

**Minutes**  
**Town of Yemassee Town Council**  
**August 3, 2021, Special Town Council Meeting; 4:00PM**  
101 Town Cir, Yemassee, SC 29945

**Attendance:**

Present: Mayor Colin Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem Peggy O'Banner, Councilmember Michelle Hagan, Councilmember Alfred Washington, Town Clerk Matthew Garnes, Town Attorney Tom Johnson, Police Chief Gregory Alexander and Police Captain Joe Loadholt

Absent: Councilmember Charlie Simmons

Media Present: Lowcountry Inside Track, Ltd.

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**Call to Order:**

Mayor Moore called the Tuesday August 3, 2021, Special Town Council Meeting to order at 4:08 PM

**Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation:**

Mayor Pro-Tem O'Banner gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consent of the Agenda:**

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner made the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Second by Council Member Washington, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

**Proclamations & Presentations:**

Sandy Steele of Southern Carolina Alliance thanked the Town Council for allowing her to provide an update on a newly approved grant for the region. The USDA approved Southern Carolina Alliance's grant to engage retail strategies for seven towns in the promise zone including the Town of Allendale, City of Denmark, Town of Blackville, City of Walterboro, Town of Hampton, Town of Ridgeland, and the Town of Yemassee. The grant has no local match from any of the municipalities but will provide each of the municipalities with marketing material to present to prospective retail sector businesses with data specific to our municipality. The project will also conduct a real estate assessment with site selection criteria and identification of the top zones and sites viable for regional and national retailers. Ms. Steele once again thanked the council for allowing her to present and advised she'll be in touch with Town Staff.

### **New Business:**

Mayor Moore read Ordinance 21-18, Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Portions of the Town of Yemassee Code, Chapter 3. He advised that this Ordinance would essentially be repealed and replaced with the Beaufort County Animal Ordinance which the Town would be required to have in effect for Beaufort County Animal Services Officers to handle animal issues within the Town. Hampton County lacks the resources and has had substantial delays in getting to incidents within the Town and in some instances, they simply have no room. At the Special Town Council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July, Council Member Simmons expressed concerns over the ordinance and subsequently the item was tabled until the next meeting. Mayor Moore stated that it is critical that we have an agreement in place for Animal Control issues as they arise. The Town does not have the facilities, staff or resources for long-term keeping of animals. Mr. Garnes advised that should the Ordinance pass first reading, the second and final reading will be next week. After the second reading and adoption, the Town will work with Beaufort County on executing an Intergovernmental Agreement. Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner made a motion to approve the Ordinance as presented. There was no discussion. Second by Council Member Hagan. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**

### **Public Comment:**

None

### **Executive Session**

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to enter executive session for contractual matters regarding Beaufort County Animal Control and for personnel matters regarding the Associate Judge position. Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner made the motion to enter executive session. Second by Council Member Hagan. All in favor, Executive Session began at 4:18 PM

Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner made a motion to conclude executive session at 4:34 PM. Second by Council Member Washington. All in favor, Regular Session resumed.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner made a motion to appoint Bertrand O. Dore as Interim Associate Judge for the Town of Yemassee assuming the same terms, stipulations, and rate of pay as the previous Associate Judge. There was no discussion. Second by Council Member Hagan. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**

Oath of Office was administered by Anthony O. Dore.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Moore asked for motion to adjourn. Council Member Washington made the motion to adjourn. Second by Mayor Pro Tem O'Banner. All in favor, **Meeting Adjourned at 4:49 PM**