

Town of Yemassee Council Meeting
March 13th, 2018
6:30 P.M.

Town of Yemassee Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday March 13th, 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: Clerk to Council Misty Reardon, Assistant Town Clerk Matt Garnes, Chief of Police Gregory Alexander and Captain Joe Loadholt.

INVOCATION/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- 1.1 Invocation was given by Peggy O’Banner
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance was given by Council Member (s).

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 Hagan made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented, second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 5.1 Council Member Hagan made the motion to approve the council meeting minutes for February 20th, 2018 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 February 26, 2018. Second by Council Member Hagan. All in Favor.

ANNEXATION:

- 6.1 Council Member Hagan made the motion to approve the first 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 Simmons. All in Favor.
- 6.2 Council Member O’Banner made the motion to approve the second reading on the Ordinance Number 18-02 for annexation of 0.56 acres of Marie S. Rivers property located at 250 Bing Street in Yemassee into the City limits of Yemassee, second by Council Member Hagan. All in Favor.

ORDINANCE:

- 7.1 Council Member Hagan made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 18-2602-04 for the Yemassee Shrimp Festival. Second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- 9.1 Chief Alexander briefed the Council on the “Palmetto Pride” grant the Police Department applied for and was awarded the grant. The grant funds will be used to purchase Digital Cameras, deer cameras and other deterrents to assist in litter prevention in high litter areas.
- 9.2 Chief Alexander advised Council that the Victim Advocate Grants, 1V15165, 1V16045 and 1V17048 are in jeopardy of being terminated after the Attorney General conducted a site visit. Ms. Paula Bishop then spoke, who wrote the grant and stated that the reporting deadline had been missed and if we could get back on track there may be a chance to save the grant.
- 9.3 Ms. Paula Bishop advised Council of the cost of her services to write various grants on behalf of the Police Department. Ms. Bishop advised that she had not been compensated by the town for any work done previously and accordingly she had resigned. Ms. Bishop has agreed to work on an as needed basis and will be compensated for her time.
- 9.4 Chief Alexander reported that the Southern States Police Benevolent Association account for the police officers is in default. Discussion ensued on how the previous years were handled to which Chief Alexander advised the town paid for the officers which amounted to approximately \$1,880. Council member Hagan made a motion to approve the Town to pay for the PBA membership, seconded by Council member Simmons. All in favor

REAPPOINTMENT OF ELECTION COMMISSION:

- 10.1 Council Member O’Banner made the motion reappoint Allen Bech to the Election Commission, second by Council Member Washington. All in Favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Gloria Brown brought up an issue regarding pay for Municipal Election Commission workers. She advised that all three poll workers from this past election got paid substantially less than what they had received last time. A discussion ensued and it was determined that a resolution would be drafted for approval at the April 10, 2018 Town Council meeting specifying the pay for Municipal Election Commission workers. Council member O’Banner made a motion to pay Ms. Gloria Brown the difference (\$20.00), Ms. Joyce Shaw (\$55.00) and Ms. Rose Washington (\$55.00). Second by Council member Simmons. All in favor.

Several members of the community raised an issue with Fire Protection due to the recent loss of the house across the street from the Municipal Complex. Fire Chief Adam Bishop dispelled some rumors and also provided information on what equipment is on the initial dispatch for a Structure Fire in the Yemassee Fire District. He reiterated the importance of having volunteers and cited that Hampton County does not have enough money in their budget to staff the Yemassee Fire Station with career staff. Chief Bishop had volunteer applications available and said he's already received volunteer applications from people as far away as Beaufort & Bluffton.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 11.1 Council Member O'Banner made the motion to go into executive session at 8:36PM, second by Council Member Simmons. All in favor.

Council Member Hagan made the motion to come out of executive session at 11:49PM, second by Council Member O'Banner. All in favor.

Motion made by Council Member Hagan to place Misty Reardon Moorner on Administrative Leave effective immediately. Second by Council Member O'Banner. Mayor Moore Objected, Council Member Simmons Abstained. Motion Carried.

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Moore, second by Council Member Washington. All in Favor. Meeting Adjourned at 11:56PM.