

MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
September 15, 2020

Council Attendance: Mayor Derek Underwood, Councilmen: 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.

Council Absence: Councilman Allen Gallman.

Mayor Underwood called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Underwood presented the Minutes from August 18, 2020 Regular Council Meeting for approval.

A MOTION by Councilman Chad Hawkins to approve the minutes as presented from August 18, 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:

Mr. West stated no further update at this time. Mrs. Livingston stated we have been working on other projects and still need to coordinate with Newberry County Water and Sewer on this project.

Prosperity Business Association:

Mrs. Livingston stated they are moving forward with the Shopper's Walk. She stated they donated \$500 to the Living Water Foundation for a Community Service Project.

Vision 2020 Committee:

Mayor Underwood stated the Vision 2020 Committee submitted their 501(3)C mission statement to Kyle Parker last week. He stated they are meeting remotely.

NEW BUSINESS:

County/State Right of Way Cutting Schedule:

Mayor Underwood stated we have all made calls to the DOT on right of way cutting and nothing seems to be getting done. He stated we have received a cold call from a lawn care business that included in his bid grass cutting; weed eating, edging, tree trimming, planting and right of ways. Discussion followed.

Spooktacular Plans:

Mrs. Livingston stated we are planning for a drive thru Spooktacular with a one-way entrance coming from Elm Street.

Prosperity Parade Grand Marshal:

Council decided on a Grand Marshal for the Christmas Parade and Councilman Mike Hawkins would be getting in touch with this person to see if they will accept.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES:

Electrical, Public Works and Sanitation: Councilman Mike Hawkins stated he received a call today asking what year the Town of Prosperity got electricity. He stated the town got electricity sometime in the 1920's and we got water in 1934.

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

Economic Development, Buildings & Properties: Councilman Robert Martin stated the Drugstore is remodeling and wanted to thank John Pugh for all he was doing in the town. Councilman Chad Hawkins stated The Blend would be renovating their downstairs. Mayor Underwood stated we have a sidewalk issue in front of the State Farm building that has dropped over the past few weeks. He stated there is nothing in writing the Town owns this sidewalk and the DOT is not claiming ownership either. Discussion followed. Councilman Chad Hawkins suggested contacting the Director of Maintenance, David

Cook. Mrs. Livingston stated she had contacted their office this afternoon and they are already researching. Mayor Underwood stated he wants a solution and suggested a meeting with the DOT.

Parks, Recreation & Events: Mayor Underwood stated we have done a lot of work in the parks. Mrs. Livingston stated we have nineteen soccer teams and games will be starting on October 1st.

Police Department: Chief Palmore reported the cases for the month. He stated they had assisted with the COVID- 19 testing. He stated they assisted with traffic at Prosperity Rikard. He stated they had an audit of the evidence. He stated they had training within the Department. He stated the Prosperity Fire Department Fire Drill Run is scheduled for September 26th. The Department is still planning for Spooktacular.

Utility Department: Mr. West stated the sanitary survey has not been scheduled. He stated the lights on the ballfield have been invaded by Carolina Wrens and are causing some electrical issues at the concession stand and Civic Center building. He asked Council about any connections for dirt or milling.

Town Attorney: Mrs. Senn stated Mrs. Bedenbaugh still wants to donate the building @ the Rescue Squad to the town. She stated the Committee has recommended to the County Council to quick claim the property to the town at their October 7th meeting.

A MOTION by Councilman Chad Hawkins to accept the quick claim to the town on this piece of property the Bedenbaugh building is on; seconded by Councilman Mike Hawkins, and so approved unanimously.

Mrs. Senn stated she received an email from the County Attorney asking if Prosperity had appointed a Planning Commissioner. Mayor Underwood stated we approved Bennett Garner last month for this position. Mrs. Senn stated she would let them know.

Town Administrator: Mrs. Livingston stated Crosspoint Church has started back. She stated the banner contest has made a nice public art exhibit in the gazebo. She stated Greg Fender has sent a demand letter to Comcast about the pole rental agreement contract. She stated the Hartman tree has been cut. She stated we have received several calls concerning our sign ordinance on campaign signs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gate Way Sign:

Mayor Underwood stated the sign looks good. Mrs. Livingston stated Lee Boozer was sending us quotes by the end of the week on the other signs.

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Park Maintenance:

Mayor Underwood thanked the Utility Department for the park project.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Councilman Mike Hawkins stated the spec. building on Hwy 773 has sold. Councilman Martin stated the County has agreed to build a bridge to the back part of this property on Hwy 773.

Mayor Underwood adjourned the meeting at 8:33p.m.

Michelle Bundrick Michelle Bundrick, Clerk/Treasurer