

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**May 16, 2023**

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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from April 18, 2023 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Gallman to approve the Minutes from April 18, 2023 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION:**

Steven Knapp, Executive Director with the Newberry Museum introduced himself to Council. He thanked the Town of Prosperity for involving the Newberry Museum in the One Hundred Fifty Celebration of the Town. He stated they had a special exhibit now through mid- September that includes all Masonic Lodges in the County.

**UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Prosperity Business Association:**

Mayor Underwood stated we have the update that Ms. Bradley presented to Council.

**Vision 2020 Committee:**

Mayor Underwood stated there is nothing to report until funding comes in for One Cent Sales Project.

**CTC Committee:**

Mayor Underwood stated there are no updates.

**Carolina Connect Installation:**

Councilman Robert Martin stated we are starting tomorrow cutting right of ways at Langford Street. Mrs. Livingston stated Expert Tree Care is doing the job and it will be done in phases.

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

Mrs. Livingston stated we had a Sesquicentennial photo booth set up at Hoppin'. She stated the first online Gala tickets were bought today. She stated she passed out sponsor information to the Business Association at the last meeting and would be mailing out the sponsor information this week.

Mayor Underwood wanted to shout out to the Mexican restaurant for donating a box of ketchup at Friday night's Hoppin' event and to Prosperity Drug for donating forks for Saturday's BBQ event. He thanked Lorry Bradley and Kimberly Kitchen with the Prosperity Business Association for helping with Hoppin'. He stated they represented the Business Association well.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Youth Protection Ordinance Revisions and 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:**

Mayor Underwood stated we combined the youth protection ordinance with the park hour's curfew, updated some verbiage and put a fine in there for repeated offenders. Mrs. Senn stated she tried to conform the definitions close to the State Statutes.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Allen Gallman to accept the first reading of the Youth Protection Ordinance amended with the park hour's curfew; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

**Schedule Budget Review and 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Budget Date and Time:**

Council discussed and decided on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 for the budget review.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

**Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:**

Councilman Martin had nothing to report.

**Public Safety and Streets:**

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he tracked Chief Dennis down about the siren and they are working on a county wide siren system that sounds only for weather related issues.

**Economic Development, Buildings and Properties:**

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated the event venue was open on Saturday and it was quite impressive. He stated the business that bought the Spotts Tractor building will be employing sixty five people but they are going to be working three shifts.

**Parks, Recreation and Events:**

Councilman Gallman stated sports are doing great and the parks are staying full. He thanked Councilman Robert Martin for doing what he does with the car show. He thanked Mrs. Karen Livingston for all her hard work and what all she does for the Town. He stated the old Gin looks great.

Mayor Underwood read a thank you letter from the City of Newberry for our donation to the Juneteenth celebration and joining partnership with them.

**Police Department:**

Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated they assisted with We Care and traffic at Prosperity Rikard. He stated the Mayor and himself attended the Juneteenth meeting at the City of Newberry. He appreciated the State's help with closing the road for Hoppin'. He stated they had a call during Hoppin' which took him and Officer Hunter away for a few hours and he thanked the Sheriff and his deputies for being there during that time. He attended a Chief workshop May 2<sup>nd</sup> through the 4<sup>th</sup>. He stated they will start accreditation process. He stated we will be assisting with the Juneteenth celebration, Sheriff Department would have an active shooter exercise the end of June and assisting with the Gala in July.

**Town Attorney:**

Mrs. Senn stated she was working on the publishing and distributing agreement with Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh and the facility rental agreement with the Newberry Soil and Water Conservation with the Fair in August.

**Town Administrator:**

Mrs. Livingston stated she would cover her report under old business. She asked about the one way behind the Blend because she did not know we had a problem at that location. Mayor Underwood stated we have people going through the alley way and

coming out on Main Street the wrong way at the Blend and this needs to be addressed with proper signage. Discussion followed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Stabilize Fencing at Substation:**

Mrs. Livingston stated Abraham is still reviewing the information from the survey. She stated she has worked on scope of work on this project and made copies for Council to review. She stated once the property is cleared we can get started with this project.

**Capital Project Sales Tax Plan:**

Mrs. Livingston stated she sent the information to Council on the inflation review process for the project. She stated when we get this back from the County we need to set up a workshop to discuss and prioritize the project and we may have to down size our project.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

There were no General Comments.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 7:43p.m.

*Michelle Bundrick* Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer