



**TOWN OF CENTRAL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2007 – 7:00 PM  
CENTRAL TOWN HALL  
1067 WEST MAIN STREET  
CENTRAL, SC 29630**

Present: Mayor Martin; Council Members David Boyles, Lynne Chapman, Tony Craig, David Donald, Tracey Reynolds, and Gary White; Town Administrator Phillip Mishoe; Police Chief Kerry Avery; Fire Chief Ed Reynolds; Fire Department's Executive Officer Ben Smith; Utility Billing Supervisor Susan Brewer; Members of the Press Jennifer Salane and Greg Oliver; Citizens Cindy Stone and Jimmy R. Moore; and Town Clerk Sandy L. Brown.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mac Martin.

The invocation was rendered by Lynne Chapman.

Reading of Work Session / Council Meeting Minutes 10/01/07:

David Donald had some content corrections. He requested more information on the numbers and dates in the minutes. Mayor Martin requested the minutes be corrected and submitted at the next Work Session.

Public Session (30 minutes total) - None

Receipt and disposition of petitions (15 minutes total) - None

Reports from Council Committees:

Gary White – Planning

Nothing to report this month

David Boyles – Water & Sewer

For the month of September the Water and Sewer Department completed 96 work orders, made several taps, and tested meters. They flushed sewer lines, flowed fire hydrants, and read meters.

Mr. Boyles stated he had a citizen complaint from someone living in a duplex. The citizen received the wrong bill, but paid it not knowing. His water was then disconnected because his bill had not been paid; he was charged a re-connection fee. Mr. Boyles stated he felt the citizen made a good-faith effort and it was trifling on the Town's part.

Mr. Boyles stated there will be a meeting in Pickens at the Administration Building, Thursday at 10:00 am; a hearing on his eligibility as a resident and tax payer to run for Town Council.

Tracey Reynolds – Finance

Everyone received their financial reports at the Work Session.

Mayor Martin distributed the front and back page of the Set-Off Debt report for the collections program for monies owed to the Town.

Mr. Boyles pointed out that the Town made money on water last month, in accordance to the Financial Report.

Lynne Chapman – Recreation

Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, will be Fire Prevention Day and will be held at the Indoor Recreation Center. Central Elementary, Clemson Elementary, Six Mile Elementary, Anderson Christian Academy, and several day-care (facilities) have scheduled field trips during the day to attend the event.

Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> will be the Health Fair. Everyone should have received a flyer on the event in their box. Flu shots, pneumonia vaccines, blood sugar and cholesterol screening, lipid panel testing, and over 30 exhibitors will be at the Indoor Recreation Center. This event is in partnership with Cannon Hospital.

Basketball sign-ups are October 1<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. The season will begin with a Jamboree at the Indoor Recreation Center December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Tony Craig – Streets and Sanitation

For the month of September the Street Department completed 35 work orders, picked up 50 loads of brush, 17 loads of metals, and 33 loads of wood. They assisted the Water Department with reading meters, mowed grass, ran the weed eater and kept the streets cleaned.

Reynolds Complete Yard Service mowed the cemetery September 14 and 28<sup>th</sup>.

David Donald – Public Safety

Police and Fire Department reports were in the packets.

Fire Prevention Day will be October 10<sup>th</sup>.

The MASC Uptown (newsletter) states there is a week in October declared as Fire Prevention Week. This month it is October 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Practice Your Escape Plan." Also, this month is National Crime Prevention Month; it is designated every year in October. They ask that the Police Department hold informational meetings on crime prevention and distribute crime prevention brochures in the water and electricity bills, but our water bills can't accommodate this.

Mr. Donald stated he was well pleased with the removal of the illegal signs around town, and hopes that it continues.

Mr. Donald asked the Mayor if the Town had contacted Blue Ridge (Electric Company), about the streetlights on Road 18; they are not working or functioning properly. If they have not been contacted he suggested someone get in touch with them due to the concern of the citizen's safety. Also, Blue Ridge needs to be reminded the Town is paying them \$10 a month for lights not working properly.

Mr. Donald asked Mr. Ben Smith to report on the new fire truck. Mr. Smith stated the truck was in service and at Station 1. Many of the fire fighters needed experience driving it; therefore they will probably be seen around town in it.

#### Discussion of ordinance requiring two readings 30 days apart:

Gary White made the motion to consider Ordinance #10-08-07 RATES, which requires readings on rates to be 7 days apart instead of 30 days apart; seconded by Lynne Chapman. David Donald made a motion to table Ordinance #10-08-07 RATES; seconded by David Boyles. Voting in favor were David Donald, David Boyles, and Tony Craig; opposed were Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, Gary White, and Mayor Martin.

David Boyles stated there was some concern about being able to change the rates at a rapid rate; however, the County of Pickens notified the town April 18<sup>th</sup> that the Tipping Fee would be increased. This was considered by the town and the business owners were notified on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. He stated he felt these things should be reacted upon on a timely basis, and keep the ability to consider things within 30 days instead of stampeding back and forth on water bills every 2 weeks, or the sewer bills, or sanitation fees. Mayor Martin asked Mr. Mishoe when the County gave him the charges (for the tipping fee). Mr. Mishoe stated it was 1 week before he presented the Tipping Fee spreadsheet (to Council). Regarding the letter that Mr. Boyles referenced - the County was only thinking about increasing the fee. They did not inform the town until August that it had passed: then it was September before they told him how it would work. He had everything in place, waiting on them to tell him how to proceed. They decided in September that the apartments would not be included. Afterwards they decided the apartments would be included. This was after Mr. Mishoe had presented it to Council and they had the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mayor Martin stated if the apartments had been included the rate would be different. Mr. Donald asked if the County was actually coming to town to collect the commercial trash to give them a rate. Mr. Mishoe stated they (the County) wanted to bring one of their sanitation trucks and dump all the trash from commercial customers. They were going to dump it in the Pickens County Land Field and weight it. The Town has rear-loading dumpsters; therefore the County couldn't pick up the trash. Mr. Mishoe stated it has been confusing due to not knowing if the apartments would be included or not; but he was staying on top of it.

Mr. Donald stated he felt he needed to voice his opinion that he agreed with Mr. Boyles the 7-days apart is not adequate time for them to research the different available methods of reaching the required increases. He stated he could remember a few times on water rate increases they had enough time to study it and review it and come up with some different options. One in particular this year was Plan A and Plan B of what would be done in raising inside and outside water rates; had that been 7-days apart. The Administrator's 1<sup>st</sup> presentation was Plan A; he would go with either option and Plan B passed. Seven days apart would not have allowed enough time to come up with different plans. He stated again, he felt 7-days was a little extreme, maybe 30-days was a little extreme and they may need to meet somewhere in the middle.

Mr. Boyles stated one of the problems with the 7-day deal is that they end up huddled in restaurants, with 4 of them representing a quorum, in an unadvertised meeting. Mayor Martin stated he was out of order. Mr. Boyles stated he was involved in it, at Dyar's Diner and the 4 of them voted. Mayor Martin told him once again he was out of order and he (Mr. Boyles) stated he may be. Mr. Mishoe requested to speak. He stated he made sure there were never 4 people/Council Members in the group at any given time. Mr. Boyles stated they had to have a quorum. Mr. Mishoe asked Mr. Boyles to recall that he discussed it when there were 3 members, but when a 4<sup>th</sup> one stepped up he asked them to step back. He stated there were never 4 in the discussion; he made sure of it. Lynne Chapman stated Mr. Mishoe was correct; she remembered there were never 4 present.

Mayor Martin called for a vote. Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, Gary White, and Mayor Martin were in favor; David Boyles, Tony Craig, and David Donald were opposed.

#### Consideration of ordinances already in possession of Council:

##### A. Second Reading of Policy #09-10-07 OUT

###### Increase Outside Water Rates

Chair moved to adopt Ordinance #09-10-07 OUT; seconded by Lynne Chapman. Mr. Donald stated that the policy, which started out as an ordinance and was changed to a policy, he believes there had been a change. Therefore, he requested to amend the policy as it was in front of them. He stated that three-fourths of the way down the page, this has been a sore spot with him since he found out how the town's history has been, it states the rates will become effective October 9, 2007. He requested at this time to put forth an amendment that the rates be effective October 24<sup>th</sup> which is after the next water bill reading; seconded by David Boyles. Ms. Chapman asked Mr. Donald the reason for his amendment. Mr. Donald stated he found out the past month, history has proven that typically the rates were passed on the second week of the month; and the rate becomes effective on the day the Council passed it or the next day; and the rate is put into effect on a 2-weeks prior water usage that should have been at the lower rate. He stated the way he understood the water

billing, in his mind, they were either going to over-charge the customers or they need to go to the next water-meter-reading date, and after that date the new rate would take effect. Ms. Chapman stated she did not understand how it was considered over-charging.

Mayor Martin called for a vote on the amendment to changing the effective date to October 24. David Donald, Tony Craig, David Boyles, and Gary White were in favor; Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, and Mayor Martin were opposed.

The Mayor called for a vote on Policy #10-19-07 OUT. David Donald, Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, David Boyles, Gary White, and Mayor Martin were in favor; Tony Craig was opposed.

B. Second reading of Policy #10-01-07 BASE

Increase Base Rate by \$2.00 per meter

Chair made the motion to adopt on the second reading Policy #10-01-07 BASE; seconded by Lynne Chapman. David Donald stated he believed they were out of order by bringing it to the table. The first reading on this was Monday night, October 1<sup>st</sup> and only 7-days have passed since that reading. They were still under the old Ordinance #07-09-07 RATES, which requires 2 readings to change it. Ms. Chapman stated it was a policy not an ordinance. Mayor Martin stated Mr. Donald was correct. Also, the second reading of Ordinance #10-08-07 SANT, to Increase Commercial Sanitation Fees would fall under the old ordinance.

Mr. Boyles asked if the last action needed to be blessed with some type of procedure and Mayor Martin stated they did not, that Mr. Donald was correct, they can't pass it until next month.

C. Second Reading of Ordinance #09-10-07 WLS

Water and Sewer Line Specification Standards

Gary White made the motion to accept Ordinance #09-10-07 WLS on the second reading; seconded by David Donald. Mr. Boyles pointed out this had been approved by the Planning Commission and was put together by Mr. (Dean) Martin, Public Works Director. Mayor Martin called for a vote and all were in favor.

Reports from the Administrator and Mayor:

A. Administrator

I. Streetscape Update:

Streetscape should be completed by December 15<sup>th</sup>. One of the Council Members had asked if the curbing would be built up. There are some areas where it will be built-up. His concern is Pancho's because of the small step-up. They are going to build-up the side walk and curbing as much as possible where the water will still grade off and run into the street. He stated he did ask why the curb was not being replaced, a question that came up several times. Replacing the curb would cost close to \$30,000. As a cost-cutting measure and keeping within budget constraints, the curbing was not done. He stated he had been reassured more than once that within then next 6-weeks the sidewalk and curbing will begin to match. Another issue was red paint on the sidewalks from painting the bricks; this will be pressure washed and cleaned. Also, another question was the cutting on each side of the stamped brick; this was so that water would run off. If the water did not run off, the ice would come to the top and settle; if someone was walking down the sidewalk there could be an illusion of traction, that is not there. Mr. Boyles asked if the cut was all the way through; if so there is the concern of a sealant. He also stated the concern of the color could be rectified by spraying the area with Muriatic Acid. Mr. Donald stated he noticed pressure washing had been done over the weekend. He stated the fire truck was being used as a method of pressure washing and wondered if they had received a discount by using the Town's equipment. He asked if the way they were progressing was the way they would progress up the street. He spoke with the owner of Main Street Deli and wanted to report back to him. The owner mentioned that Clemson (University) goes on fall break the 16<sup>th</sup> of October and if the plans were to be in front of his restaurant then, it would be an easier time for him as far as traffic and a loss of business. He stated he had not spoken with Pancho's but possibly they could do the same way. Mr. Mishoe stated with the location they are in now, it may work out that way anyway; that they are in front of the Deli that week. He said he would see if they could possibly be there during that time. He pointed out they are trying to work around football games and other activities. Mr. Boyles asked if they were incorporating ramps to the doors during the side walk pouring. Mr. Mishoe stated they were.

II. ADA Standards at the Recreation Center

Mr. Mishoe stated that they are in ADA compliance with the doors at the Recreation Center. It was suggested that a buzzer be installed as an extra precaution. If automatic, remote doors are to be installed, it would cost between \$6,000 - \$7,000. However, as of now they are in ADA compliance. Mr. Donald asked if he had received a price for a buzzer, if not maybe get a cost figure for one. He said he was concerned about the cost because they were facing a \$33,000 payment (on the Recreation Center) that was not budgeted. Lynne Chapman stated this was brought to their attention at the Recreation Board Meeting. The gentleman who spoke to them stated he would knock on the door and someone from the desk would open the door for him; but, they had to leave the desk un-attended and open the other doors for him. If someone else, who is handicapped came no one would be there to help the next person because they were away helping the 1<sup>st</sup> gentleman. Mr. Donald asked what the Recreation Board recommended. Ms. Chapman stated it was to take it to the Council Members. Mr. Boyles stated the force on the doors could be adjusted and this should be looked into also. Mr. Mishoe stated he would discuss it with Tom (Cloer) and Joe (Crosby). Mr. Donald stated if it was less than \$50, he suggested squeezing it out of the Recreation Center's budget and split the cost with Clemson. He asked if they only have one person at the desk. Ms. Chapman stated they normally have 2 people (at the desk); however, when this gentleman comes in it is early in the morning and only one person is there. She also stated she gathered from the conversation that the buzzer would not meet his needs. Mr. Donald stated they should go ahead with the buzzer and try to be as accommodating as possible; and when budget discussions start next year they can plan on the \$6,000 - \$7,000 for the doors. Ms. Chapman stated she would be interested to see Clemson's (City Council) decision, because it has to be a joint decision. Mr. Mishoe stated he

would follow this and see what action Clemson takes. He did suggest putting it in the budget for next year so that it would accommodate the handicap people.

- III. Joint Meeting with Clemson 10/29/07, 6:00 pm  
He asked the Council Members put this on their calendars.

Mr. Donald stated he had asked at the Work Session / Council Meeting the past Monday night, about someone speaking with the seniors and finding out what they wanted. The feeling he got from the meeting was, it was something that Clemson would handle and it would be left to them. He stated he would like to be involved in the meeting when ever Clemson decided to speak with them, if they haven't already. He spoke with Jim Crowder who is on the Senior Citizens Board for the Town of Central and he also wanted to be involved in it; and a few other Board Members would also like to be involved in it. He asked Mr. Mishoe to find out when this meeting would take place because someone from Central needs to represent the Central Senior Citizens rather than leaving it all up to Clemson. Mr. Mishoe stated he would discuss it with Mr. Donald after the meeting.

## B. Mayor

### I. Visioning

Most of the process had been done and the Town received a plaque from Dr. Spittal for recognition and appreciation of the Town's support and commitment to the development of the Pickens County Vision Plan.

- II. Pickens County Municipal Association Meeting Pickens, Monday, October 22, 2007. Four people from Central will attend.

### III. Christmas Lights

Tom (Cloer) explained to everyone once before about the old Christmas lights not fitting the new poles. Mayor Martin suggested talking with citizens who have large Christmas light displays on their streets, and ask them if they would be interested in putting their displays on the bank at the railroad tracks. A lot of people have stopped their displays for various reasons. Mr. Boyles asked if Southern Rail Road had a problem with this. Mayor Martin stated it was the Town's property. Tom is planning to ask different people if they would put their displays on the bank. Ms. Chapman stated Easley has small stars on their posts and asked if the town could do something on this order. Mayor Martin stated they were not able to get exterior power outlets on the poles, only on the ground. Therefore, only banners can be placed on the poles and they are quite expensive. If anyone has any objections that was the time to bring it up. Mr. Donald stated he did not have any objections to the proposal, but he did question moving the existing Christmas lights to a different location around town such as around Church Street, Maw Bridge Road, Gaines Street, maybe Highway 93. Dean Martin stated there would be 8 – 10 extra lights. Mr. Mishoe stated Tom Cloer will talk with Duke Power and find out the cost and standards to put these lights on poles at different locations.

IV. Mayor Martin stated on Thursday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers the League of Women Voters will sponsor a Candidates Form for the people running for Council. This will be a question and answer session and they are requesting questions.

- V. David Donald asked Mr. Mishoe to get the Council a copy of the Vision report.

## Miscellaneous business not included in any of the proceeding items:

Ms. Chapman asked Mr. Mishoe, regarding the letters Mr. Donald sent to him requesting different items, how much was it costing the town for him and the staff to gather the information and create a report. She stated it seems to be a good bit of information that was not necessary. Mr. Mishoe stated it tied up the Finance Director all morning and the Chief of Police worked on it all day and is still working on it. Ms. Chapman stated regarding salaries and everything included it was probably costing the town a great amount of money. Mr. Mishoe stated the copies are not that significant; the issue is man-hours involved in gathering the information. Mr. Boyles stated on the other hand they had the loss of funds from various and some degrees, it is very obvious from past reportage; therefore getting it sorted out maybe can keep it straight forward. Ms. Chapman stated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> letter (from Mr. Donald), 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, the language was extremely unprofessional and disrespectful to him (Mr. Mishoe) and she did not think he (Mr. Donald) needed to be that disrespectful. She stated she would not be that disrespectful to anyone at the table (on Council). Mr. Boyles stated he had several requests that had been ignored for 6-months at a time; therefore, he could sympathize with his (Mr. Donald's) frustrations. Ms. Chapman stated she doubted he (Mr. Boyles) was being ignored. Mr. Donald stated it was his job as a Council Member and being a graduate of the Municipal Association, the way he understands it was, they were to set policies and investigate. He stated he agreed at times it does seem like he was requesting a lot of information; but, information was hard to come by – it was like a stone wall. He said there have been numerous times he had made verbal requests that had been ignored; therefore, all requests will be in writing. Ms. Chapman stated once again she doubted they had been ignored. Mr. Donald stated when the Administrator contacted him that morning around 10:00 am, about the salary requests, he informed him if he wanted it on a yearly basis it would take quite a bit of time to compile, but he already had it on a weekly basis. He stated he told Mr. Mishoe a weekly basis was fine because he knew how to use a calculator and he knew how to multiply by 52 and come up with a yearly amount. Ms. Chapman stated she felt that this needed to stop!

## Executive Session

Chair moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue and the details of potential contract negotiations; seconded by Lynn Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Council returned from Executive Session where no votes were taken only matters discussed.

Chair moved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra L. Brown

Town Clerk

Approved by Council: November 12, 2007