

Minutes
Town of Yemassee Town Council
Council Chambers, Yemassee Municipal Complex
January 14, 2020 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; Tom Johnson, Town Attorney; Samuel Watson, Police Sgt; Seth Harris, Police Officer; Sheryl McKinney, Town Judge and Lonnie Green, Public Works Superintendent

Absent: Michelle Hagan, Council Member

Media Present: Lowcountry Inside Track

Call to Order:

Mayor Moore called the Tuesday, January 14, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation:

Council Member Chuckie Simmons 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 for a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Council Member O’Banner made the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Second by Council Member Simmons, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

Approval of Minutes:

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

Town of Yemassee Needs Assessment (Public Hearing):

Mayor Moore opened a Public Hearing for the purpose of conducting the annual Needs Assessment for CDBG Grant funding and turned the meeting over to Jessica Dailey with Lowcountry Council of Governments. Ms. Dailey advised this is an opportunity for residents and property owners to learn what grant funding is available, and relay to the Town what their concerns are. Ms. Dailey presented a slideshow with various grant opportunities as well as graphs depicting what the low-to-moderate (LMI) levels are in Beaufort & Hampton Counties.

New Business:

Mayor Moore read the proposed meeting dates for the Yemassee Town Council for 2020 and asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution. Council Member Simmons made the motion, Second by Council Member O'Banner. All in favor. **Motion Passed**

Department Reports:

Police Department- No Report

Administration (Matthew Garnes)- Mr. Garnes reported that it was a busy month and that the Municipal Complex renovations are nearing completion. The Mayor & Mr. Garnes both attended the Southern Lowcountry Regional Board meeting held in Bluffton. We also worked closely with Beaufort County Records management to streamline the process for new building permits to be sent down.

Public Works (Lonnie Green)- Mr. Green reported that there have been issues with S&S Disposal missing cans and during the next pickup he will ride with them and ensure everything is picked up. Now that the Town Hall renovation is complete, we will begin working on the Community Center and should have more on that by next month.

Municipal Court- Judge McKinney introduced herself and asked if the Council would like a report each month. The Council advised Judge McKinney it was not necessary.

Committee Reports:

Train Station Restoration Committee- Council Member O'Banner says the monument looks great and wants to coordinate a dedication this Memorial Day. Some additional landscaping needs to be done

Yemassee Community Improvement Alliance:

Mr. Henson praised the Police Department for patrolling neighborhoods as well as the Public Works taking care of the sidewalks but stressed the need for a long-term maintenance plan. This year, the CIA wishes to have the Town enforce the trash and debris in yard, citing people who have vehicles that are not registered or abandoned parked on private property and says the Police Department needs to launch an awareness program before they start enforcing it.

Public Comment:

Don Brant (352 Ridgecut Rd, Early Branch) – Mr. Brant stated at his last hot dog event he handed out sixty bibles and prayed with attendees. He reported the next “Pray for Yemassee” event will be next Tuesday at Fletchers Finds at 7AM

Darrell Russell (2 Pine St)- Mr. Russell wished to thank everyone for their participation in the Toys for Tots campaign in Hampton County and presented the Town of Yemassee Government with the “Commanders Award”. He advised in total 335 less fortunate children were given gifts for Christmas. In total, 3,398 gifts in toys, books and stocking stuffers were handed out.

Garry Gibbs (159 Salkehatchie Rd)- Ms. Gibbs congratulated Zone D on having a great inaugural meeting and there is a lot of excitement. Several residents helped clean up Lacey Street. Ms. Gibbs stressed that they are willing to help people that are in violation of the nuisance ordinance, they will gladly help get your yards in compliance.

Douglas Mickens (64 Wesley Dr)- Mr. Mickens asked the Council why they are not attending County meetings. Mayor Moore stated we have attended many meetings this month such as SoLoCo, The Mayors Roundtable, Beaufort County Councils Executive Committee and more. Mr. Mickens said if Yemassee doesn’t go to Hampton County Council meetings they will continue to block us. He wished to thank god for our Police Officers.

Executive Session:

Council Member O’Banner made the motion to enter executive session for the purposes of discussing personnel matters and the proposed expansion of services in the area served by the Public Body. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor. The Council entered Executive Session at 7:42PM. **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 O’Banner made the motion to adjourn. Second by Council Member Simmons. Meeting adjourned at 8:36PM. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**