

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

**Present:** Mayor John McMeekin; Mayor Pro-Tem Demetrius Chatman; Janice Bartell Prather, Danny Miller, 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 September 21, 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.

**2. INVOCATION**

Council Member Burroughs led the invocation.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2021 (listed incorrectly on agenda as August 17, 2021). ***The motion carried 5-0.***  
Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve the minutes of the Work/Planning Session of August 24, 2021. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

**5. MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor McMeekin stated he wished to make Council aware that he went by Mrs. Howard's house to go over the list of items she had provided at the last meeting.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES): THE TOTAL TIME ALLOCATED TO THIS PUBLIC COMMENT SEGMENT IS 30 MINUTES.**

No one signed to speak.

## 7. SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

- A. Gene Stephens, Chamber of Commerce – Pumpkinfest. Mayor McMeekin stated Mr. Stephens will not be attending the meeting tonight. However, he asked Mayor McMeekin to report on this matter. Mayor McMeekin attended the Chamber meeting last night, and the Pumpkinfest was approved to go forward. Precautions will be coordinated with Chief Seibles.

## 8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. First Reading Ordinance No. 09212021A: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 4.77 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 168 Lafayette Drive, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Rachel Moore, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 125-02-04-001-000. Motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve First Reading of Ordinance No. 09212021A. ***The motion carried 5-0.***
- B. Emergency Ordinance No. 09212021B: An Ordinance Requiring Individuals to Wear Face Coverings in Retail and Food Service Establishments, and Matters Related Thereto. Mayor McMeekin stated this was placed on the agenda for discussion. In Lexington and Richland County, the hospitals have called the mayors to request this. If no motion is made concerning the ordinance, it will be placed on the next agenda.
- C. Resolution No. 09212021C: A Resolution by the Town of Winnsboro to Allow Fairfield County to Improve On-Street Parking on North Walnut Street and Make Improvements to the Town Gravel Lot at the Mt. Zion Walking Trail, and Matters Related Thereto. Mayor McMeekin stated this item will be deferred until after Execution Session.

## 9. MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Jennifer Edwards, Human Resources – Classification and Compensation Study. Per Mr. Taylor, this is concerning the Class and Comp Study that was discussed earlier in the Finance Meeting. This item was bid out, but no bids were received during the bid process. Prior to this, the City did receive quotes from several vendors who can perform this type of service. The Town Attorney has stated he is comfortable to proceed with the quotes that have been received. The Archer Company performed the Town's last Class and Comp study, and they are half the price of the next closest quote.

Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman stated this is being brought to full Council at the direction of the Finance Committee with recommendation for The Archer Company in the amount of \$10,500. Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee to go with The Archer Company. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

## **10. OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **11. NEW BUSINESS**

- A.** Request to Use Fortune Springs Park – Fairfield County Parks and Recreation Community Fitness Center, February 5, 2022, 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Clerk stated the request is to use a portion of Fortune Springs Park for the First Annual 5K event on February 5, 2022. Mr. Lucas Vance, Interim Parks and Rec Director, and Mrs. Lynn Tanner, Health and Fitness Specialist, are here tonight to give further information. Mr. Vance stated he appreciated Council allowing them to speak tonight. The route of this 5K will be the same route as traditionally used by other organizations. The starting point has typically been the gazebo downtown, but the hope is to utilize the beautiful Fortune Springs Park. The starting point and check-in will be at the Park. Mr. Vance stated February will be a really good gap between the other races that come through town. Also, with February being heart healthy month, the name of the race will be Got Heart 5K. It will also celebrate the Community Fitness Center as February will be the anniversary of its opening. Finally, the event will also be right in the middle of the Get Fit Program. Mrs. Tanner referred to the packet which was disseminated by the Clerk. This packet includes the time, date and other pertinent information, and the Fitness Center is partnering with Strictly Running for this event. Some of the local doctors' offices will also be providing health screenings during the event. There will be about 16 winners in the different age groups. The handout also depicts the walk area and the run area. This is, for the most part, the same route that Behavioral Health uses for their event. Mrs. Tanner stated she will also be contacting local sports teams to hopefully volunteer to help with the event. Mayor McMeekin stated everything on site is free and registration is not held onsite, and Mrs. Tanner stated this is correct. Council Member Bartell Prather stated she feels this will be a very good event. Motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to approve the request by Fairfield County Parks and Recreation Community

Fitness Center to use Fortune Springs Park on the above stated date. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

**12. 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.)**

At 6:34 p.m., motion made by Council Member Danny Miller, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to enter executive session to discuss the following item:

- A.** Receipt of Legal Advice – Discussion Concerning Fairfield County’s Request to Improve On-Street Parking on North Walnut Street and Make Improvements to the Town Gravel Lot at the Mt. Zion Walking Trail Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-5-70(a)(2).

At 6:45 p.m., motion made by Council Member Bartell Prather, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to come out of Executive Session and return to Regular Session. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

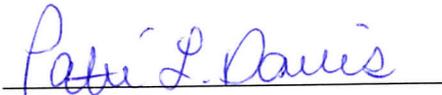
Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve Resolution No. 09212021C. For further clarification, Mr. Clauson stated this Resolution is the result of a request from Fairfield County. The County is slowly moving into the new administration building right next to the Walking Trail, and additional parking is needed. The request has been made to make improvements to North Walnut Street. Additional research was done which showed that Walnut Street was a former DOT roadway and has a 66 ft. right-of-way. From the center line of the road 20 ft. toward the school was one portion of the 66 ft. and then 46 ft. on the other side toward the Walking Trail was DOT property. This is all now County property, and they should have more than enough room to add some parking on that area of North Walnut and then to add more crush run and gravel on the existing lot. A maintenance agreement is also being proposed as part of this request. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

Mayor McMeekin inquired if there were any other items to be discussed for the good of the Town. Council Member Miller stated he has received calls from concerned citizens about the length of time on their utility bills. Mayor McMeekin stated he also has received calls. He also stated one of the meter readers came by his house today and had a trainee. They both apologized on behalf of the Town for the situation. Mr. Taylor stated he believes there are

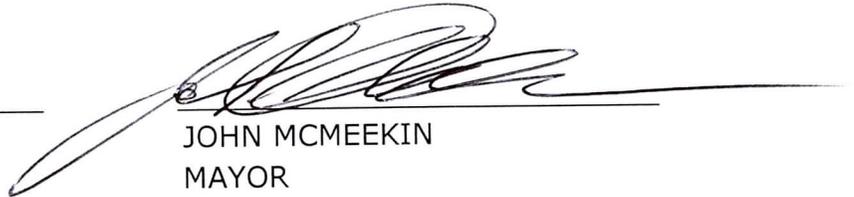
two new meter readers right now, and Mr. Medlin stated one was hired last Tuesday and one on last Wednesday. There will be training to be done. Mr. Taylor stated also the AMI System is moving forward. We know there is a problem, but we think we have a solution. Council Member Miller inquired if the AMI system will be monthly bills, and Mr. Taylor stated his understanding is this system can be read whenever we like. Mr. Medlin stated he assumes Mrs. Belton will be keeping it as the current cycle system. By the end of October, the system should be live in Blythewood, which will save 530 hours of reading. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman inquired of the current status of the AMI System purchasing in order to move forward. Mr. Medlin stated the AMI representative will be back to update Council on October 5. Mr. Taylor stated we do not want to miss this deadline. Council Member Miller further inquired how many officers the Department of Public Safety has patrolling at the present time and is the department fully staffed. Chief Seibles stated there are three officers assigned to shift in the afternoon. If there is a special event, more officers will be brought in. Traditionally, there are three officers. Chief Seibles further stated the department is not fully staffed at the present time.

**13. ADJOURN**

At 7:00 p.m., it was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 5-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS  
TOWN CLERK



JOHN MCMEEKIN  
MAYOR