

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL
AUGUST 2, 2022**

Present: Mayor John McMeekin; Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman; Danny Miller, Janice Bartell-Prather, Jae Burroughs, Council Members; Jason Taylor, Town Manager; Chris Clauson, Assistant Town Manager.

The Winnsboro Town Council met in regular session on August 2, 2022, 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. Mayor McMeekin reiterated that the Town of Winnsboro has a Resolution in place concerning the wearing of masks. Fairfield County is still in the high range of infection, and Mayor McMeekin again requested everyone to wear the masks, except when speaking, for the protection of Town employees.

2. INVOCATION

Council Member Bartell Prather led the invocation.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of July 19, 2022, and the Finance Committee minutes of July 19, 2022. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

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

- Mr. Charles Connell signed to speak concerning the Board of Zoning Appeals and urged Council to submit names of possible board members as soon as possible.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

7. SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A.** Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 61: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.26 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 275 Poplar Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Yuling Wu, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 126-03-22-012-000. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 61. ***The motion carried 5-0.***
- B.** Resolution No. 2022-07: A Resolution Consenting to the Development of a Multi-County Business Park by and Between Fairfield County, South Carolina, and One or More Contiguous Counties to Include Property Located in the Town of Winnsboro in Connection with Property Owned by Fairfield County School District Education Foundation (The "Company") and/or One or More Affiliates Now Existing or to be Hereafter Created. Mr. Clauson stated this is the structure by which the Foundation will create a tax incentive for the teacher village. Mr. Taylor further explained that this will be a Fee-in-Lieu of arrangement which incentivizes a development by way of lowering taxes potentially to zero. In order to qualify for this, a Multi-County Business Park must be created. This was attempted a while back but failed at the County level. Now, it has been court-tested and validated that this can occur for this type of project. It should have no negative effect on the Town; however, when the property is in Town, the Town has to also concur before the County takes action. Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve Resolution No. 2022-07. ***The motion carried 5-0.***
- C.** Resolution No. 2022-08: A Resolution Committing the Town of Winnsboro to Provide a Local Cash Match for a South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program Grant from the S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority to Fund a Plant Expansion for the Water Treatment Plant. Mayor McMeekin stated this item will be tabled until after executive session.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Ongoing Projects

- Armory – The flooring project is nearing completion and renting of the facility will begin the middle of next month. It will not be 100% complete by then but complete enough to begin the renting process.
- Code Enforcement – Issues continue, primarily on Zion Hill. Cameras are being looked into to help with some other crime issues that are ongoing, and a grant has been expanded to cover this cost.
- Grant Applications – Over the last two weeks, staff has been concentrating on and getting prepared for the very crucial grant for the \$10M SCIIP funds. Staff has attended conferences and conducted calls with the RIA group, who is administering this grant, to be sure the application is being put together in a way where it is as competitive as possible. A lot of time is being spent on this and will continue over the next few weeks. We will be discussing in executive session and coming out to vote on some of the issues associated with this tonight.

Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman inquired concerning the cameras. Per Mr. Taylor, this is a part of the grant that was received concerning taking down some of the houses in Zion Hill. However, in the end, as much as people were very excited about this in the beginning, not very many followed through and signed the paperwork to let the houses come down. The granting authority has allowed us to reprogram some of the funds to focus on the park in the area and also for lighting and cameras. The cameras are for safety purposes with regard to the shootings in the area to hopefully deter this behavior, and if it is not deterred, hopefully we can catch them and get them off the street as soon as possible before some innocent person is injured.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Request to Use Friendship Park (original request for Fortune Springs Park)
 - Stop the Violence, Mark Hill, August 13 and 14, 2022. Mr. Clauson stated he believes this is in conjunction with what is being done in Richland County with their Sheriff's Department and the City of Columbia. Mr. Hill stopped by Town Hall and explained this request, and this is a group specifically targeting the gang community by bringing together former gang members

and church leaders to speak to these young men to explain what this life leads to. It is a two-day motivational event, and Mr. Hill will need to use power and water. This is the request that is being brought before Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman believes a similar event was held near the County Administration building in the past, and this event was very successful. Mr. Taylor does remember this event and believes this will be very beneficial to the Town to allow this to go forward. The request is actually for Fortune Springs Park, and motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Miller, to approve the Request to Use Fortune Springs Park on the above dates, to include the use of electric and water services. ***The motion carried 5-0.***

- B. Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment – Christopher Derrick.** Mr. Clauson stated this is a nomination from Council Member Burroughs. Mr. Derrick lives on West High Street, and he is willing to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Mr. Clauson further explained that at the last meeting, a member agreed to participate, even though he had voiced his wish to resign from the committee. However, he was willing to come back and serve for the sake of the quorum. Right now, there are only three members. There are at least two vacancies on the Planning Commission as well. Mayor McMeekin stated he has been asking around, and Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman stated he has been doing this also but did not know there was an application. He requested that the application be made available on the Town's website and also make any vacancies known. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell Prather, to approve the appointment of Mr. Christopher Derrick to the Zoning Board of Appeals. ***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 6:29 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to enter into executive session for (a) Receipt of Legal Advice – Discussion Concerning Fairfield County Trash Dispute Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-5-70(a)(s) and (b) Receipt of Legal Advice – Discussion Concerning SCIIP Grant Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-5-70(a)(2). ***The motion carried 5-0.***

Council Member Miller exited the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

At 7:33 p.m., it was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to come out of executive session and return to regular

session. No action was taken in executive session. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

Item 8-C. Resolution No. 2022-08: A Resolution Committing the Town of Winnsboro to Provide a Local Cash Match for a South Carolina Infrastructure Investment Program Grant from the S.C. Rural Infrastructure Authority to Fund a Plant Expansion for the Water Treatment Plant. Motion made by Mayor McMeekin, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve Resolution No. 2022-08. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

13. ADJOURN

At 7:34 p.m., it was moved by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 4-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS
TOWN CLERK



JOHN MCMEEKIN
MAYOR