

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
April 20, 2010
7:00 PM.

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: Allen Gallman, Chad Hawkins, Mike Hawkins
Administrative Attendance: Karen Livingston, Town Administrator; Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer, Fred Sexton, Utility Director, Benji Sease, Police Administrator, Phillip Reta, Police Chief and Henry Bufkin, Town Attorney
Council Absence: G.W. Dawkins

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer. The Pledge of allegiance was recited. Mayor Underwood then asked

OPEN SESSION:

No one signed up to speak

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the minutes from April 20, 2010 meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to approve minutes from April 20, 2010 Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood stated that an item c. Duke Substation Upgrade needed to be added to the agenda.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to approve adding item 5c. Duke Substation Upgrade to the Agenda; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Councilman Mike Hawkins then asked to add a brief executive session to the Agenda.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to add item 7a. Executive Session to the Agenda to discuss court case with City of Newberry vs. REA; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Capital Project Sales Tax Update: Mayor Underwood updated Council on the progress of the submissions to the Commission. Four of our projects have been presented and all have been well received. The Sewer Project, Ball field updates, The Depot, and Sidewalks on Brown Street, School Drive, and South Main have all been presented. There are two presentations to go, Downtown Sidewalks and Civic Center, and then the selection process and presentation by the commission to the County Council.

Mayor Underwood thanked Ms. Andy Hawkins for her help with the Depot presentation as well as Ms. Livingston for her assistance in preparing for the presentations.

Set up Date for Budget Workshop: May 4, 2010 at 6:30pm was scheduled for the Budget Workshop.

Duke Substation Upgrade: Mayor Underwood stated that Duke Energy has proposed a switch be installed into the substation to protect the high side (Duke's side) at a cost of \$793.00 per month. Fred is to get our engineer (McCall Thomas) to get the details on the upgrades made to our system so we can present our case to Duke.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical & Economic Development: Mike Hawkins reported that a potential business contacted him about opening on Main Street; however, their visit was postponed until a later date. Mr. Bufkin noted that the Bedenbaugh's have sold their two-story building on Main Street.

Sanitation, Streets & Buildings: Mayor Underwood noted that Mr. Dawkins was unable to attend and reported that the railroad crossing at Wightman Church on Langford Street had been repaired and the streets will be cleaned Sunday afternoon. He further reported that the Sanitation and Garbage is running even with budget and that there is a need to replace some of the Herbie Curbies throughout town. Council discussed the roll cart situation and asked that a program be implemented to track the current carts and the carts that need to be replaced. The Herbie Curbie (rollcart) request was taken for information and will be added to the May agenda. Councilman Gallman asked the Police Department to patrol the Langford Street Ball field and the neighborhood on Pine Street, Wye Street, and Byrd Street.

Councilman Chad Hawkins reported that passing on the right while someone is turning left onto Brown Street is illegal and the only way to add a turning lane will not be done unless accident history warrants it and parking is no longer allowed on Main.

Water, Sewer, Fire & Rescue: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated that the budget is in line. He further stated that we have heard nothing from the COG concerning the 90% grant and he had nothing from the fire and rescue.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Allen Gallman stated that the baseball season is underway and all seem happy. He further thanked Fred and the Utility Staff for keeping the fields clean.

Mr. Gallman asked when we would start the PARD Grant purchases. Ms. Livingston stated we are on track to get started as soon as the budget and Capital Sales Tax Projects were presented.

Mr. Gallman asked about the bid for the timber behind Town Hall. Mayor Underwood stated that as a courtesy he had someone to look at the acreage and estimate how much we would make from selling the timber. The figure he was given was very low. Mayor Underwood asked each Councilmember to come up with some ideas of what we wanted to do with the property and have a plan before we started cutting timber.

Mr. Gallman then suggested we try football again in Prosperity. He has a person interested in coaching the team. Mr. Gallman is to have the interested coaching party contact Ms. Livingston and together get with the City of Newberry and setup the sign-up.

Ms. Livingston then reported the Prosperity Business Association will host the first 'Swingin' in the Square on Friday, April 23 and will also sponsor a community yard sale on May 1, 2010. Both of these events will be monthly throughout the summer.

Hoppin' Planning is underway and will continue with a meeting on May 5, 2010 in the Town Hall Conference Room.

Mayor Underwood stated that he and Mr. Gallman would be calling coaches and make sure that the season is going smoothly and show interest in making the program the best it can be.

Police Department: Chief Reta reported on the happenings in the police department including a joint effort with the Sheriff Department, Highway Patrol and State Constables that netted 42 cases including possession of beer by minors, license violations, etc. Chief Reta also shared some statistics with council and showed the number of cases that have been handled since he arrived in March.

Councilman Gallman commented to Chief Reta how thankful he was to have him in Prosperity and the Council's support of the new direction of the police department.

Administrator Sease stated that the COPS Grant has been reopened and we are hopeful that we will be getting additional funding for an additional officer.

Utility Department: No report at this time. Councilman Chad Hawkins asked that a light be placed in Williamswood at Ms. Kimmell's house.

Town Attorney: No report at this time.

Town Administrator: Ms. Livingston thanked Chief Reta for the job he has done for the past few months. Ms. Livingston reminded Council that the budget season is upon us and together we will work through this together. Mr. Gallman thanked the Administration for the wonderful job they do.

Mayor Underwood thanked Ms. Livingston for leading the charge on the grants.

OLD BUSINESS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to go into executive session to discuss a legal issue; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to come out of executive session; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood stated that no action was taken in executive session only discussion concerning a legal matter.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Mayor Underwood stated that Ms. Barrow with the Salkahatchie Organization has asked us to provide some candidates for the Summer Service. The criteria for participation is the home has to be stick built and owned by the resident (no rental property).

Mayor Underwood invited all Prosperity Police Officers to the Civil Service breakfast recognition at Wightman Church on Sunday.

Mayor Underwood asked that council bring in some ideas as to what we need to do before we start cutting the trees.

Mr. Bufkin noted that Tim Savidge is the proud Father of Ivy Grace born two weeks ago.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm; Seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

Michelle Bundrick, Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer