

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
March 15, 2022

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; Lisa Senn, Town Attorney and Wesley Palmore, Police Chief.

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 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from February 15, 2022 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Mr. Eric Lemoine suggested to Council getting a tennis court backboard so that one person could play tennis on the court. Discussion followed.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Presentation of Officer of the Year-Prosperity Police Department:

Chief Palmore presented Officer Stephen Selestino with the Officer of the Year Award for 2022.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Lorraine Bradley stated the Business Association gave \$500 for sponsorship for the band for Hoppin' after hours. She stated the Association discussed alternating the meeting

from morning to night to give the opportunity for more people to come out for the meetings. She stated the Hoppin'flyer was sent to the Chamber and the Business Association meeting and the yard sales would be added the Chamber calendar. She stated the Square would be closed on Hoppin' day at 11am and a banner would be placed in front of the band with all sponsors listed. She stated the next meeting is scheduled for April 12th at The Blend.

Vision 2020 Committee:

There were no updates.

CTC Committee:

There were no updates

Parking and Fencing at Substation Update:

Mayor Underwood stated Council, Mrs. Livingston and Mr. West met at the site on Sunday afternoon to discuss the temporary parking and decided on removing some dirt and old pipes and replacing with crush and run and gravel with a completion date by the end of April.

CPST Update:

Mayor Underwood stated we have two projects to present to the CPST Committee:

- 1) Water tower and wells – estimated cost of 4 ½ million
- 2) Refurbish the parks in town –Langford Street –new picnic shelter, new bathrooms, new concession stand and lighting around the basketball court and fencing.

Town Center- Playground equipment, picnic shelter renovation, solar lights around the walking track and lighting at football/soccer fields.

North Main Street- New concession stand and ADA bathrooms

Roadside park- Dog park with natural walking track and fencing.

Town Square Improvements- Pavilion, new fountain, landscaped and signage.

Estimated cost of parks is 2.9 million

Mrs. Livingston stated the deadline to submit the projects is March 18th and presentations will begin in April.

NEW BUSINESS:

Juneteenth Recognition Planning:

Councilman Gallman suggested getting with the Churches and other people in the Community and form a committee. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated Mr.

El Murray Bookman and Councilman Gallman would meet and discuss a plan for the Juneteenth celebration and bring their plan to Council for this June.

Discussion-Adding Filing Fees to Election Ordinance:

Mayor Underwood stated we looked at towns our size and what they charge for filing fees. He stated the amount of three hundred for a filing fee for Mayor and one hundred fifty for the filling fee for a Councilmember. Council agreed with the filing fees so that it would help with the cost of the Election. Mayor Underwood asked Mrs. Senn to draft in our Ordinance and we would have a first reading for the next Council Meeting with a Public Hearing.

First Reading of Parking Lot Lease Agreement:

Mrs. Livingston stated Mr. Ladison Hamm has agreed to lease the parking lot at 120 Pearl Street for one dollar a year beginning May 1st. She stated we would maintain the grass and maintain insurance on the property.

A MOTION by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the first reading of the Parking Lot Lease at 120 Pearl Street; seconded by Councilman Mike Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

First Reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0315 for 174 Shealy Drive:

A MOTION by Councilman Robert Martin to accept the first reading of annexation Ordinance 2022-0315 for 174 Shealy Drive; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

First Reading of Annexation Ordinance 2022-0316 for 178 Shealy Drive:

A MOTION by Councilman Robert Martin to accept first reading of annexation Ordinance 2022-0316 for 178 Shealy Drive; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Rerouting of Truck Traffic on Main Street:

Mrs. Livingston stated we received an email back from Nick and he does not have a solution for what we are wanting to do. Discussion followed. Mayor Underwood stated Councilman Chad Hawkins would draft something back to Nick.

Installation of Additional Crosswalks on Main Street @ Pearl:

Mrs. Livingston stated she asked Nick about the crosswalk at Pearl and Main and that would not work.

Installation of Crosswalk across Broad Street:

Mrs. Livingston stated Nick would be coming out to look at Main Street @ Broad Street.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin stated sidewalk repair on Main Street waiting for quotes for bids. Mrs. Livingston stated it can be cleaned up. Councilman Martin stated the tower is completed for the remote meters and waiting on more equipment. He stated the crosswalk is fixed.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated the Rescue Squad has requested two AED's. He stated he would follow up with Nick to get some answers about the crosswalk at Broad and Main Street.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated there has been more progress on the pink building on Main Street and the event building. He stated there is activity at the location where Nu Image Beauty Salon was but he will inform us at a later time. Councilman Martin stated there is a new owner at the Stable's building.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated we have forty eight teams in our recreation program. He stated he would like to see more family get involved to help with coaching. He stated Hoppin' would be on Saturday May 7th. Councilman Chad Hawkins wanted Council to know he is concerned with people driving up to the basketball court in vehicles and people are walking on the track and feels like we need some kind of barrier up for safety. Discussion followed. Councilman Mike Hawkins asked if the press box had been painted. Mrs. Livingston stated our utility department replaced the board and Jesse was getting College kids to paint it.

Police Department: Chief Palmore stated the department was featured in the Uptown Edition with "The day in the life of the Police Chief". He stated they escorted the former Mayor Larry Spotts for his funeral. He stated they read to the students at Prosperity Rikard during read across America week February 28th through March 4th. He stated they assisted with Chapin We Care mobile food pantry. He stated they attended the ribbon cutting for Coastal Stroke. He stated they would be assisting with the 5K/10K for the Fire Department this Saturday. He stated another speed sign has been installed on Hwy 76 at Wessinger Drive. He stated the department has been doing training this month. Councilman Mike Hawkins expressed his concern with a four wheeler that was speeding on Dominick Street without helmets and no seatbelts. Councilman Gallman stated we also have kids riding on bicycles on the sidewalk in the Business District. Councilman

Chad Hawkins asked the Chief if he was aware of a homeless person living in a tent within the town limits.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated the batteries came in on the 11th for the speed signs.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was nothing to discuss in old business.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Mayor Underwood thanked everyone for coming and stated he likes to see folks getting involved in the Community. He stated we have an action item list to keep us on track and not to forget something that needs to be done. He thanked the Town Administrator, Clerk, Chief, Attorney, Town Council and Ed and appreciated serving with everyone.

Mayor Underwood asked if we could add an Executive Session to discuss a parking lot lease agreement.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to add Executive Session to discuss a parking lot lease agreement; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

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

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

Mayor Underwood stated they discussed a potential lease agreement and there was no action to be taken at this time.

Town of Prosperity Council Meeting
March 15, 2022

Councilman Mike Hawkins asked about a called meeting for this subdivision ordinance. Discussion followed.

Mayor and Council decided on April 26th at 5:30 for our budget workshop.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 9:10p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer