

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
October 18, 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; Wesley Palmore, Police Chief and Lisa Senn, Town Attorney.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from September 20, 2022 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A **MOTION** by Councilman Allen Gallman to approve the minutes as presented from September 20, 2022 Regular Council Meeting; seconded by Councilman Robert Martin, and so approved unanimously.

OPEN SESSION:

Terrance Gallman introduced himself to Council and explained that he wrote a book twenty years ago that is going to be filmed here in Prosperity and would like to have access to town facilities and parks when the time comes. Mayor Underwood stated we would work with him in any way we could.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Prosperity Business Association:

Ms. Lorraine Bradley stated Scott Storrs joined the PBA this month. She stated the billboard is up on Hwy 76. She stated there was a good turnout for the Community yard sale. She stated they registered thirty five cars at the Cruzin' and thought there was about fifty cars at the Cruzin'. She stated Keith Rankin came to the event and it was nice to see him there. She stated Spooktacular would be October 31st in the square. She stated the Shoppers Walk meeting would be in the morning at 8am at the Blend. She stated there was a report of vandalism with throwing pumpkins on Main Street. The next meeting will be held on November 8th at the Blend.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated there was no report.

CTC Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated CTC met today and has set aside 3.9 million dollars for road improvements for Newberry County. He stated the town has given them a road list. He stated they have \$20,000 dollars a year set up for paving and patching roads in our town and we can submit for these projects. He stated the CTC may be able to fund some of these speed signs for us and the Chief would like to get some protective covers for these signs. He stated Connelly Drive, Circle Drive and School Drive have been funded.

Carolina Connect Installation:

Councilman Robert Martin stated it would be within the next sixty days on the four locations we had talked about.

Prosperity Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary 1873-2023) Planning Committee:

Mrs. Livingston stated Angela Baxter called her the day after the last Council meeting to be a volunteer for this committee. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of Donations Policy:

Mayor Underwood explained our donation policy is more of providing in kind donations or donations for an event not for funds to help sustain the business.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Robert Martin stated it was sixty two cars there for the cruzin' and they raised \$1282 for Keith Rankin. He stated it was community driven and Tammy Johns had a good idea to bring the girls in to walk around with a bucket for the 50/50 and it was the boost we needed and the timing was right.

He stated there are a lot of busted carts to be replaced. He stated the Utility crew has been working on sewer problems the past few days. Mrs. Livingston stated they are changing out electric meters to the new radio read meters. She stated we had a water leak under the building at town hall and that has been fixed but we need to replace the flooring because it has buckled up and is a safety hazard. She stated they are reinstalling the arm on the tower to make it taller and installing a second gateway. She stated Wil Enlow is taking his Class C Water Distribution

Operator test on Thursday. Mrs. Livingston thanked the Utility crew for all the prep for the hurricane.

Public Safety and Streets: Councilman Chad Hawkins stated he is keeping up with CTC on several streets they will be letting. He stated the grass has been cut in the different areas in town that we talked about last month. Councilman Chad Hawkins introduced Chief Dennis and Chief Cassada to report on fire and rescue. Chief Dennis stated they have responded to 142 calls of service and since he took over Fire Chief in April; he has had four inspections in the town and twelve outside the town limits. He stated they received a VSafe grant and bought two Hurst tools for spreading and cutting. He invited Council to the Fire Department Christmas dinner on December 13th and a breakfast with Santa at the Fire Department on December 17th.

Councilman Chad Hawkins stated we started talking with Fire and Rescue about AED's on November 8, 2021 and then on January 18, 2022 Council approved for us to order them. Councilman Chad Hawkins presented the AED's to Chief Dennis and Chief Cassada.

Councilman Mike Hawkins asked if the siren was broken. Chief Dennis stated the siren is broken and we are waiting on parts to fix. He stated they are in negotiations with discontinuing the fire calls and just using the siren for bad weather. Discussion followed. Mrs. Livingston asked if he would share information for code red and we would add to our page.

Chief Cassada invited Council to the Rescue Christmas dinner at the Depot on December 10th at 7pm. He stated they received a grant from Firehouse Subs for twenty five thousand dollars and they bought a jet ski, trailer and a sleigh that pulls patients for their water division. Mayor Underwood thanked Fire and Rescue for all they do in the town.

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated the subdivision is on hold for now off of Eureka Street. He stated the event venue is showing a lot of progress with their building. He stated the old Spotts Tractor building has been sold and looks like there will be a truck parts business going in there.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Councilman Gallman stated Spooktacular would be in the Square on October 31st 5:30-7pm, Shoppers Walk on December 3rd 2-8pm and the Christmas Parade on December 4th at 3pm. He stated Main Street will be closed at 2pm and everyone will have to go around to Rikard School Road and Cy Schumpert Road to get in the parade line up.

Police Department:

Chief Palmore stated the department worked hard to prepare for the hurricane. He stated they focused on traffic at Food Lion and Hwy 76 from a complaint received. He stated there was an incident with vandalism with the pumpkins on Main Street and the parents brought the kids to the Police Department and turned them in, replaced the pumpkins and apologized to some business owners. He stated the State is making it mandatory for small and large departments to get accredited. He stated there was an auto break in last night in the Brown Street and Eureka Street area and are still investigating. Chief expressed his appreciation to the Citizens, Town Hall and Utilities for helping us to keep crime at a low rate in Prosperity. He stated they assisted Chapin We Care and they recognized our Police Department for our service to the Community in Newberry Now. He stated Prosperity Rikard invited us to attend their award for receiving an excellent rating. He stated he attended the Chief's conference. He stated they are working with Utilities about blocking the road for Spooktacular and they would be attending the Veteran's parade on November 12th in Newberry.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn had nothing to report.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated the Christmas tree was delivered yesterday. She stated the other half of the ARP funds have been deposited. She stated the pipe has been ordered for the Substation. She encouraged people to vote on November 8th. She stated the Depot doors are completed and it really makes a difference in there with the temperature. She stated we need to come up with a solution for the floor to make it safe to rent for the public. Mayor Underwood stated Mr. John Paul Whitaker and Kevin Whitesides are coming out to give us a quote on fixing the floors and talked with Mr. Edwin Dowd about replacing some of the boards. Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Stabilize Fencing at Substation:

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Install Charging Station in Prosperity:

Mayor Underwood stated there is nothing new to report and we will take off the agenda.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

There were no General Comments.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 7:53p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer