

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**August 18, 2020**

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

Mayor Pro-tem Chad Hawkins called the meeting to order. He asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. He asked Councilman Martin to recite The Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Pro-tem Chad Hawkins presented the Minutes from July 28, 2020 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Allen Gallman to approve the minutes as presented from July 28, 2020 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION:**

There was no one signed up to speak in open session.

**UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Williamswood Water System Improvements Projects:**

Mrs. Livingston stated we are working on a playground project and the underground electrical for the tennis court lights. She stated we have to line up time with NCWSA to get this project completed in Williamswood.

**Prosperity Business Association:**

Mayor Pro-tem Chad Hawkins stated Bonnie's Vinyl is closing and asked Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh what was going to happen with the Wyche Derrick house. Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh stated they would option back the property from the family and put it back on the market to sell.

Mrs. Livingston stated the Business Association met on the 12<sup>th</sup>. They are moving forward on the Shopper's Walk and we are planning a drive thru Spooktacular. She stated Mr. Mark Minus builds custom furniture and is moving into the old Shealy Chainsaw building and Mr. Jeff Miller with Paragon Services, which is a cleaning service is moving into the Brown and Counts building.

**Vision 2020 Committee:**

Mayor Pro-tem Chad Hawkins stated there is no update.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointment of County Planning and Zoning Commissioner:**

Mayor Pro-tem Chad Hawkins stated Bennett Garner has accepted the Appointment of the County Planning and Zoning Commissioner.

**A MOTION** by Councilman Robert Martin to accept Bennett Garner as the Commissioner on the Newberry County Planning and Zoning Board; seconded by Councilman Allen Gallman, and so approved unanimously.

**In Person September Meeting Discussion:**

Council discussed and decided to have an in person meeting for September in the Civic Center.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES:**

**Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation:** Councilman Mike Hawkins had nothing to report.

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

**Economic Development, Buildings & Properties:** Councilman Robert Martin had nothing to report. Mrs. Livingston stated we have an action plan for several properties in town and we have sent nine letters out addressing these issues.

**Parks, Recreation & Events:** Councilman Gallman thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for the Gallman family. He thanked the Utility department for cutting the grass at the park. Mrs. Livingston stated the soccer registration deadline is August 28<sup>th</sup> and they would begin practice on September 8<sup>th</sup>. She stated it would be flag football this year instead of tackle and was not sure how many teams Prosperity has signed up through the City of Newberry.

**Police Department:** Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated they had assisted with delivering meals for Chapin We Care. He stated they had assisted with the COVID-19 testing today at the Police Department. He stated they assisted with traffic at Prosperity Rikard. His department was honored to escort the Gallman family with the funeral for Mrs. Rosette and continued to pray for the family. He researched the golf cart issue from last Council meeting and they could drive on Main Street to get to secondary roads. Discussion followed.

**Utility Department:** Mr. West attended a backflow Inspectors class in Seneca and passed the test to be certified through the state. He stated the Sanitary Survey inspection is coming up in a few weeks. He stated the DOT has a project on Hwy 391 and McNeary Street and they are working on a timeframe to get some things done for that. He stated the reclosures were scheduled to service back in March but with COVID-19, they are just getting back on the books for a routine check in September. He stated they are focusing on the parks right now and getting them cleaned up. Councilman Chad Hawkins thanked Mrs. Livingston for getting them a report to track the work orders. Mrs. Livingston stated this will keep us in check and we will train on it and make it work.

**Town Attorney:** Mrs. Senn stated she received a call from Mr. Mike Bedenbaugh today and asked the status on the sidewalk issue in front of the building his family owns. She stated the town does not own this property but we had left the meeting from last month that Councilman Chad Hawkins was going to check with DOT to see where the right of way is. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he would track down Aaron who was on the project and follow up with Matthew Shealy to find out where the right of way is. Mrs. Senn stated she needed more information from the plats on surrounding properties. She stated Mr. Bedenbaugh had a conversation with Glenn Hamm where funding could come from and he stated it would be better if the Town owned the property to get CTC funds. Mrs. Senn suggested Council to have a discussion with Mr. Glenn Hamm about this. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Senn asked around to different Municipalities about how they handle golf carts in their town and one idea was encouraging reflective plaquards to be displayed on the golf carts. Councilman Martin stated we might want to check and make sure there are no restrictions with those. Discussion followed.

**Town Administrator:** Mrs. Livingston had nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Gate Way Signage:**

Mrs. Livingston stated we would get the new sign up within the next couple of weeks.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he would follow up with Aaron on the Bedenbaugh property. He looked forward to Mr. Bennett Garner working with us as our Commissioner for Newberry County Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Underwood was proud we hosted the COVID-19 testing today at the Police Department. He looked forward to the park work being completed and maintaining afterwards. He stated we need to consider adding some chains, four metal post and gravel at the bottom to keep the grass out where the new sign is going on Hwy 76.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 5:52p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer