

**TOWN OF MONCK'S CORNER
MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

Present: Mayor Michael A. Locklear

Council Members: Mayor Pro-Tem David A. Dennis, Jr.
Charlotte A. Cruppenink Laura M. Perdue
Chadwick D. Sweatman

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
David A. Miller, Fire Chief
Ralph Jones, Recreation Director
Butch Svagerko, Public Service Director
Alison Simmons, Planner

Absent: Johna T. Bilton, Council Member
Dr. Tonia Aiken-Taylor, Council Member

Call to Order:

Mayor Locklear called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:22 p.m.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Robbie Ballentine, Associate Pastor of St. Stephen Evangelical Church.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Locklear asked Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Appointment and Oath of Office: Position of Administrative Judge

Attorney John S. West administered the Oath of Office to Robert E. Watson to serve the unexpired term of Elisabeth Hoover for the position of Administrative Judge. This term will expire January, 2016.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting of Tuesday, August 15, 2015:

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2015 was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sweatman and was unanimously approved.

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Department Head Meeting of Tuesday, August 25, 2015:
Motion to approve the Minutes for the Department Head Meeting of August 25, 2015 was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sweatman and unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee:

Chairperson Mayor Locklear had nothing to add.

Business License Study:

Administrator Windham recommended that Council consider Option #4 from the Business License Study as recommended by Eric Budds of the Municipal Association during the Finance Meeting. He reminded Council that if we do nothing, the Town will have a short fall in revenues of \$87,000.

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

Municipal Court:

Chairperson Councilwoman Taylor was absent from this meeting.

Administrative Judge Elisabeth Hoover had nothing to add. Mayor Locklear presented Administrative Judge Hoover with a plaque in appreciation for 7 years of service with the Town of Moncks Corner. He and members of Council wished her well.

Police Department:

Chairperson Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis had nothing to add. Chief Chad Caldwell complimented the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. They arrested some young people that were involved with some break-ins in the area. He thinks the arrest may impact some of the break-ins here in town. Staff is over there now trying to interview the suspects.

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

Fire Department:

Chairperson Bilton was absent from the meeting. Chief David Miller had nothing to add.

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

Recreation Department:

Chairperson Perdue reported that the ribbon cutting on the New Regional Recreation Complex was a huge success. She complimented Ralph Jones and his Department for all the Regular Council Minutes – Tuesday, September 15, 2015

hard work in getting everything ready. The first travel ball tournament occurred last week at the New Complex. The Town received \$6,000 in receipts from the gate and concession stand from the tournament. There were also no issues of crime during the tournaments. She received a number of compliments from the teams and out of town visitors. She also complimented Sara Anderson, Special Events Coordinator, Public Service Director Butch Svagerko and his crew for all the long hours they put in and all their hard work.

Ralph Jones added that it was a team effort with a lot of long hours.

Mayor Locklear added that he thinks the New Complex is going to be an asset to downtown and is optimistic that it will encourage the businesses to stay open longer. Councilwoman Cruppenink added that she noticed a number of people walking around the complex. She ran into a couple who was from out of town that had been shopping downtown.

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

Public Service Department:

Chairperson Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis thanked Public Service Director Svagerko and his staff and Recreation Director Jones and his staff for all of their hard work on the New Complex.

Public Service Director Butch Svagerko added that everyone is working well together as a team and will continue to improve on the appearance of the Complex as time goes on.

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

Grand Tree Removal:

- 210 Library Street - 27" Pine and 20" Willow Trees. Both trees are leaning toward the neighbor's house which creates a potential fall hazard. The neighbors have requested that the trees be removed. Staff recommends removal.

Motion was made by Councilman Sweatman to allow removal of both trees. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perdue and unanimously approved.

Planning Department:

Chairperson Cruppenink had nothing to add. Planning Director Alison Simmons had nothing to add to her report.

SC Main Street Program:

Planning Director Simmons reported that she is working on

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the application to participate in the SC Main Street Program. She asked Council if they would like to move forward with the application. The consensus of Council was to move forward. She asked Council to consider doing a Resolution supporting the program in lieu of everyone doing letters of support. Cost of the program is \$10,000 for the first year. The next two years is \$7,500 for each year. The Town has set aside \$5,000 toward the cost. Staff has been meeting with private individuals, Berkeley Electric Cooperative and Santee Cooper to solicit sponsors for the program. A special meeting will be scheduled for October 7th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the program.

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

Building Department:

Chairperson Sweatman had nothing to add. Interim Administrator Windham introduced the new Chief Building Official Chance Price. He added that he has all of his certifications. He is looking forward to working with him. Mayor Locklear and Council welcomed him aboard.

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

First Reading By Title Only: An Ordinance to amend sections of the Town of Moncks Corner Zoning Ordinance as follows:

- Article 2, Section 2-2, Definitions
- Article 6, Section 6-1, Purpose Of Dividing The Town Into Districts
- Article 6, Section 6-3, R-3 General Residential District,
- Article 6, Section 6-7, C-1 Office And Institutional District
- Article 11, Section 11-2, Powers And Duties Of The Board Of Zoning Appeals

Planning Director Simmons gave Council an overview on the amendments. The changes were drafted to appeal to the Planning Commissions interest and incorporate descriptions of the inclusion of multi-family, R-3 and Commercial zones. A lot of the changes are tailored to that approach. In addition she also made some clerical edits to a few clauses and removed the verbiage for manufactured homes. She received this insight from the Planning Commission and through re-zoning requests.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to approve the above changes to the Zoning Ordinance as stated above for First Reading By Title Only. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perdue and was unanimously approved.

Business License Rate Classification Adjustment:

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Motion was made by Councilwoman Perdue to approve the Business License rate adjustment and go with Option #4 as recommended by the Consultant so that the Town will be revenue neutral. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sweatman and approved unanimously.

Option#4 - \$0.10 increase in rate per \$1,000 for rate classes 1-8. The Declining scale capped at 70% > \$3,000,000 in gross. Revenue increase is estimated at \$2,377.00.

Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance No. 2015-03

An Ordinance to raise revenue and adopt a General Operating Budget, Special Revenue Budget, Debt Service Budget and Capital Projects Fund Budget for the Town of Moncks Corner, South Carolina for the Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2015 and ending September 30, 2016.

Public Hearing: There were no comments from the public.

Motion as made by Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis to approve the FY 2016 Budget. Motion was seconded by Councilman Sweatman and was unanimously approved.

Public Input:

There was no input from the public.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Locklear announced that Dan Brown has moved away and left the Berkeley Independent. Debbie Merlo has taken his place. He thanked her for being at the meeting and welcomed her. He added that he had a great time at the New Regional Recreation Complex this past weekend even though it was raining. Everyone visiting the Complex seemed to enjoy it although the weather was bad. The Town is in the process of raising funds to build a new playground for the smaller children. He encouraged everyone to buy a brick to support the effort.

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.

- Personnel Matters

Adjourn:

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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 7:15 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

October 20, 2015
DATE