

**Town of Yemassee Council Meeting**  
**April 10th, 2018**  
**6:30 P.M.**

Town of Yemassee Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Municipal Complex, in Yemassee, South Carolina. Present: Mayor Colin Moore, and Council Member(s) – Michelle Hagan, Chuck Simmons, Peggy O’Banner & Alfred Washington. Staff present: Interim Town Clerk Matthew Garnes.

**INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

- 1.1 Invocation was given by Council Member Simmons
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance was given by Council Member Simmons

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** Entire Council were present

**DETERMINATION OF NOTICE TO PRESS & PUBLIC:** The press & public has been notified by fax and e-mail.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

- 4.1 Council Member O’Banner made the motion to amend the agenda and add resident Darrell Russell as item, 8.4 under Dispatch fees for discussion only. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor

Council Member O’Banner made the motion to adopt the new agenda for three (3) items under item 8. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- 5.1 Council Member Hagan made the motion to amend the minutes for March 13, 2018 Meeting, Section 11.1 and approve accordingly. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.
- 5.2 Council Member O’Banner made the motion to approve the Special council meeting minutes for March 19, 2018. Second by Council Member Washington. All in Favor.

**ANNEXATION:**

- 6.1 Council Member O’Banner made the motion to approve the second reading on the Ordinance Number 18-03 for annexation of 3.00 acres owned by Nicole McCaskill located at 384 Willis Street South in Yemassee into the City limits of Yemassee, second by Council Member Washington. All in Favor.
- 6.2 Council Member Simmons made the motion to approve the first reading on the Ordinance Number 18-04 for annexation of 11.79 acres owned by 121 Frampton Rd, LLC property located at 121 Frampton Rd in Sheldon into the City limits of Yemassee, second by Council Member Washington. All in Favor.

**MEC RESOLUTION:**

- 7.1 Council Member Hagan made a motion to adopt the Municipal Election Commission Resolution, seconded by Council Member Washington. Council Member Simmons opposed. Motion Carried

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

- 8.1 Council Member O'Banner made a motion to enter into a Mutual-Aid Agreement between the Yemassee Police Department and the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office. Seconded by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

Council Member O'Banner made a motion to enter into a Mutual-Aid Agreement between the Yemassee Police Department and the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office. Seconded by Council Member Hagan. All in favor.

- 8.2 No representative from the Police Department was present. Interim Town Clerk Matthew Garnes briefed Town Council that Hampton County Central Dispatch has forwarded an invoice to the Town of Yemassee in the amount of \$42,500. They have backdated fees in the amount of \$2,500 for dispatch services since their inception in December 2016. Town Council never signed a formal agreement with Hampton County Communications when they switched from the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office. It was agreed that Chief Alexander and Mayor Moore would meet with Catherine Bozard, E911 Coordinator and Hampton County Administrator, Rose Dobson-Elliot to discuss this matter in the coming week.
- 8.3 No Police Department personnel were available.
- 8.4 Council Member O'Banner had several questions regarding Invoices & Accounts Payable for Interim Town Clerk Matthew Garnes. She inquired whether or not Frontier Communications paid a franchise fee to which Mr. Garnes advised they did not pay a franchise fee. Council Member O'Banner requested that Interim Town Clerk Garnes update the name on the Blue Cross Blue Shield employee health plan- Mr. Garnes advised he has already made himself the primary contact. A question was raised about an invoice from Sunrise Sanitation and what they provided. Council Member Hagan advised they provided the porta-potty at the Willis Street South Basketball Court. Council Member O'Banner inquired as to the large bill from Republic Services, Interim Town Clerk Garnes advised Council Member O'Banner that the Town of Yemassee receives a monthly check from the Low country Regional Water & Sewer Authority Liability account which contains the total sum collected from LRWS from all in town and out of town garbage accounts collected by the Town of Yemassee. The Town then turns around and sends Republic Services a check. Council Member O'Banner inquired about the Animal Shelter fee from Hampton County, Interim Town Clerk Garnes advised that this is a monthly bill we pay for Animal Control services in the event they are needed. No further questions were furnished.

- 8.5 Darrell Russell addressed council regarding the Structure Fire at 122 Salkehatchie Road. He stated that he called 911 right away and saw Captain Loadholt at the Police Department and flagged him down and the Yemassee Police were on scene almost instantly. He attended the Hampton County Council meeting and commended Councilman Simmons for being the sole representative from council that attended. Ms. Rose Dobson-Elliot, the Hampton County Administrator advised Mr. Russell that citizens do not pay enough taxes for career personnel to staff the fire station in the Town of Yemassee. He states the current 8-5 paid driver is simply not enough. Monday April 16, 2018 he will stand in front of County Council again and advise them of what Ms. Dobson-Elliot told him that night and how Beaufort County is always there to assist, despite the small footprint the Town of Yemassee has in Beaufort County.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Clay Bishop (Early Branch, SC) spoke at the last County Council meeting and stated only four residents from the area were in attendance, two from Early Branch and two from the Town of Yemassee. He reported the Fish Fry benefit for David Tuten was a big success and that WSAV-TV from Savannah was on site and due to them airing it on TV a family travelled from Savannah to support Mr. Tuten. Mr. Bishop advised the size of the fire department in Yemassee has doubled.

Mr. Don Brant (Varnville, SC) Wanted to invite all the residents to a “Prayer for Yemassee” meeting next Tuesday morning at Fletchers Finds at 7AM. The event will continue on a weekly basis.

Mr. Bobby Williams (Yemassee, SC) wished to address the termination of previous Town Clerk, Ms. Misty Moorner. He advised that she was arrested like a common criminal.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- 11.1 Council Member O’Banner made the motion to go into executive session at 8:02PM, second by Council Member Hagan. All in favor.

Council Member Hagan made the motion to come out of executive session at 8:38PM, second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

#### **MEETING ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Washington, second by Council Member Hagan. All in Favor. Meeting Adjourned at 8:38PM.