

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL
JULY 3, 2023**

Present: Mayor John McMeekin; Mayor Pro-Tem Demetrius Chatman; Janice Bartell-Prather, Jae Burroughs, Council Members; Jason Taylor, Town Manager; Scott Elliott, Town Attorney; Patti Davis, Town Clerk.

Absent: Danny Miller, Council Member; Kathy Belton, Assistant Town Manager.

The Winnsboro Town Council met in regular session on July 3, 2023, at the Winnsboro Women's Club Building. 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 Voice of Blythewood and Fairfield, The Country Chronicle and other individuals associated with the distribution list of the Town of Winnsboro.

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

Council Member Bartell-Prather made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from June 6, 2023. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

5. SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation in Honor of Mrs. Elizabeth Martin. Mayor McMeekin allowed the audience members who were attending for the reading of this Proclamation to briefly introduce themselves and speak concerning Mrs. Martin. Mayor McMeekin also shared his thoughts and memories of Mrs. Martin and then read the Proclamation into the record.

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

No one signed to speak.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A.** Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 79: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.77 Acre Tract of Land, Located at Hudson Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by John and Susan Smith, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 126-02-01-007-000. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman made a motion, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 79. ***The motion carried 4-0.***
- B.** First Reading Ordinance No. 80: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.21 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 485 Pine Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Tommy Wilson, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 145-01-02-004-000. Council Member Bartell-Prather made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman and Council Member Burroughs, to approve First Reading Ordinance No. 80. ***The motion carried 4-0.***
- C.** First Reading Ordinance No. 81: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.3 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 618 Hudson Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Trevis Boyd, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 126-02-09-030-000. Council Member Burroughs made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve First Reading Ordinance No. 81. ***The motion carried 4-0.***
- D.** Resolution No. 2023-7: A Resolution by the Town of Winnsboro to Approve the Second Supplemental to the Cost Sharing Agreement for the Fairfield Joint Water and Sewer System, and Matters Related Thereto. Mayor McMeekin stated this item will be deferred until after executive session.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Ongoing Projects

- AMI: Mr. Taylor reported a meeting was recently held with Ferguson. There have been some issues, but for the most part, the project is on track. There have been 1,506 water meters installed so far, and

this is a little over halfway. Gas is in much the same situation with 158 being installed and a total number of 186 left to be installed. A good many of the meters have been unresponsive after installed, so another meeting will be held concerning this. A streamlined approach is also being looked at to reduce the amount of actual hands touching the meter with the installation and repairs.

- Code Enforcement/Zion Hill: Mr. Taylor reiterated that the County has graciously agreed to assist with this process. Per Mr. Clauson, they had some work to do on a bridge, but he believes this work has gone faster than originally thought. They will begin on West College with the Harris property. There is one piece of property with one large house (Bozard), and the other lot has five houses that will be coming down.
- Redevelopment Efforts: Mr. Taylor reported a fair amount of progress with redevelopment efforts. A meeting was held with M.B. Kahn looking at some of the buildings being considered to be brought to Council after being assessed. The Town currently has an option on the old drycleaners, and due diligence is being done since it is now under control. There is also a commitment of the old gas station across from the drycleaners. Working along with the Town's attorney, work is being done on the building downtown to mitigate the hazards through the recently passed ordinance. Administration has also met with Ken Simmons, a landscape architect, and walked the Town with him. He will make a proposal that can then be brought to Council to see what Council wants to make a priority. The Town has also received another \$500,000 for redevelopment efforts, which gives a total of \$1M. Hopefully, some of the downtown needs can be met to get downtown turned around.
- Ordinance Review and Update: Mr. Clauson stated the Historic Preservation Ordinance is still being reviewed.
- Board and Commission Appointments: Mr. Clauson stated he is still awaiting some of the applications. He has spoken with some of the people who have just recently been annexed, and they have shown interested in serving. Mayor McMeekin reiterated that the City of Columbia had to advertise on Facebook for these positions. Mrs. Martin is an example of someone who was willing to give of their time.

- **Fairfield Joint Water and Sewer Service:** Mayor McMeekin stated he and Mr. Taylor have been meeting with a number of people in the political world, and there is no leeway on these grants. The past history in Fairfield County has not been the best, and we must cooperate and work together as a team to get the work done. There is a timeline and schedule for the SCIIP Grant with the Joint System, which proceeds onto the wastewater treatment plant, and this should move along fairly quickly. Per Mr. Taylor, a notice to proceed was not given yet because there were a few conditions to be met. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman inquired concerning the conditions, and Mayor McMeekin stated mainly this is because over the last 20 years, the various entities have not been able to work together. RIA expects there to be a better working relationship going forward. Mayor McMeekin stated there is a fair amount of information on the RIA site. Mr. Taylor reiterated that the Town has received a notice to proceed, and there are no conditions set for the Town. Some of the conditions pertaining to the Joint System will be brought back to Council for deliberation. The Town, the County and the COG must work together.

- **Grants Update:** Mr. Taylor stated the Town has been given a notice to proceed from RIA on the water plant grant. There is a tight timeline of two years to get this work done. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman feels there will need to be extensions with all the projects going on, and Mr. Taylor stated it was made clear that there would be no extensions. Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman further inquired concerning the bidding process. Mr. Taylor stated the SCIIP Grant guidelines will be followed very closely. With engineering, the Town has an in-house engineer, and there is not enough time to switch engineers. However, another engineer may be asked to come in with a specialty to work with the primary engineer.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- A.** Request for Public Funds – Ward One Community Assoc., Mrs. Debra McDaniel, Back to School Bash August 5, 2023, Friendship Park. The Clerk explained the request to Council. Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Burroughs and Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve the above request. Mayor McMeekin stated this event is for the entire Town. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

- B.** Request for Public Funds – Zion Hill Prevention Save the Kids, Mrs. Edwina Armstrong – 28th Annual Back to School Bash July 22, 2023, Fairfield High School. The Clerk explained the request to Council and further stated Mrs. Armstrong had some health issues in the past but reports she is better now. Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Burroughs and Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve the above request. Mayor McMeekin again stated this event is for the entire Town. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

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.)

- A.** Receipt of Legal Advice/Contractual Matter – Discussion Regarding Wastewater Treatment Facility Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §30-4-70(a)(2).
- B.** Receipt of Legal Advice - Discussion Concerning Fairfield County Trash Dispute Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2).

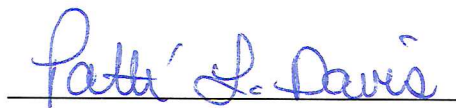
At 6:39 p.m., motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to go into executive session for the above listed items. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

At 6:51 p.m., motion made by Council Member Bartell-Prather, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to come out of executive session and return to regular session. ***The motion carried 4-0.***

Mayor McMeekin stated Resolution No. 2023-7 will be brought back to Council in the form of an Ordinance. All other discussion in executive session was taken as information only.

13. ADJOURN

At 6:52 p.m., it was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Chatman, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 4-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS
TOWN CLERK



JOHN MCMEEKIN
MAYOR