

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL
JULY 6, 2021**

Present: Mayor John McMeekin; Danny Miller, Janice Bartell Prather, Demetrius Chatman, James M. Burroughs, Council Members; Jason Taylor, Town Manager; Scott Elliott, Town Attorney; Patti L. Davis, Town Clerk.

The Winnsboro Town Council met in regular session on July 6, 2021, at 6:15 p.m. at the Winnsboro Women's Club. In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date and location of this meeting: The Independent Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle and four hundred ninety-two other individuals.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McMeekin called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Council Member Chatman made a motion to place the Town Manager's report after Old Business on this agenda and future agendas. Mayor McMeekin stated this would take a super majority vote. Council Member Bartell Prather seconded the motion. ***The motion carried 5-0.*** Mayor McMeekin stated this item is required as set forth in the City's Code of Ordinances and will be a good thing to add back to the agenda. The Manager should have a report, and this will be an asset going forward.

2. INVOCATION

Council Member Miller led the invocation.

3. OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Scott Elliott, Town Attorney, administered the Oath of Office to the following newly-elected and re-elected members of Council and the newly-elected Mayor:

John McMeekin, Incoming Mayor	
Janice Bartell Prather	District 2
James (Jae) E. Burroughs	District 4

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Council Member Chatman, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2021, and the Finance Meeting of June 15, 2021. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS

PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.

- Felecia Johnson - Utility bill. Ms. Johnson had concerns in regard to the inconsistencies in the billing. Mayor McMeekin apologized for the confusion. Council Member Chatman stated other areas, along with Winnsboro, are experiencing this type of problem. One aspect of this is retention of the meter readers. However, once the automatic read system is installed, this should help to alleviate some of these problems. Mayor McMeekin stated there is definitely room for improvement, and the Town will be working toward this.

6. PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Resolution 070621 – Appointing the Town’s Representatives to the Fairfield Joint Water & Sewer Commission. The Clerk read the Resolution into the record. Motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Council Member Miller, to approve the appointment of Mayor John McMeekin and Town Manager Jason Taylor to the Fairfield Joint Water & Sewer Commission. ***The motion carried 5-0.***
- B.** First Reading of Ordinance No. 010521-1: To Rescind Ordinance #010521 Requiring the Wearing of Face Masks. The Clerk read the Ordinance into the record. Motion made by Council Member Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 010521-1. ***The motion carried 5-0.*** Mayor McMeekin further stated that if an ordinance of this nature is needed in the future, it can be done in the form of an Emergency Ordinance, which is in effect for 60 days and expires on the 61st day.
- C.** Old Armory Gratis Use Request – Sylvia’s Foundation, Sylvia Harrison. Mayor McMeekin stated he tried to reach Mrs. Harrison today concerning this request. The Old Armory has been found to have extensive termite damage, and it is not known at this time how long it will take for the repairs. Based on this, Council may elect to table this request and revisit it once the repairs are completed. Motion made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Chatman, to approve the Old Armory gratis use request from Sylvia’s Foundation. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

D. Sponsorship Request: Ward 1 Sun Fun Festival, Debra McDaniel. Mayor McMeekin stated Mrs. McDaniel always does a good job with this event. Council Member Chatman stated he attended the event, and this was a very well attended event with many from the community participating. There were also bounce houses and water slides for the children. Mayor McMeekin appreciates Council Member Chatman attending as he was out of town. Council Member Chatman made a motion to approve the sponsorship request for the Ward 1 Sun Fun Festival, seconded by Council Member Miller. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

E. Sponsorship Request: Zion Hill Save the Kids Back to School Bash, Edwinda Armstrong. Motion made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Chatman, to approve the sponsorship request for the Zion Hill Back to School Bash. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Taylor stated he very much appreciates the opportunity to serve as Town Manager. He thanked Council for adding the Manager's Report to the agenda and looks forward to this addition in the future. Sometimes there are items Council will need to be made aware of that require no action. The way the agenda had been set previously, there was no opportunity to do this. One reason for the meeting being held in the Women's Club building instead of the Old Armory is the problem with the flooring. Council had approved a certain amount of funding when, at that time, it was thought there was minimal damage. However, it has been found that there is extensive damage, and the cost level will be considerably more than what was approved by Council. The armory also sits lower than surrounding buildings, and it may not be a viable option to go with wood for the repairs. It will be bid out both ways and brought back to Council, and Mr. Taylor stated he hopes this can be completed in three months. He will get the process moving as quickly as possible. Additionally, Mr. Taylor wished to welcome the new Clerk and also introduced the new water plant operator, Mr. Jeff Cisney. Mr. Cisney has a long background and has worked in Rock Hill and Saluda. Mr. Cisney stated it is a pleasure to serve the citizens of Winnsboro.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor McMeekin stated there are a lot of new additions to the Council and staff, and Council Member Miller is the longest serving. Further, Mayor McMeekin wished to appoint Council Member Chatman to the Finance

Committee and also to serve as Chairman of this Committee. Mayor McMeekin also discussed the Mayor Pro-Tem appointment, which is Council's prerogative. He inquired if Council has a motion in this regard. Council Member Miller made a motion to appoint Council Member Chatman as Mayor Pro-Tem. Mayor McMeekin stated this appointment is for the period of two years, as is the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather. ***The motion carried 5-0.*** Mayor McMeekin further stated he spoke with Mr. Jeff Shacker from the Municipal Association, and towns usually do a planning session in January. He would, therefore, like Mr. Taylor to contact Mr. Jeff Shacker to set up a meeting with Council on a Tuesday that is agreeable to everyone to discuss planning, and the Code of Ordinances. Mayor McMeekin asked for all Council Members to review the Code of Ordinances prior to this meeting. He has found some inconsistencies and, going forward, he would like for Council to be sure things are being handled in the right way. Mr. Taylor stated he would contact Mr. Shacker to schedule this as soon as possible. Mayor McMeekin also stated that utilities are the backbone of this Town with electricity, water, sewer and water treatment. It is a priority that Council understands how this works. He would also like for Mr. Taylor to have someone come in to talk with Council about the utilities to better understand this aspect.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (The following statement is provided in compliance with the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act: Subsequent to Executive Session, Council may take action on matters discussed in Executive Session.)

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA

Mr. Robert White from the Country Chronicle inquired concerning the exact amount of the requests tonight. He would also like to get a picture of Council after the meeting.

13. ADJOURN

At 6:44 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 5-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS
TOWN CLERK



JOHN MCMEEKIN
MAYOR