

MINUTES
Public Hearing On Capital Sales Tax Projects and
Regular Town Council Meeting
February 23, 2010
7:00 PM.

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

Mayor Underwood called the Public Hearing to order and asked Councilman Gallman to open with prayer.

Mayor Underwood stated that the purpose of the Public Hearing was to address the Capital Sales Tax Projects submissions and priority of each. Discussion followed with input from both the public and council concerning each project that is to be submitted to the CSTP Commission.

Mayor Underwood closed the Public Hearing at 7:14pm and called the Regular Council Meeting to Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the minutes from January 19, 2010 for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to approve minutes from January 19, 2010 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

No one signed up to speak

NEW BUSINESS:

Recognition of African American Community Leaders:

Mayor Underwood stated that at this time we would like to recognize some African American leaders in our community. Mayor Underwood asked Mr. Robert McFall, Sr. to step forward and after reading the attached bio asked him to accept his award for his leadership in our community. He then asked Mr. V. K. Davenport to step forward and after reading the attached bio, asked him to accept his award for his leadership in our

community. Mayor Underwood then turned to Mr. Allen Gallman, Jr. and read the attached bio and presented him with a leadership award.

Alliance Consulting Engineers – Sewer/Grant Opportunities: Mr. David M. Winburn with Alliance Consulting Engineers presented information to the Council concerning a sewer grant that may be available to Prosperity. Mr. Winburn stated that there are several funding opportunities through the USDA for the upgrade of pump stations and lagoon located at Forest Hills Blvd. He stated that he would work with Ms. Livingston to obtain the scope of work and see what was available. Mayor Underwood asked him to discuss the matching money for the grant in regard to loans vs. bonds. Mr. Winburn stated that the amount of the match would depend on the size of the project and the ability of the municipality to repay the money.

Procedure for Council to Prioritize CSTP Submissions: Mayor Underwood stated there was a need for a procedure to prioritize the CSTP for submission. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated that he has used the point system where each Councilmember would have 12 total points to split between the six projects based on their individual ranking, the points per project will be added and the projects ranked by which got the most points. In the event of a tie another twelve points would be assigned and tallied again until all projects were ranked.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to use the twelve point systems; Seconded by Councilman Dawkins and so approved unanimously.

Schedule Special Called Meeting to Prioritize CSTP Projects: A Special Called Meeting to Prioritize the CSTP is scheduled for March 2, 2010 at 6pm.

A MOTION by Councilman Mike Hawkins to hold the Special Called Council Meeting on March 2, 2010 at 6pm; Seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical & Economic Development: Mike Hawkins reported that Fred is working on sectionalizing the Town's power as well as showed him some poles that desperately needed to be replaced. Mr. Hawkins asked about replacing them in this budget year. Ms. Livingston asked if the poles from the last upgrade project were complete and was told there are still some that have not been switched over. Chad Hawkins suggested talking with the City of Newberry and the REA about using their resources to help us keep the cost down by not having to hire an outside contractor to move the poles. Fred is going to talk with Rick McCutcheon about assisting us with moving the poles and report back to council.

Mr. Hawkins stated that he planned on attending the Rural Summit for Economic Development in a couple of weeks.

Sanitation, Streets & Buildings: Sanitation and Garbage is running even with budget. The trash truck is in need of three tires and we need to purchase some herbie curbies. The sidewalks will be worked on this weekend. The railroad crossing in front of Wightman has been temporarily repaired and will be paved again in the coming weeks.

Water, Sewer, Fire & Rescue: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated that the budget was running good . Weekly reports show a few leaks and the work that needs to be done on the generators at the pump stations. No report from fire and rescue.

Mr. Dawkins asked about the Handicap ramp downtown and was told by Mr. Chad Hawkins that it is set to be let by October.

Mr. Bufkin stated that the Dry Cleaner was moving to Chapin in the next couple of months.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Allen Gallman thanked Mr. Jerry Coffee, Gerdi Lake, and the Council for their help in resolving the issues with the Dixie Youth Organization. Our registration has closed and we have added a major team to make the team count at three major and three minor. Mr. Allen stated that the baseball league was for all the children and is glad that Prosperity allows all children to play and not cut the teams to include only the best players. A PARD grant has been applied for to upgrade the Town Center Park and Langford Street Park that includes a toddler apparatus and picnic tables for both parks.

Mr. Gallman asked Ms. Livingston about the Hoppin' Committee. Ms. Livingston stated that a committee meeting will be set and will update council next month concerning the move to the square.

Police Department: No report at this time.

Utility Department: No report at this time.

Town Attorney: No report at this time.

Town Administrator: Ms. Livingston announced that we now have a Facebook account and encouraged all of Council to join our 293 friends and see what is going on in Prosperity. Ms. Livingston also stated that the website and email are down due to a fire sprinkler incident at the hosting service. Hopefully service will be back up by the weeks end. We are also building an email database to communicate daily changes and emergency information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second Reading of Ordinance §31.05 - Police Coordinator/Administrator: Mayor Underwood stated that no changes have been made to the ordinance since the first reading and ask for any comments or suggestions.

A MOTION by Councilman Dawkins to have the second reading of Ordinance §31.05 – Police Coordinator/Administrator; Seconded by Councilman Gallman and so approved unanimously.

Council Appointment of Police Administrator: Mayor Underwood stated that Benji Sease has served as Police Chief, Acting Police Chief and nominated Mr. Sease for appointment as Police Administrator.

A MOTION by Councilman Gallman to Appoint Benji Sease as Police Administrator; Seconded by Councilman Mike Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

Mayor Underwood congratulated Benji and expressed his expectations to organize, recruit, train and maintain a professional department and look forward to good things to come from you.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Mayor Underwood thanked Council for approving the position of Police Administrator and stated that adding this position is the first step in restructuring the police department.

Mayor Underwood expressed his excitement about the technology of Facebook and email. He thanked everyone again for coming and asked that Prosperity move forward and prosper.

Councilman Mike Hawkins thanked Mr. Wilburn for coming tonight on such short notice and expressed his support for the USDA loan or grant and some insight on Alliance Consulting Engineers from his term on County Council. Mayor Underwood thanked him.

A MOTION by Councilman Billy Dawkins to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm; Seconded by Councilman Chad Hawkins and so approved unanimously.

Michelle Bundrick, Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer