

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
WINNSBORO TOWN COUNCIL  
JANUARY 2, 2024**

**Present:** Mayor John McMeekin; Janice Bartell-Prather, Jae Burroughs, Council Members; Jason Taylor, Town Manager; Chris Clauson, Assistant Town Manager; Patti Davis, Town Clerk.

**Absent:** Danny Miller, Demetrius Chatman.

The Winnsboro Town Council met in regular session on January 2, 2024, at the Winnsboro Town Hall. 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 Burroughs made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bartrell-Prather, to approve the agenda. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council Member Bartell-Prather made a motion, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve the Regular Meeting minutes from December 5, 2023. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

**5. SPECIAL REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

None.

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

- Randy Sisk – Community Garden

Mayor McMeekin wished everyone a Happy New Year and hopes everyone had a great Christmas.

## 7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

## 8. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A.** Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 95: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.46 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 252 Hunstanton Drive, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Anthony and Fayedonia Boyd, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 145-01-23-004-000. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 95. ***The motion carried 3-0.***
- B.** First Reading Ordinance No. 96: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.18 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 202 Patton Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Kristen Kruger and Devin Fowler, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 126-02-03-006-000. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve First Reading Ordinance No. 96. ***The motion carried 3-0.***
- C.** First Reading Ordinance No. 97: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.31 Acre Tract of Land, Located at 604 ½ Hudson Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Edna Rabb, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 126-02-09-039-000. Motion made by Council Member Bartell-Prather, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to approve First Reading Ordinance No. 97. ***The motion carried 3-0.***
- D.** First Reading Ordinance No. 98: An Ordinance Annexing into the Town of Winnsboro a 0.73 Acre Tract of Land, Located on West 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Winnsboro, SC, Owned by Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church, in Fairfield County, Not Already Within the Winnsboro Town Limits, and Including All Adjacent and Abutting Rights-of-Way. Tax Map No. 145-01-30-006-000. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to approve First Reading Ordinance No. 98. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

## 9. MANAGER'S REPORT

### A. Ongoing Projects:

Mr. Taylor stated the Town had a reasonably quiet holiday season. There will be a Code Enforcement presentation at the next Council meeting.

Utilities – In comparison to last year, Mr. Taylor stated Christmas was relatively mild with one power outage near the Reservoir. There was a surge in one of the lines which caused one of the poles to burn down, resulting in around 200 people being without power for about two to three hours.

Redevelopment Efforts – There will be an item discussed in executive session pertaining to this that Council will then come out of executive session and act on. This will be a very important start to the redevelopment efforts.

Fairfield Joint Water & Sewer Service – Mayor McMeekin has been in the process pertaining to permits and easements, etc .

Grants – Mr. Taylor stated there are not a lot of updates due to the holiday season; however, the Town has been working with the COG on the grant received from the Municipal Association to assist with getting a downtown redevelopment plan. They will hire outside consultants to assist with this. Mayor Meekin stated the COG is the Council of Government, which includes Richland County, Fairfield County, Newberry and Lexington. The COG will be assisting Winnsboro with its redevelopment efforts, and they will also be helping to fund this. Mr. Taylor said the COG is also a conduit for further grant money in the future. Mayor McMeekin stated the new administrator of the COG, Britt Poole, is very active and is very interested in supporting Fairfield County, the Town of Winnsboro and the Town of Ridgeway. He feels positive about the beneficial influence the COG will have for Winnsboro.

- B. 2023-2024 Audit** – Mr. Taylor stated the audit is expected to take a little longer this time, which is to be expected with a new auditor coming on board. They are being asked to dig deep to be sure things are where they should be. Mayor McMeekin asked for Mr. Taylor to further define “a little late”, and Mr. Taylor stated it should be January.

## 10. OLD BUSINESS

None.



**11. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**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.** Economic Development/Contractual Matter - Discussion Concerning Downtown Revitalization Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2).

**B.** Receipt of Legal Advice – Discussion Concerning Trash Dispute Pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(2).

At 6:26 p.m., motion made by Council Member Burroughs, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to exit regular session and enter into executive session for the above listed items. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

At 6:41 p.m., motion made by Council Member Bartell-Prather, seconded by Council Member Burroughs, to exit executive session and return to regular session. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

Mayor McMeekin stated there is an action item to come out of Item A above. The Town will be purchasing a piece of property. Council had made a prior motion that the property would be purchased for a certain amount of money; however, it will be bought for less than what was originally approved. This funding will be coming from the money that Representative McDaniel made possible for the Town. This is in the direction of downtown redevelopment, which is where we want to go. Motion made by Council Member Burroughs to spend the contractually agreed amount on the old Thespian Hall, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather. Mayor McMeekin stated the Town will be purchasing the old Thespian Hall for less than the Council had originally allocated to purchase property with, and this fits in with the overall plan. The Town already owns the Town Clock and the parking lot on the end, and this will be a continuation of economic development. Hopefully, there will be more money from the State to continue on this track. Mayor McMeekin feels very happy and proud of this decision, and he is glad the Town is moving in the right direction. This will be beneficial for the citizens, and we have our work cut out for us. ***The motion carried 3-0.*** Mayor McMeekin stated discussion on Item B was for information only.

**13. ADJOURN**

At 6:45 p.m., Council Member Burroughs made a motion, seconded by Council Member Bartell-Prather, to adjourn. ***The motion carried 3-0.***



PATTI L. DAVIS  
TOWN CLERK



JOHN MCMEEKIN  
MAYOR