

**Minutes**  
**Town of Yemassee Town Council**  
Electronic Meeting  
**May 12, 2020 Town Council Meeting; 5:00PM**  
101 Town Cir, Yemassee, SC 29945

**Attendance:**

Present: Mayor Colin Moore, Mayor Pro-Tem Peggy O'Banner, Councilmember Charlie Simmons, Council Member Alfred Washington, Town Clerk Matthew Garnes & Chief Gregory Alexander

Absent: Council Member(s) Hagan

Media Present: None

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**Call to Order:**

Mayor Moore called the Tuesday, May 12, 2020 Town Council Meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation:**

Council Member O'Banner gave the invocation and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Determination of Quorum:**

Mayor Moore, Council Member Simmons, Council Member O'Banner and Council Member Washington were present. Council Member Hagan was absent.

**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 Washington, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

**Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the April 14, 2020 Town Council Meeting Minutes. Council Member Washington made the motion. There was no discussion. Second by Council Member O'Banner, all in favor. **Motion Passed**

**Old Business.**

Mayor Moore read Annexation Ordinance 20-07 for Southern Pines Plantation at 592 Castle Hall Road in Beaufort County. Council Member O'Banner made the motion to approve second

reading. No further discussion. Second by Council Member Washington, All in favor, **Motion Passed.**

Mayor Moore read Annexation Ordinance 20-08 for Kaila Jenkins at 80 Reeves Street. Council Member O'Banner made the motion to approve. No further discussion. Second by Council Member Washington. All in favor, **Motion Passed.**

### **New Business:**

Mayor Moore read the National Safe Boating Week Proclamation for the Town of Yemassee for 2020. Council Member O'Banner made the motion to approve. Second by Council Member Washington. No further discussion, all in favor, **Motion Passed, Proclamation adopted.**

Mayor Moore read Resolution, Amending the current split of fees. Mayor Moore asked Mr. Garnes to elaborate on the specifics. Mr. Garnes reminded the Council of the current split of revenue brought in from the LRWS Franchise Fee. Currently, 70% goes into the Recreation Account, 20% towards the Festival and 10% into the Town Reserve Fund. The proposed change would earmark 60% to the Town Reserve Fund, 30% to the Festivals and 10% to the Recreation Account. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the loss to Town revenue has been profound and a need for a more resilient reserve is clearer than ever. The Recreation Department account is sufficient for the time being to maintain the fields and services. Last year the Peebles ballfield concession stand was renovated, and more playground equipment was placed at the parks. Council Member Simmons said he does not agree with it and understands the need for a reserve fund but said a different split would be preferred such as 25%. Council Member O'Banner says we are being proactive not reactive and referenced the high expense of cleaning supplies needed for cleaning the parks. Council Member O'Banner made the motion to approve the Resolution. Second by Council Member O'Banner. Council Member Simmons opposed. **Motion Passed.**

### **Department Reports:**

Chief Alexander advised that they had two scares in the past month with Officers being potentially exposed to COVID-19. Fortunately, they tested negative and we are using all appropriate precautions. Council Member O'Banner wanted to thank the Police Department for all the work they do throughout the year.

Mr. Garnes advised the front porch on the Community Center has been completed. He also mentioned the Water grant that is being worked and gave a summary of what would be included. Jackson Street would see an extended water line going north across Old Salkehatchie and placing a fire hydrant near Jackson & Old Salkehatchie. The water line would be increased from Hill Road and Salkehatchie to Terry Road and Salkehatchie, including a line going up Likita Lane and down Terry Road. Downtown, the line would be improved to increase fire flow near Hunt Street and 17A. On Willis St South, sewer service would be extended in the bottom to Bing Street and up Bing Street a few houses. This area constantly has problems with septic tanks backing up when heavy rain events occur and has been identified as a problem area by the Town of Yemassee and Lowcountry Regional Water System.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Moore asked for motion to adjourn. Council Member Simmons made the motion to adjourn. Second by Council Member O'Banner. **All in favor, Meeting Adjourned.**