

**TOWN OF MONCKS CORNER
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2015**

Present: Mayor Michael A. Locklear

Council Members: Mayor Pro-Tem David A. Dennis, Jr.
Johna T. Bilton Charlotte A. Cruppenink

Staff

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

Absent: Laura M. Perdue, Council Member
Dr. Tonia Aiken-Taylor, Council Member

Call to Order:

Mayor Locklear changed the order of the meeting and went into the Regular Meeting of Town Council first to recognize the All-Star Tournament Champions. The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Locklear at 6:01 p.m.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Jeff Moss, Youth Pastor of Santee Circle Community Church.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

Recognition:

Mayor Locklear recognized the following Moncks Corner All-Star Teams. They all advanced to the State Tournaments. Mayor Locklear added that he had the privilege to travel to Seneca, SC to watch the Angels play and to Bluffton to watch the Ponytails play. Due to a previous engagement he was unable to travel to Dillon, SC to watch the Dixie Youth Majors play. Mayor Locklear and his wife Natalie put together a special video featuring both the Angels and

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Ponytails Softball Teams. The video was played at the conclusion of the recognition. Mayor Locklear and Council expressed how proud they were of all three teams for their accomplishment.

- Angels All-Star Softball Team (Ages 9-10)
Lacey Hennessy
Isabella Steele
Payton Anderson
Logan Guerry
Zada Morgan
Karmen King
Hope Dennis
Madison Curtis
Riley Daniel
Taylor Garvin
Angel Segovia
Katelyn Ware

Coaches: JP Morgan, Jimmy Daniel, Jerry Burbage Jr.

- Ponytails All-Star Softball Team (Ages 11-12)
Charity Dennis
Hailey Hill
Taylor Lofton
Kelsey Stevenson
Carman Womble
Anna Grace Dennis
Gracie Decuir
Samantha Tackett
Savannah Clark
Madison Driggers
Ciera Fenton
Jersey Silver

Coaches: Roger Dennis, Wayne Lofton, Danny Driggers

- Dixie Youth Majors All-Star Baseball Teams (Ages 11-12)
Garret White
Jamie Dyches
Chevy Wrenn
Jake Clark
Aaron Burn
Brody Moran
Sean Ward
Mack Ritter
Jack Hedges
Kyle Koon
Brody Clanton
Joshua Legnard

Coaches: Graylon Moran, Richard Burn, Nick Burn

Convene to the Finance Meeting:

Council convened to the Finance Meeting at 6:28 p.m. at the conclusion of the recognition.

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Reconvene to the Regular Meeting:

Council reconvened to the Regular Meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, June 16, 2015:

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2015 was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

Interim Administrator Windham reported that Council needs to schedule a Budget Workshop. Mayor Locklear suggested that he schedule a workshop the first week in August.

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

Police Department:

Chief Caldwell added that the 4th of July Festivities went well this year. The new location, the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex worked out very well.

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

Fire Department:

Chief David Miller had nothing to add to his report. Mayor Locklear expressed his appreciation to Chief Miller, his staff, Moncks Corner Rural and Whitesville Rural Fire Departments for their quick response to the boat fire that was next to his house in Sterling Oaks.

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

Recreation Department:

Recreation Director Ralph Jones reported that there is only 8 weeks before opening day at the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex. The kitchen appliances, bleachers, fencing and gates are currently being installed. Director Jones recognized Athletic Director Matt Still for doing an outstanding job for his first year as Tournament Director. Council commended Director Jones and his staff on the great job they did with fireworks show and street dance at the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex.

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.

Grand Tree Removal:

- 226 East Main Street - 21" DBH Pecan Tree, 29" DBH Pecan Tree. Both trees are dead. Staff recommends removal. Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to allow removal. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and unanimously approved.
- 113 Merrimack Blvd - 26" DBH Pine, some health issues, has bark and base rot. Limbs dead at several layers. Staff recommends removal. Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to allow removal. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and unanimously approved.
- 102 Dehay Street - 37" Pine, rot & void at least 10' up trunk, 17" Water Oak and 23" Pine preventing building construction. Staff recommends removal of all three. Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to allow removal. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and unanimously approved.
- 104 Dehay Street - 38" Pine Tree in excellent condition, some light pruning is needed. Staff recommends disapproval in removing. The property owner, Chris Griffin provided Council with pictures of roots approaching the foundation and cracking his garage foundation. He also expressed concerns of falling limbs. He agreed to mitigation and replace the trees removed in a different location. Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to allow removal and replacement of the trees removed. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cruppenink and unanimously approved.

Councilwoman Cruppenink thanked Director Svagerko and his staff for their assistance with the 4th of July Festivities.

Planning Department:

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis asked where the ATM Machine was going? Planning Director Alison Simmons responded that this is a Bank of America ATM and will be built in the Big Lots parking lot.

Council Member Bilton mentioned that she, Council Member Cruppenink and Council Member Taylor would like to meet with Director Simmons one day soon and give her an update on the walking tour that they took in the Town of Bluffton during the Annual MASC Meeting in Hilton Head.

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Planning Director Simmons added that the applicant of 1940 Highway 52, item#9 on the agenda, has withdrawn their request for rezoning. They have also requested that Item#8 be deferred at this time.

Downtown Indicator Survey - Planning Director Simmons reported that over half of the respondents indicated that assets to the Central Business District include the Moncks Corner Regional Recreation Complex, upcoming ball tournaments, Farmer's Market, events like the Street Dance, BBQ Festival, Halloween Festival, unique historic appearance, mixture of shops and Unity Park. Respondents find the condition of buildings downtown as major threats to the long-term economic health of the CBD. A vast majority, 74% of respondents indicated that vacant, dilapidated buildings as a leading threat and another 61% indicated that Building aesthetics/maintenance are leading threats. 60% cited the availability of parking. 60% of respondents indicated that hosting regular community events is a primary tool to capitalize on key assets. Another 50% indicated that creative use of the old Berkeley County Library and resources to assist with building rehabilitation are additional primary tools. There is an interest in preserving the unique historic appearance and creating a greater strategy to facilitate bringing back an up-fit to some of the buildings in downtown.

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

Building Department:

Chief Building Official Rebecca Brown had nothing to add.

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

FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY:

An Ordinance to reclassify improved real property within the corporate limits of the Town of Moncks Corner located on Thunder Hollow Lane, TMS#142-10-02-053 from a R-2, Single Family Residential to MH-2, Mobile Home Subdivision and to amend the official zoning map of the Town to so reflect.

There were no motions from Council on this item.

FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY: No action taken. Planning Director Simmons requested that this item was deferred at this time.

An Ordinance extending and increasing the corporate limits of the Town of Moncks Corner to annex 31.33 acres located at 1940 Highway 52 (TMS#181-00-02-003), containing a split-zoned classification of (GC),

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General Commercial (Berkeley County) and (PD-R),
Planned Development (Moncks Corner).

FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY: No action taken. Planning Director Alison Simmons reported that the applicant withdrew their request.

An Ordinance to reclassify improved real property annexed within the corporate limits of the Town of Moncks Corner located at 1940 Highway 52, TMS#181-00-02-003 from a split-zoned classification of (GC), General Commercial (Berkeley County) and (PD-R), Planned Development (Moncks Corner) to R-3, General Residential, and to amend the official zoning map of the Town to so reflect.

Public Input:

Pompey Harvey thanked the Police Department for checking on her house while she was on vacation. She requested that Council provide a report of the Town's debt every month when the finance report is given. Mayor Locklear responded that the Town will provide that information.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Locklear thanked everyone who had a part in organizing and working the 4th of July Festivities. He added that he thought everything went very well and hope that the Festival will grow to be bigger and better next year. Next Tuesday, July 28th will be the second of run-off elections between Jay Law and Chad Sweatman. At the last run-off election they ended up in a tie. They were both in attendance. Mayor Locklear wished them both well. The Highway 52 beautification project will be taking off soon. There is a group of approximately 60 people who have volunteered to assist with this project. There is a business that is willing to donate some plants. Council is excited about the project. He commended Planning Director Alison Simmons for her work on the Farmer's Market, the Downtown Revitalization Project and the distribution of the questionnaire. She received 82 responses from the questionnaire. He added that downtown revitalization will have to include getting the businesses involved. She has done an exceptional job.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Bilton and was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:59 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

August 18, 2015

DATE