

**Minutes**  
**Town of Yemassee Town Council**  
Council Chambers, Yemassee Municipal Complex  
**December 10, 2019 Town Council Meeting; 6:30PM**  
101 Town Cir, Yemassee, SC 29945

**Attendance:**

Present: Colin Moore, Mayor; Peggy O’Banner, Mayor Pro-Tem; Chuckie Simmons, Council Member; Alfred Washington, Council Member; Council, Matthew Garnes, Town Clerk; Tiffany Houston, Administrative Assistant; Gregory Alexander, Chief of Police; Joe Loadholt, Police Captain and Lonnie Green, Public Works Superintendent

Absent: Michelle Hagan, Council Member

Media Present: None

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**Call to Order:**

Mayor Moore called the Tuesday, December 10, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation:**

Council Member Peggy O’Banner gave the Invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Determination of Quorum:**

Mayor Moore, Council Member O’Banner, Council Member Simmons and Council Member Washington were present.

**Consent of the Agenda:**

Mayor Moore asked immediately to amend the agenda due to a discrepancy on the Agenda. The Agenda lacked the Consent of the Agenda item. Council Member O’Banner made the motion to amend the agenda to place Consent of the Agenda as item IV. Second by Council Member Washington, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the adoption of the updated Town Council Agenda as amended for the current meeting. Council Member Washington made the motion to approve the updated agenda. Council Member O’Banner second the motion. **Motion Passed**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Council Member O’Banner made a motion to adopt the November 12, 2019 Town Council Meeting Minutes as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. Council Member Simmons made the second, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

**New Business:**

Mayor Moore read the resolution which is for consideration. The Resolution would grant authorization for the Town Clerk to enter into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with Beaufort County for the purposes of cost sharing for consulting services to develop a Regional Affordable Housing Trust Fund. He reminded the Council this is the project that is being worked on with Beaufort & Jasper Counties with the Southern Lowcountry Regional Board (SoLoCo). The amount the Town is responsible for is \$1,000 and that amount was derived from the population municipalities. The Mayor mentioned that the bidding out for the consulting project will be handled by Beaufort County. Council Member O’Banner made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-1017, A Resolution Authorizing the Town Clerk to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Beaufort County for the purposes of cost sharing for consulting services to develop a Regional Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Council Member Washington made the second, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

Mayor Moore then read the resolution for consideration next. He explained this is a Resolution Authorizing the Town Clerk to expend certain funds as required as match for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Enrichment Program. He stated the one approved a few months ago had a ballpark amount as the Town’s match however, now that the grant is approved an updated resolution must be passed with the exact figures. Council Member Simmons made the motion to adopt Resolution 2019-1018. Second by Council Member O’Banner, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

**Department Reports:**

*Police Department (Chief Alexander)*- Chief Alexander reported that an Armed Robbery occurred at the Dollar General last week and the suspect has been apprehended and is currently in the Hampton County Detention Center. Zone D had their meeting last week and it was a great turnout and is expected to continue strong turnouts. Chief Alexander reported that a general concern of the residents was the lack of enforcement of the Nuisance ordinance pertaining to various yards at residences throughout the Town. Mayor Moore added that the Nuisance Ordinance is the law and that he hopes the whole Council would agree to have his back while enforcing the Ordinance.

*Administration (Matthew Garnes)*- Mr. Garnes reported that we are currently working on the environmental impact studies for the newly awarded grant. He also reported that when the time comes, Lowcountry Council of Governments (LCOG), will solicit the bids on behalf of the Town and that should come in the spring.

*Public Works (Lonnie Green)*- Mr. Green said he’s proud of the work that they’ve accomplished around Town with respect to hanging the hospitality banners, the holiday lights and the new garland around the poles. He said his goal is to keep adding to it each year so we can ultimately

cover a bigger area. Mr. Green said the concrete slab was poured at the Community Center last week which he added looks great. He informed Council that he was looking for a new tractor to replace his Kubota and had looked over prices with Mr. Games. He said if Council would give permission to buy the tractor tonight, he would be very happy and can get down to work.

Municipal Court- No Report

**Committee Reports:**

Train Station Restoration Committee- Mr. Henson reported on behalf of the committee. He said that he's been speaking with JL regarding the one room left unfinished. He would like to see a bathroom go in there. Mayor Moore told Mr. Henson that it looks great and encouraged people to go visit. Council Member O'Banner echoed Mayor Moore and said it looks great down there. Council Member O'Banner also said the little library box in the train station is nearly empty and she will work on restocking it.

**Public Comment:**

Don Brant (352 Ridgecut Rd, Early Branch) – Mr. Brant informed the Council and public that there would be another free hot dog lunch at the old Choo Choo Mini mart on Saturday and in spirit of Christmas the Brant Family Farm will also make hamburgers. He said the weather is not looking good for this Saturday and if the weather doesn't cooperate, they would relocate to under the awning at the Train Station. Council Member Simmons stated that he is collecting coats for those less fortunate this season and there are pickup boxes at Simco and in the Fire Department bays. He will be handing them out next weekend.

Chief Alexander reminded everyone that "Shop with a Cop" is this Saturday. The children will ride to Dollar General with their lights and sirens running then after they are done shopping they are going to Hardees for a complimentary lunch.

**Executive Session:**

Council Member Simmons made the motion to enter executive session for the purposes of discussing Town Council appointments of boards and committees. Second by Council Member O'Banner. All in favor. The Council entered Executive Session at 6:57PM.

**Motion Passed**

Council Member O'Banner made the motion to adjourn Executive Session. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**

No action was taken during Executive Session.

**Adjournment:**

Mayor Moore asked for motion to adjourn. Council Member Washington made the motion to adjourn. Second by Council Member O'Banner. Meeting adjourned at 7:14PM. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**