

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
Council Chambers
March 16, 2021

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; Ed West, Utility Director; Wesley Palmore, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from February 16, 2021 regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Allen Gallman to approve the minutes as presented from February 16, 2021 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

There was no one to speak in open session.

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated his neighbors are concerned with burning of plastic in Williamswood area and would like the Police to be aware of this.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Williamswood Water System Improvements Projects:

Mayor Underwood stated we talked about this project in the budget workshop and were going to get some bids and find out from Newberry County Water and Sewer Authority

when they will be available and we will decide on what direction and vote on at the next meeting.

Prosperity Business Association:

Councilman Robert Martin stated we are planning to have the Hoppin' run and market from 7:30-11:30 and the band from 6-10 at the park like old times with a food truck on May 1st. He stated we are planning a car cruise in from 11-4 on May 15th with a DJ and food truck. Discussion followed.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mr. Glenn Hamm had nothing to report.

CTC Update:

Mr. Glenn Hamm stated the DOT had worked on sidewalks at State Farm and Jordan's Package Store. He stated the relocation of the fire hydrant and the man hours should be reimbursed to the Town of Prosperity. He stated they have School Drive both sides, Connelly Drive, Circle Drive and Conifer on the list to pave. Discussion followed.

Robert Martin asked about extending the sidewalks out Brown to Conifer Drive and Councilman Chad Hawkins stated Church Street from Frog Level Commons into downtown is a much needed sidewalk. Mr. Glenn Hamm stated he would ride out to these locations to see what they are talking about. Mayor Underwood stated he would like to see Wheeler Avenue to the school completed.

RECOGNITION OF OFFICER OF THE YEAR- PHILIP HUNTER:

Chief Palmore recognized Officer Philip Hunter as the Newberry County Exchange Club Officer of the year and The Town of Prosperity Officer of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Prosperity Hoppin' Plans:

Mayor Underwood stated we discussed earlier in the meeting.

Civic Center/Depot Rental Discussion:

Mayor Underwood stated the Republican Party had reached out to him about using our Depot on the third Thursday. Discussion followed.

Reopening Town Properties Post Covid:

Mayor Underwood stated he would like for us to open the lobby back up once the vaccine is available to everyone. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated we would keep on the agenda to discuss.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin had nothing to report.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins had nothing to report.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated there are a lot of people working at the Food Lion and asked what date they are opening. Mrs. Livingston stated they are opening on March 24th.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated we have new fences, new bleachers and new security lights at the ballfield and it looks great.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated the department assisted with the mobile food pantry. He stated the Department of Law Enforcement Assessment review was done by the Municipal Association and we received a one hundred. He stated the Covid-19 vaccine was available to all Officers. He stated their training this month included emergency vehicle operations and Chief Palmore completed the FBI training. He stated they were doing annual updates from the Academy. Mayor Underwood stated he had been contacted by Lovelace to assist with their traffic on the third Saturday of each month. Mayor Underwood brought up the issues concerning golf carts because he had been contacted by someone that had been stopped by the Police Department. Discussion followed.

Utility Department: Mr. West stated we have another fire hydrant to replace at Grace Street along with relocating the one at State Farm. He stated with the lead and copper rule we have new mandates coming down. It will be a great change for a lot of people. He stated he would like for us to host one of the workshops on this. Mr. West stated the cost of materials have really gone up which changes a lot of projects cost tremendously. He stated the parks are full and people are everywhere which is good to see. He stated the water heater in the concession stand had to be replaced and did a little damage to the ceiling and they relocated on the ground. He stated they would be changing poles out on Church Street and the pole on McNeary within the next few weeks.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn stated Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh signed the quit claim deed and the survey on the sidewalk is with Zoning and she will file as soon as she receives it back.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston thanked everyone for all the prayers and support. She stated the Mark Bowers Fire Drill run is this weekend. She stated we have scheduled our Hoppin' run May 1st. She stated Comcast has signed the contract with the pole increase. She stated Carolina Connect has been installed at the Police Department. She stated Barry Heffner has called and said the school has opened the program back up and would like to use the Civic Center. Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Park Maintenance:

Mayor Underwood asked the Utility Department to keep on top of the park maintenance until we decide what direction we are taking with our grass maintenance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Underwood stated we have a Contractual matter in Utilities to discuss. (Upon returning to open session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session).

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

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

Mayor Underwood stated we discussed a contractual matter in the Utility Department and we will table until we get further information.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:35p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer