

**Town of Yemassee Council Meeting
February 15TH, 2017
6:30 P.M.**

Town of Yemassee Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday February 15th, 2017 at 6:30pm at the Municipal Center, in Yemassee, South Carolina. Present: Mayor Jerry Cook, Council Member(s) - Daniel Anderson, Colin Moore, Jordan Jinks, and Staff present: Misty Reardon Clerk to Council, and Gregory Alexander Chief of Police.

INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- 1.1 Invocation was given by Mayor Cook.
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance was given by Council Member Anderson.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Mayor Cook, and Entire Council were present, except Council Member O'Banner.

DETERMINATION OF NOTICE OF PRESS: Press has been notified by fax

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

- 4.1 Council Member Moore made the motion to table the agenda for February 15th, 2017, second by Council Member Anderson. All in favor.

ACTION ON MINUTES FROM JANUARY 10TH, 2017:

- 5.1 Council Member Moore made the motion to amend the council meeting minutes for January 10th, 2017 to the next meeting, second by Council Member Jinks.

DISCUSSION ON TOWN PROPERTIES:

- 6.1 Council Member Anderson informed Council and citizens present that he has contacted the SC Department of Archives and history, because the town of yemassee has several historical landmarks. Council Member Anderson would like to get historical land marker plates made for the town, he was told by Columbia that they would send him a packet of all qualifications. Mayor Cook agreed that this would be a great memorabilia for the town.

DISCUSSION ON THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 7.1 Chief Alexander announce to council and citizens present at the meeting, that the police department has mutual aid agreement with Spartanburg County again this year for the rolling thunder program and asked for council blessing to send two officers. Council Member Jinks made the motion to allow the police department to attend the roll in thunder in Spartanburg County on March 20th through 24th, Second by Council Member Moore. All in Favor. Chief Alexander also informed council that they have a mutual aid agreement with Colleton County for back up for anything that might happen. Chief Alexander address to council that the police department had lost Sergeant Simmons due to he had an opportunity to become the new manager at McDonalds in the point south location. Chief Alexander will be conducting interviews tomorrow to fill his position.

DISCUSSION OF THE TRAIN DEPO STATION:

8.1 Mayor Cook made the motion to move this to executive session.

DISCUSSION OF TOWN ELECTION:

9.1 DISCUSSION ON TOWN ELECTION FEES

Council Member Anderson got with the Town Clerk Ms. Reardon about calculating the election fees which is 1 % of the elected official's salary for four years. The filing fee for running for council would be \$192.00 and the filing fee for running for the mayor it is \$576.00. Council Member Moore also wanted to address with council about doing away with the petition form and filing with the Town Clerk instead. The new candidates would fall under the same rules, Council Member Anderson advised everyone that we would have to get the election commission in place first and we would have to do that in the form of an ordinance, and have two readings. Council Member Moore we would need have at least three election commission to get them in place as soon as possible. Citizen asked council in order to run for elected official you would have to live in the town limits of Yemassee, or the 29945 zip code. Town Clerk Ms. Reardon informed the citizen that he or she would have to live in the town limits of Yemassee. Mayor Cook asked how long we would have until we needed to file, Ms. Reardon informed them until the March 30, 2017. Council Member Anderson advised everyone that we would have to have an election commission in place and they will have to be present during the time we change the filing fee. Council Member Jinks said that three of these candidates for the election commission might be interested in staying on, the names as follows: Bobby Williams, Gloria Devour and Janice Foster. Council Member Jinks would provide the numbers to Ms. Reardon so she would be able to get in contact with them.

Council Member Moore informed council that we should go ahead with the first reading to do an ordinance on changing the pay for the town council and mayor for the next term, and have a second reading in March, as well as have the ordinance ready for the March meeting. Council Moore should we do the pay across the board or how would my fellow council like to go the pay. Council Member Anderson recommended that we should get with other municipality to see how they are doing there pay, and to get as closely as possible to what they're doing, Mayor Cook said he asked Mayor Rhoden in Hampton county which they have the council form of government as well, and it went from the mayor to pro mayor and then council but whichever you guys would like it fine with me. Council Member Moore we can do it close to what you're speaking of and write an ordinance on it. Council Member Moore made the motion to change the town election fees to 1 % of the gross pay, second by Council Member Anderson. All in favor. Council Member Anderson made the motion to change the pay for town council and mayor for next term, after checking with other municipalities, second by Council Member Jinks. All in Favor.

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES:

- 10.1 The Comtran Group-Council Member Moore made the motion to approve his business license for the Town of Yemassee, second by Council Member Jinks. All in favor.

Dean Electric-Council Member Jinks made the motion to approve his business license for the Town of Yemassee, second by Council Member Moore. All in favor.

Accurate Concrete-Council Member Jinks made the motion to approve his business license for the Town of Yemassee, second by Council Member Anderson. All in favor.

DISCUSSION ON TOWN'S WEBSITE:

- 11.1 Council Member Anderson made the motion to move the discussion of the town's website until the next council meeting, second by Council Member Jinks. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- 12.1 THE ARNOLD FIELDS COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT—has asked for the council to donate or reserve a table on the 11th of March, 2017 at the North District Middle School in the amount of \$250.00. Council Member Anderson made the motion to donate the \$250.00 towards the Arnold Fields Community Endowment, second by Council Member Jinks. All in favor.

Mrs. Donna Baker wanted to thank the town Council and Ms. Reardon for getting the lights put up on Railroad Avenue.

Mayor Cook started to read a quote from Griffith's Improvements for the community center, this quote includes the following work to be done: Remove existing shingles, repair all bad decking as needed, re-structure around weather head, secure weather head with cables, install 15LB tar paper, layer of three tab shingles, install new boots on roof penetrations, shingles to be stock color (charcoal) and owner to provide roll off dumpster. The minimum bid is set as \$4710.00. Mayor Cook wanted to have three other quotes on the community center and apologized to Mr. Griffith. Council Member Jinks made the motion to table this quote for the community center at this time, second by Council Member Anderson. All in favor.

Mr. Henson apologized for being late and wanted to know how the public is notified on Council Meetings. Mayor Cook advised the gentleman that we have council meetings the second Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm and that we also send out notifications to Beaufort Gazette, Hampton County Guardian, and radio station WBHC, as well as posting a sign out in front of the Town Hall the morning of the council meeting. Mayor Cook also let it be known that if the council meeting falls on a holiday that it will resume on the next business day. Mr. Henson wanted to know if there is any other way to be notified in advance of

council meetings. Mayor Cook said that we are currently working on something to better assist with our community about getting information out.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

13.1 PERSONNEL MATTERS

- * Council Member Anderson made the motion to go into executive sessions, second by Council Member Jinks. All in favor.
- * Council Member Jinks made the motion to come out of executive session, second by Council Member Moore. All in favor.
- * Mayor Cook and Council have come to the agreement that everyone that has donated time to the community center will not be given free rentals of the community center.
- * Mayor Cook and Council have come to an agreement with the train station/depo, with the rental income that is coming in from renting a room at the train station/ depo will go into the train station account, minus the electric bill, and then after the project is completed, those funds will go towards general funds. Council Member Jinks made the motion to allow the train station/depo committee to absorb the rental money into the train station account and then forward to LCOG minus the utilities and expenses until the project is completed, once train station/depo is completed the property and all revenue will be returned to the town immediately. Second by Council Member Anderson. Council Member Moore has exempted himself from this vote due to he is on the committee. All in Favor.

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Anderson, second by Council Member Moore. All in favor