## Town of Yemassee Special Council Meeting November 20, 2013 7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Cook, Councilmembers Moore, Jinks, O'Banner, Anderson and Clerk Josie Roberts.

**INVOCATION:** Invocation was given by Councilmember Peggy O'Banner.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE TO THE FLAG:

<u>ACTION ON MINTUES FROM OCTOBER 8, 2013:</u> Motion to accept as written by councilmember Moore, second by councilmember O'Banner. All in favor.

**<u>DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:</u>** Entire Town Government Present. Mayor asked Each Councilmember to State their Name.

**<u>DETERMINATION OF NOTIFICATION OF PRESS</u>**: Press has been notified both newspaper and radio.

## **DISCUSSION OF HOSPITALITY TAX (ORDINANCE #111406) AND**

ACCOMODATION TAX: Councilmember Moore said all we need to do is to reinstate it. Councilmember Anderson said the businesses thinks that the money is coming out of their pocket but it's not it's coming from the customers. Mayor Cook said we talked to SCE&G about lightening Hwy 68 from I-95 to downtown area. Motion to reinstate hospitality tax and accommodation tax by Councilmember Moore, Second by Councilmember Jinks. All in Favor. Councilmember Jinks said do we have a record of businesses that are paying and is they're paying their fair share. Mayor Cook said he likes the way there're setup now. Charlie Marshall said we need to get someone from the state to give us clearly on Hospitality Tax. We will continue to do as we already doing until we get clearing from state.

**DISCUSSION OF POST OFFICE:** Mayor Cook said to send letter to Thomas Russell on November 14, 2013 concerning post office. Mayor Cook read the letter since then we been in touch with several other people. Councilmember O'Banner read letter that Mayor Cook send out on November 20, 2013 to Dalton at Jim Clyburn office. Mayor Cook said he will call them on Friday about this. Hopefully in the next two weeks we shall have something positive for you. If we don't it won't be because of lack of effort, we going to continue keep working until we made something happen. Charlie Marshall will be with us on a daily basis until we can make some positive things happen.

<u>DISCUSSION OF TOWN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</u>: Council Moore said in the past the Christmas program worked well, all we need is volunteers it usually is on the Sunday after the Christmas parade. We need to meet this Sunday afternoon to get some input on this. Anna Reebe said she already has some donations for this. Councilmember Anderson said he have a list of people who sign up as volunteers. The *Meeting will be Sunday at 4:00p.m.* 

**NOMINATION FOR SHRIMP FESTIVAL BOARD:** Mayor Cook said since I was elected we lost some volunteers for shrimp festival. I hate that because the door is always open for them to come back and be a part of it.

Katie Cross and Sarah Rose helped me out a lot with clean up at festival office I would like to nomination Chairperson-Katie Cross, Co-Chairperson -Sarah Rose. Secretary Bitty Johnson. And we still need a Treasurer. Councilmember Jinks said we need to see if any other people want to volunteer, if anyone in here at this time please stand. Shrimp Festival Volunteers are as listed: Josie Anderson, Tarasha Pinckney, Tammy Lane, Sheila Wright, and Jerry Thompson. Katie Cross, Sarah Rose. Stanley Moore said that he resigns. Councilmember Daniel Anderson said before we do that we need to find out if any previous shrimp festival members want to be a part of the committee. Ethel Denmark said if you have a committee well one of the council people should be a part of it. If a council person is apart of the committee then we will have a person to go to. Councilmember Jinks said that he will be that person. Motion Anderson, Second Moore. All in Favor. They will decide on the nominations at the meeting on Sunday at 4:00pm.

NOMINATION FOR MAYOR PRO-TEMP Nomination High votes Daniel (Pee Wee) Anderson as Mayor Pro-Temp. Motion by Councilmember Jinks, Second by Councilmember O'Banner. All in Favor.

<u>DISCUSSION OF FORENSIC AUDIT:</u> Councilmember Jinks said this audit goes in more detail than a regular audit. Mayor Cook ordered a forensic audit for the last 4 years of Town's Books so we can let everyone know exactly what were spend and how it spend. This is something we had to do, to make sure we're starting off on right page, not saying something is wrong in anyway. The Forensic Audit is no cost to town the state is taking up the cost. Motion to process with forensic audit by Councilmember Jinks, second Councilmember Anderson All in favor.

Motion to executive session for a contractual matter by councilmember Moore, Second councilmember Anderson. All in favor.

Motion from executive session to regular meeting by Councilmember O'Banner, second Councilmember Moore all in Favor.

Motion to replace Vaux and Marscher as Town Attorney by Councilmember Jinks, second Councilmember Anderson. All in favor

Motion to retain Tom Johnson Law Firm as Town Attorney Councilmember Jinks, second Councilmember Anderson. All in favor

Motion to adjourn by Councilmember O'Banner second by Councilmember Moore. All in favor.