28th at Town Hall. She stated the Boys and Girls Club would be renting our facility from June 6th through August 5th for the summer. She stated the CPST is a continuation tax and we need to share this with others to keep the penny tax going to get these projects funded. She stated the Utility Department would be attending career day at Prosperity Rikard too.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-0403 An Ordinance Authorizing Fees Amounts for Candidacy for Mayor and Town Council Members in The Town of Prosperity:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept second 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 Martin, and so approved unanimously.

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

A **MOTION** by Councilman Mike Hawkins to accept the second reading to adopt Newberry County Zoning Ordinance Chapter 154: Subdivision Regulations; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-0401 Amending the Text in Section: Compensation of Town Council Ordinance Number 30.33:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the second reading of Ordinance 2022-0401 Amending the text in section: Compensation of Town Council Ordinance Number 30.33; seconded by Councilman Martin, and so approved unanimously.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2022-0402 Amending Text in Section: Committees Ordinance Number 30.30 Appointment of Standing Committees:

A **MOTION** by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the second reading of Ordinance 2022-0402 Amending Text in Section: Committees Ordinance Number 30.30 Appointment of Standing Committees; seconded by Councilman Martin, and so approved unanimously.

Rerouting of Truck Traffic on Main Street and Installation of Additional Crosswalks on Main Street @ or near Pearl and Broad Streets:

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he has not heard back from the DOT on rerouting of truck traffic. He stated it would be better to pursue the local business that will be affected from the crosswalk with the entrance of the business.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

There were no General Comments.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:04p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer