

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
March 17, 2026

Council Attendance: Mayor Robert Martin, Councilmembers: Mike Hawkins, Chad Hawkins, and McKeve Kinard-Shelton.

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Wise, Clerk Treasurer; Wesley Palmore, Police Chief and Jennifer Nichols, Town Attorney.

Mayor Robert Martin called the Regular meeting to order and asked Councilmember McKeve Kinard- Shelton to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Robert Martin presented the Minutes from February 17, 2026, Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilmember Chad Hawkins to approve the Minutes from February 17, 2026, Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilmember Mike Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Lorraine Bradley shared information on the yard sale for March 28th to the Council.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Livingston stated the Business Association cancelled their meeting due to the weather.

CTC Committee:

Councilmember Chad Hawkins stated there was no update.

Capital Project Sales Tax Update:

Mr. West stated the Contractors are working around recreation since baseball has started. He stated footings have been poured at the North Main Street ballfield and they will pour footings for the Town Center and Langford Street ballfields this week. He stated they will start with underground work at North Main Street in the morning. Councilmember Mike Hawkins asked about the surveying downtown and Mrs. Livingston stated that it is part of the TAP grant for the crosswalks and sidewalks on the opposite side of Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subdivision Ordinance Update:

Mrs. Livingston wanted to clarify with the Council that we liked the previous Ordinance with Newberry County but wanted to change the restriction with the lot size. Discussion followed. Mrs. Livingston stated we would have first reading for next month's Council meeting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:

Mayor Martin stated Jess talked with Mr. Willingham about paving at Main Street and Brown Street and he stated it would be done in a couple of weeks.

Public Safety:

Councilmember McKea Kinard-Shelton thanked the Police Department for their hard work. She stated we are looking to get a new vehicle, new Officer and new equipment for the Police Department. She thanked the Police Department for their service.

Economic Development, Buildings and Properties:

Councilmember Mike Hawkins stated there is nothing definite on any new businesses yet.

Parks, Recreation, Events and Streets:

Councilmember Chad Hawkins stated there is a lot of activity between the CPST project and recreation. He stated we have a total of fifty-seven teams and over six hundred registered participants. He stated 8U, 10U and 12U Softball has three teams in each division. He stated Coaches Pitch-seven teams, Minors-six teams, Ozone-five teams, Wee-Ball-fourteen teams, and T-Ball-sixteen teams. He thanked Lorraine Bradley for everything she does for the Community Market. He stated Earth Day is April 22nd and Keep Newberry Beautiful is sponsoring this event and it will begin at 8:30 at 305 North

Main Street. He stated Hoppin' is May 2nd. He stated Pearl, McNeary and Kibler Streets have been paved. He stated Brown Street is to be paved and the completion date is scheduled for 11/2026.

Police Department:

Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated they assisted with the mobile food pantry and Prosperity Rikard traffic. He stated they assisted with the water main break at Main and Brown Street. He stated they ordered traffic radar units for the cars and tasers. He stated Hunter received Officer of the Year with the Exchange Club. He stated they attended a Drone meeting. He stated he was a guest speaker for the Boys and Girls Club. He stated they have posted a job opening with the Police Department and have had some interesting candidates. He stated they are still in the process of looking to replace LawTrak and wanting to purchase the same system County wide. He stated they are monitoring the parking at the ballfields. He stated National Night Out will be on August 5th from 5-8pm at Town Center. He stated the Police Department will remain protecting the Community and making Prosperity a better place to live.

Town Attorney:

There was no report.

Town Administrator:

Mrs. Livingston stated they had met with the School District about the Kit Center and the school vacating the building. She stated they were going to let us know within the next three months if they could gift or we could purchase this property. She stated it could possibly house the Courtroom and the Police Department offices. She stated the Election would be on March 31st for the vacant Council seat. She stated Economic Interest forms are due on March 31st.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Robert Martin thanked the Citizens for attending the meeting. Councilmember Mike Hawkins suggested to let the Council Candidates speak if they would like to.

Terry Murphy, El Murray Bookman and Ethan McCullough introduced themselves to the Citizens attending the meeting.

Councilmember Mike Hawkins gave good advice to the Candidates; don't give up if you lose. We have committees you can be a part of in Prosperity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

A MOTION to move out of Executive Session by Councilmember Chad Hawkins; seconded by Councilmember McKea Kinard-Shelton, and so approved unanimously.

Council discussed a Contractual Matter in Executive Session with Sanitation and there was nothing needed for a vote in Executive Session.

Councilmember Mike Hawkins asked what date the runoff election would be if we needed one. Mrs. Livingston stated it would be on April 14th.

Mayor Robert Martin adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Michelle B Wise Michelle B Wise, Clerk/Treasurer