

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
February 20, 2018

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: Allen Gallman, Chad Hawkins, Mike Hawkins and Robert Martin

Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Bundrick, Clerk Treasurer; Ed West, Utility Director; David Beddingfield, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

Mayor Underwood called the Regular Meeting to order and welcomed everyone. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OPEN SESSION:

Tiffany Gibson introduced herself to Council and invited everyone out to movie night this coming Friday. She stated her focus is on the youth of the community and her first movie night was successful on January 26th. She shared her concerns with parking spaces behind her building and being available at certain times.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from January 16, 2018 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Allen Gallman to approve the minutes from January 16, 2018 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recognition of Town Employees:

Mr. West recognized Stanley Dominick, Rodney Dudley and Joseph Everson for going over and beyond during all the water leaks in the low temperatures. He stated these three men came out every single time and did not question. He stated they are just a great group of guys. He thanked them personally, professionally and for sacrificing their families during this time.

Chief Beddingfield recognized Officer Corey Jones and Theodore MacLaughlin for assisting the utility department with traffic control during these water leaks.

Recognition of Prosperity Rescue Squad:

Mayor Underwood recognized the Prosperity Rescue Squad for assisting the utility department during these water leaks too. He stated they are volunteers and they do it because they love it and are doing it to help others in the community. Mayor Underwood presented Captain Justin Cassada, Chief Glenn Hamm, Lieutenant Charles Cotney and Lieutenant James Hazel with a plaque and gift certificates from The Town of Prosperity showing our appreciation.

Presentation of the Bennie Bennett African American Community Service Award:

Mayor Underwood stated Mr. Bennie Bennett was our recipient two years ago and unfortunately he passed away that same year; so to honor him from that point forward we have recognized an outstanding African American in our community with the Bennie Bennett African American Community Service Award and this year he presented Mr. Forrest Swittenburg Jr. with this award.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Mike Hawkins asked if there are items in a pile that we do not pick up; do we leave the whole pile or do we pick up part of it. Mrs. Livingston stated we do this pick up from generated work orders but we do call the customer if we cannot pick up a particular item. Mrs. Livingston stated we are finding piles all over town. Discussion followed.

Public Safety, Streets & Sanitation: Councilman Chad Hawkins thanked all Fire and Rescue volunteers that come out to serve when they are called. He stated Adopt A Highway had their kick off meeting this week and first clean up would be the second weekend in March.

Public Works, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Robert Martin stated we have sent out letters on buildings. He stated they had found out the buildings beside Leon's Barber Shop did not belong to the Railroad. Discussion followed.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated we have seven Dixie Youth and four Dixie Softball teams and they are taking applications through March 2nd for Wee- ball, T-ball, Coaches Pitch and Soccer. He stated it is exciting to watch the construction for this recreation project moving forward. Mrs. Livingston stated we are looking at August 11th as our tentative date for the sidewalk dedication and Hoppin'. She stated we would leave the Hoppin' run and pageant in May.

Police Department: Chief Beddingfield briefed Council on the calls for the month. He stated parking continues to be a problem downtown. He stated the police schedule is changing to a twelve hour rotation and this will give us 24/7 coverage.

Utility Department: Mr. West stated we have had a lot of equipment breakdowns this month and are working on road patching and clean ups. He stated we have had some issues with the Depot. Mrs. Livingston stated she has talked with Lowell Dowd about getting a quote on fixing the floor and needs to talk with him on quoting the underpinning. Discussion followed.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn stated the Chief had brought her the police manual last Tuesday but she has been out of the office and is currently reviewing.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated the town clock is working perfectly and will be put back up after construction. She stated we are on Nixle now so people can go out there to the website and sign up. She stated we have had a few problems at the ballfield and have had to ask people to leave the fields. She stated that second base has been stolen and they have closed the fields for renovations to get ready for the baseball season. She stated the Civic Center has a new porch, new railings have been put up on the side entrance of the building and the doors have been fixed. She stated the insulation has been completed at the Depot.

OLD BUSINESS:

Downtown Sidewalk Update: Mr. West stated they would be starting on the other side of the street next Monday. Councilman Chad Hawkins asked if they had settled up with the business owners on their entrances. Mr. West stated they are waiting on two more responses.

Update on CPST Project: Mrs. Livingston stated they have requested a five day extension for the contract due to the weather.

Town Square Revitalization Update: Mayor Underwood stated we would wait until the sidewalk project is complete so we can get an accurate plan to create more parking.

Smoking Ordinance Implementation Update: Chief Beddingfield stated most of the businesses were in compliance with the smoking ordinance. Discussion followed. Councilman Mike Hawkins asked if we posted any signs without speaking to the business owners. Chief Beddingfield stated it was a couple that were not spoken to because their business had closed down for the day when they were distributing.

Update on Washington Street Water System Improvements Project: Mrs. Livingston stated her and Mr. West had met with Central Midlands Council of Government to talk with them about a grant for Washington and Shiloh Streets. Discussion followed.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

There were no General Comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Underwood stated there is a Contractual Agreement in the Electrical Department to be discussed in Executive Session.

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

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

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

Mayor Underwood stated there was nothing to be brought before Council for a vote

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:30p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer