

**TOWN OF MONCKS CORNER
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

Present: Michael A. Locklear, Mayor

Council Members: David A. Dennis, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem

Johna T. Bilton Charlotte A. Cruppenink
Dr. Tonia Aiken-Taylor

Staff Present: Roland Windham, Interim Administrator
John West, Town Attorney
Marilyn M. Baker, Clerk-Treasurer
Jessica Morgan, Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk
Chad Caldwell, Police Chief
Mark Murray, Police Lieutenant
David A. Miller, Chief
Ralph Jones, Recreation Director
Butch Svagerko, Public Service Director
Alison Simmons, Town Planner
Rebecca N. Brown, Chief Building Official

Absent: Laura M. Perdue, Council Member
Lisa Hancock, Town Accountant

Call to Order:

The regular meeting of Town Council was called to order by Mayor Locklear at 6:17 p.m.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Pastor Tyler Still of Faith Assembly of God Church.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Locklear asked Councilwoman Cruppenink to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Special Recognition: Mayor Locklear recognized the following individuals with a plaque:

- Former Town Administrator, J. Marc Hehn for his years of service to the Town of Moncks Corner, July 9, 2007-January 2, 2015
- Former Chief Building Official, Doug Smits for his years of service to the Town of Moncks Corner, August 13, 2007-January 2, 2015.
- Walter K. Kinsey was unable to attend the meeting due to illness in his family. He was recognized as the "Employee of the Quarter". Mayor Locklear presented him with his plaque at a later date.

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Public Hearing: Annual Community Needs Assessment

Michele Cannon, Senior Planner of the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments explained that they have to hold an annual community needs assessment public hearing anytime a grant is applied for through the SC Department of Commerce. The purpose of the public hearing was to follow up on last year's grant with any concerns and/or comments. Some of the main things that were being implemented in the grant were sidewalks, sidewalk connectivity, water and sewer. In the next phase, they will be looking at housing rehabilitation and will continue to work with Habitat for Humanity. Councilwoman Taylor asked if new families moving into the neighborhood have to complete an application for an existing grant. Michele responded not retroactively. She also asked if there would be sidewalks in any of the phases for Grace Street. Michele responded that she thought it was in the plan. Gwendolyn Taylor-Bishop expressed concerns of an indoor community center being promised and not being built in the community. She stated that it was one of the needs stated by the residents. Michele responded that she does not remember this being promised but believes that it was addressed in the plan. She added that a community center is not eligible for this particular grant; however it may be something that they will look at for future grants. They did try to provide connectivity to the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex. Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis added that an indoor community center was part of the next phase in the initial drawings of the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex. Michele responded that she will make note of this in her next needs assessment. Councilwoman Taylor suggested that they consider holding follow-up meetings in the future with the community so that everyone will be updated during the process.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, January 20, 2015:

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2015, was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, with one correction that he pointed out to Mrs. Baker prior to the meeting. She referenced Mayor Peagler instead of Mayor Locklear in error as calling the meeting to order. The correction will be made. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

Interim Administrator Windham had nothing to add.

A copy of the Finance report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Police Department:

Chief Chad Caldwell was unable to attend the meeting due to Regular Council Minutes – Tuesday, February 17, 2015

illness. Captain Mark Murray reported that the Police Department is up to full strength. Everything is going well.

A copy of the Police Department Report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Fire Department:

Chief David Miller added that he has had one resignation in his department. He also reported that he met with Rebecca Brown, Chief Building Official, Alison Simmons, Town Planner and Ralph Jones, Recreation Director in reference to having the 4th of July Fireworks and Street Dance at the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex. It appears that this location will work for this event. They will keep Town Council informed of the progress of the event. He added that he understood that the YMCA will not be shooting fireworks at the Santee Canal Park this 4th of July. Mayor Locklear added that he believes that it will be an exciting time this year having the 4th of July festivities at the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex.

A copy of the Fire Department Report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Recreation Department:

Recreation Director Ralph Jones added as information for Mrs. Gwendolyn Bishop-Taylor and the Wall Street Community that the Recreation Department offers a free Summer Slam program at the Berkeley Middle School, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. for ages 14 and under, and on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday for ages 18 years and under from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. This program will run from June 8, 2015 thru July 30, 2015.

A copy of the Recreation Department Report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Public Service Department:

Public Service Director Butch Svagerko had nothing to add to his report.

A copy of the Public Service Department Report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Planning Department:

Planning Director Alison Simmons had nothing to add to her report. She commented that she was happy to be back from maternity leave and ready to begin working with the Downtown Merchants and Berkeley Chamber in establishing a Downtown Merchants Association next week.

Consideration of Cypress Grove offer of open space dedication: Planner Alison Simmons deferred this over to Attorney West. Attorney West had nothing to report at this time.

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Building Department:

Chief Building Official Rebecca Brown had nothing to add. Mayor Locklear asked if there was any progress on the Chick Fil-A Restaurant to report. She responded that they are making progress and are applying for temporary power tomorrow morning. Mayor Locklear asked if they had a projected opening date. Ms. Brown responded that they had projected 180 days of construction which put them out to the beginning of July. They are behind by a couple of weeks due to the weather conditions, but they are trying to make up for that on a daily basis. Councilwoman Charlotte Cruppenink added as information that she saw on the social network that they are beginning their hiring process the beginning of March.

A copy of the Building Department Report was included in the Council agenda packets.

Resolution: Safety Policy Resolution

Mayor Locklear read the Safety Policy Resolution.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Bilton to adopt the Safety Policy Resolution as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis and was approved unanimously.

Agreement: An agreement between the Town of Moncks Corner and Trident Health Center for the provision of sports medicine services.

This item was tabled until the March 17th meeting of Council. Recreation Director Jones will have the representative of Trident Sports attend the meeting to explain.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Locklear reported that he and members of Town Council attended the MASC Hometown Legislative Action Day in Columbia. He reported that there are some very important bills that are being introduced that the Town needed to discuss with the legislators. They did have an opportunity to meet with several of the Berkeley County Legislative Delegation Members to express their concerns. He added that a couple of the Senators assured him that a couple of the bills of concern probably will not make it out of the sub-committee. It was well worth the trip. Several of the Council Members attended the Advanced Institute to further their education as elected officials. Councilwoman Cruppenink completed her certification and graduated from the institute. He and Council congratulated her on her accomplishment.

Foxbank Fire Station: Mayor Locklear reported that they are making progress on the Foxbank Fire Station. They are hoping to break ground soon. There are a lot of issues to be addressed, but they are continuing to work on it. He asked everyone not to give up on it.

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He reported that he took over as Mayor in January, 2015. Since that time the Town has implemented a face book page that was created by Jessica Morgan. He thanked her for creating the face book page. They also implemented an "Employee of the Quarter" program. Every 3 months they will get with the Department Heads for a recommendation out of their department. The recommended employee will be recognized at a Council Meeting for their exceptional performance.

Public Input:

Mayor Locklear reminded everyone that public input is for information purposes only, not for questions and answers. He informed everyone that the Town Administrator has an open door policy and will be happy to answer any questions that they may have. There were no comments from the public.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to go into executive session to discuss matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or the provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries, or other businesses in the area served by the Town; or discussions of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property, the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim or other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege, settlement of legal claim, or the position of the Town in other adversary situations involving the assertion against the Town of a claim.

- Contractual Matters Pertaining to a Real Estate Transaction.
- Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex.

Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Taylor. Motion to approve was unanimous.

Out of Executive Session:

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to go out of executive session. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Taylor. Motion was approved unanimously.

Reconvene to the Regular Meeting:

Motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor to reconvene to the regular meeting of Council. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis. Motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Locklear had nothing to report out of executive session.

Introduction:

Councilwoman Dr. Tonia A. Taylor introduced her father, Mr. Frank Smith who was in attendance. His wife passed away

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approximately 2 weeks ago. Councilwoman Taylor and her sister brought him here to reside here. She added that she loved him very much and was blessed to have him here. Mayor Locklear and Council welcomed him and thanked him for being here tonight.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Taylor and was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

A copy of this meeting's agenda was e-mailed to the Post and Courier, The Berkeley Independent, Channel 4 and Agenda Depository. As required, the agenda was posted on the bulletin board at Town Hall at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Minutes Approved and Adopted:

Marilyn M. Baker/Clerk-Treasurer

March 20, 2015
DATE