

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
October 17, 2023

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: Chad Hawkins, Mike 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 September 19, 2023 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to approve the Minutes from September 19, 2023 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

There was no one to speak in Open Session.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Mayor Underwood stated Ms. Bradley sent the minutes to all of Council. Ms. Bradley stated there would be a correction on the cemetery monies collected. She asked how the Council wanted it corrected and Mayor Underwood stated collection for fence underway.

Mrs. Livingston stated the Shopper's Walk Committee met and they are planning a surprise with a train route that takes you through the back alley to Second Opinions.

CTC Committee:

Mrs. Livingston stated there is no report but we were able to set our Tap Grant and put in a request for a matching grant from the CTC.

Carolina Connect Installation:

Mrs. Livingston stated they are still marking poles and clearing lines. Mayor Underwood stated we are not a part of Carolina Connect but we are able to get Carolina Connect through our relationship with Newberry Electric Cooperative. He encouraged the Citizens to use the website for Carolina Connect to put their address in to see if it is available in their area.

Prosperity Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary 1873-2023) Event Update:

Mrs. Livingston stated the theme for the Christmas Parade is “Parade of the Decades” and we are looking for one hundred fifty entries this year. She stated we have the time capsule, beard contest and the flag contest to finish the year. She stated the Committee is meeting to choose the flag so we can get produced for banners to go down the street. Mayor Underwood stated we were having Spooktacular of the Decades on October 31st.

NEW BUSINESS:

Downtown Parking:

Mayor Underwood stated he has received calls from business owners about the two hour parking. He asked if we needed more signs up besides the signs that are on every other pole for the police to start enforcing. Discussion followed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:

Councilman Martin stated we have completed most of the parking area behind the Blend and the Substation has fencing around it.

Public Safety and Streets:

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he is still tracking when the roads will be let for paving in Prosperity.

Economic Development, Buildings and Properties:

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated we have a new Sign Company besides the old State Farm building and asked Councilman Martin what kind of business it is. Councilman Martin stated they are a printing, art and sign shop and will be open to the public three days a week starting November 1st. Councilman Mike Hawkins stated we have another new business in town in the Food Lion shopping center; Prosperity Nails and Spa and would be opening the end of October.

Parks, Recreation and Events:

Councilman Gallman stated sports are going good and the parks are staying full. Councilman Mike Hawkins asked about the Grand Marshall for the parade. Discussion followed.

Police Department:

Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He attended the PBA meeting. He stated the Police Department assisted with traffic at Prosperity Rikard and assisted with the mobile food pantry. He stated they have worked on online legal updates and continue to work on the accreditation program. He stated Officer Trey Townsend graduated from the Academy and completed the field training Officer program. He stated Hunter and himself attended the investigative school at the Academy the first week in October. He stated Corporal Jones would be attending a crime scene class in December and he would be attending the Chief Conference from November 16-18th. He stated DHEC donated care packages to give out. He interviewed with WLTX about the pesky problems in Prosperity with Armadillos. He stated he would visit the new businesses in town and give them the smoking and sign ordinances.

Town Attorney:

Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator:

Mrs. Livingston stated all the fittings and parts were in for the leak behind Western Auto and it would be repaired next week. She stated the letter of intent for the Tap Grant was received. She stated we received a PARD Grant for the safety fence around the t-ball field and we will be starting that project soon.

Mayor Underwood asked about the Civic Center being rented out for a heavy metal Christian rock band. Mrs. Livingston stated the lady came in and asked some questions about it but has not come back in to rent.

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Project Sales Tax Plan:

Mayor Underwood stated he met with Mr. Jeff Shacker and he stated the engineers were going to meet with all the Municipalities. He stated we should hear from the engineers sometime in October to schedule meetings in November and start having projects ready to begin first of the year. Discussion followed.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated for those of you not aware; the young man that was killed yesterday is a relative of Mr. Gallman. He expressed his sympathy to the Gallman family.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 7:41p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer