

**TOWN OF CENTRAL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
1067 WEST MAIN STREET, CENTRAL, SC 29630  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009 – 7:00 PM**

Present: Mayor Mac Martin; Council Members David Donald, Tony Craig, Lynne O'Dell Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, Harry Holladay, and Gary White; Administrator Phillip Mishoe; Fire Chief Ed Reynolds; Police Chief Kerry Avery; Finance Director Jerri Martin; Fire Department's Executive Director Ben Smith; Recreation Director Tom Cloer; Citizens Bobby Ballentine and Ted Osborne; News Media Kasie McNutt; and Town Clerk Sandy Brown.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mac Martin.

Lynne O'Dell Chapman rendered the invocation.

Reading of Council Meeting Minutes 01-12-09

Gary White, Tony Craig, and David Donald pointed out corrections. Lynne Chapman made the motion to accept the minutes with corrections; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. The vote was unanimous.

Rail Road Festival Request for Funds

Bobby Ballentine had previously spoke to Council regarding the festival. He pointed out it is a 2-day event. They have a budget and are requesting additional funds from the town; specifically for entertainment and a one-time occurrence for banners for the down town area. The banners would be generic and placed on Main Street and Church Street advertising the festival. The cost is about \$3,400. The total budget is \$13,650, which include the \$3,400 for banners. The festival has about \$1,000 in sponsorship money. They are requesting \$5,000 from the Council. Council Member Harry Holladay asked the dates, to which Mr. Ballentine stated Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Martin asked if the Council giving the monies to the festival would have any adverse affect on the recreation land payments. Mr. Mishoe stated the payment for the land (\$18,000) was just made and it is a yearly payment. The payment for the Allen House is \$20,000 a year. Therefore, there are adequate funds for the festival. Lynne Chapman made the motion to donate \$5,000 to the Rail Road Festival; seconded by Tracey Reynolds.

David Donald asked Mr. Ballentine if the road would be opened after 12:00 pm. Mr. Ballentine stated it would be opened from 12:00 midnight until 6:00 am (on Saturday morning). Mr. Donald asked if they had already applied to have the road closed. Mr. Ballentine stated Chief Avery had applied and received the approval from DOT. Mr. Donald stated when he was involved with the festival, the town was required a one-million dollar liability insurance coverage certificate; he asked Mr. Ballentine if they had it now. Mr. Ballentine stated it was the same coverage as before, through the Chamber (of Commerce).

Mr. Donald also stated that on the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting minutes says, ".....beverages will be allowed in plastic cups on Friday night." He asked what type of beverages would this be. Mr. Ballentine stated the issue came up (during the committee meetings), that if one of the restaurants down town who serve alcohol, served a customer a beer, they would have to put it in a plastic cup to take outside. Mr. Holladay asked if there would be outside sale (of alcohol), and Mr. Ballentine stated no, that it would only be for the ones who already have their licenses. Gary White asked if it was against some of the other town ordinances. Mr. Ballentine stated it was checked into and the information they received was, it was not a problem. Mr. White asked again if someone could have alcohol in a cup, on the street, without breaking any laws. Mr. Ballentine stated yes, that was the information they received. Mayor Martin stated it came from the State. Mr. Donald stated, like Ms. Chapman he was excited they (the town) was going to have a festival, but he did have some concern about the beverages in the cups.

Gary White asked which streets would be blocked. Mr. Ballentine stated on Friday night, Main Street would be blocked from Watkins Street to Church Street; Saturday the Highway 93 would be blocked from Banks Street to Pepper Street; Werner Street will not be blocked. One of the reasons it will not be blocked is to have access back and forth to the caboose. Mr. Ballentine told Mr. Donald that they had checked into it (ADA requirements) and it was not an issue. Tom Cloer stated he checked with National ADA and the town could open it if they had something on the lines of a picture board so that the people could see what was inside. Mr. Donald asked if it was for the festival only or could the caboose be kept open. Mr. Cloer stated it was for special events only.

Mr. Holladay stated there was a third establishment on Main Street that sells alcohol and it could be a problem. Mr. Mishoe stated it was La Fiesta. Mr. Holladay stated there had been problems with them

before, therefore Council was apprehensive about the alcohol in cups. Lynne Chapman asked if it would be a problem for the committee to review this option again. Mr. Ballentine stated if they (the Council) asked them to, they (the committee) would go back and review it. Mr. Mishoe stated he had talked with Kerry (Police Chief Avery), about La Fiesta being involved and he (Chief Avery) seemed to think it was nothing that he (Chief Avery) couldn't handle. Mr. Mishoe stated if Kerry told him that he could not handle it, he would have told the (Rail Road Festival) Committee. Mr. Holladay stated he knew there was a problem four or five years ago. Mr. Mishoe stated Kerry stated he felt confident he could handle any situation that may occur. Chief Avery stated the problems still occur there (at La Fiesta) and they deal with them. Mr. Mishoe stated the problems occur every Saturday night. Ms. Chapman asked if they were still occurring and Mr. Mishoe stated yes, they were – at 12:30 or 1:00 am is when the entertainment starts in the street.

Gary White asked how the Highway 93 traffic would get through on Saturday. Mr. Ballentine deferred the question to Kerry (Chief Avery). Mr. Mishoe stated he (Chief Avery) handled DOT and mapping out the traffic flow. Chief Avery stated Friday night they would close Highway 93 at Watkins down to Church Street. They will block off Banks Street on the other side of the Rail Road so that no cars can approach from that side. Reserve officers will be working and people who are parked on the street will not be towed; they will be taken out the shortest way and the safest way possible. He stated he does not see a problem setting up the road blocks on Saturday morning at 5:30 or 5:45 am; there will not be a lot of traffic on the street at that hour. He will contact George Reid (Wrecker Service) and have him remove vehicles and take them to Town Hall where they will be safe. Chief Avery sited the traffic route to Council.

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

#### Public Session

No one spoke.

#### Receipt and disposition of petition

None at this time per the Administrator.

#### Reports from Council Committees:

##### A. Gary White – Street & Sanitation

Mr. White reported for the month of January, the Street Department completed 25 work orders. In addition they had 33 stops for leaves, 53 stops for wood, 10 stops for metal, and 168 stops for brush. The Street Department cleans Main Street from Werner Street to Church Street every Friday morning. The assisted with reading meters on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Strobe lights were installed on all the golf carts; David Donald had asked about this in the previous meeting. All Christmas lights were taken down. They planted Leland Cypress trees on the sewer right-of-way across from Jerry's Pizza and painted the Town Hall's conference room.

Harry Holladay stated he noticed 5 recycling bins on the street below the Recreation Center and wanted to know if the Town picked them up because they were full and overflowing. Mr. Mishoe stated Pickens County Recycling picks them up, but he would contact them the next day.

##### B. Harry Holladay – Planning

Mr. Holladay reported the Planning Commission would meet February 17<sup>th</sup> to hear a Home Occupation request at 216 Campus Drive and a Re-zoning request on Woodside Lane, from R6 to RM8.

##### C. Tracey Reynolds – Water & Sewer

Ms. Reynolds reported for the month of January the Water and Sewer Department completed 61 work orders. In addition they repaired water leaks and installed several new water and sewer taps to upgrade the old existing ones. They flushed sewer lines and flowed fire hydrants. Meters were read on January 20<sup>th</sup> and rechecks were done on the 21<sup>st</sup>. A total of 54 disconnections were done on the 27<sup>th</sup> with 39 reconnections completed. The Department raised a manhole on Johnson Road that was covered by asphalt.

##### D. Lynne Chapman – Finance

Ms. Chapman reported that after talking with the Administrator, nothing was out of the ordinary for this month.

E. Tony Craig – Public Safety

Mr. Craig reported the Council Members should have received the reports in their packets. If they have any questions they should contact Police Chief Avery or Fire Chief Reynolds.

F. David Donald – Recreation

Mr. Donald reported everyone should have received the reports in their packets.

Baseball and softball signups will run February 3<sup>rd</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>.

Flag football signups have ended with 7 teams being formed and the season beginning the first week of March.

Central is hosting the Palmetto Basketball Playoffs starting February 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon and will run through February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Indoor Recreation Center. Central will be hosting the 17 and under boys, 12 and under boys, and 12 and under girls. Admission will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for ages 6 - 18. On Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Central will be hosting the Palmetto State Championship Games. These games will start at 10:00 am. The admission is the same for the Championship games.

From the Indoor Recreation Center: Joe Crosby reports that they are working on a Relay for Life Indoor Run for Cancer sometime in April. Details will follow as they are made available. Also, swim lessons for youth and adults are currently being offered. Mr. Donald stated that Harry Holladay had asked the cost of the billboards on Highway 93, and it will be \$480. Tom Cloer reported they may have a second one.

From the Young at Heart Program: Kimberly Snide reports that she attended a workshop on January 27<sup>th</sup> in Columbia, for the Senior Games that Central she will be doing in September. Kimberly has also started meeting with the Upstate Senior Network and has made numerous contacts for speakers, programs, and partners for events. Her programs are doing well with the programs - Breakfast for your Brain and Mental aerobics being some of the favorites. She also spoke to the Widow/Widowers group in Easley on January 13<sup>th</sup> and shared information about her Young at heart program.

Mr. Holladay asked how many new members the Recreation Center had for the month. Tom Cloer reported there were 75 new and renewals. Mr. Holladay asked for the count of new members at the Work Session.

Introduction and consideration of new ordinances

A. Resolution #02-09-09 INS - Insurance for Council Members

Mayor Martin read the Resolution in its entirety. Lynne Chapman made the motion to accept the Resolution as presented; seconded by Harry Holladay. The vote was unanimous.

B. First Reading of Ordinance #02-09-09 ZON - Zoning Ordinance Revision

Tony Craig asked about the date of the ordinance. Mayor Martin stated a request was made to put the ordinance on the agenda; therefore, it changed the date of the first reading. Mayor Martin read the ordinance in its entirety. Lynne Chapman made the motion to accept the ordinance as presented; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. Ms. Chapman stated she wanted to make it clear why she requested to add this item to the agenda. She stated she had some questions and issues involving some things that she was hoping to take care of with the zoning ordinance; and those questions were answered and addressed to her satisfaction. Therefore, she wanted to bring it up for a vote. Mayor Martin stated if anyone wanted to review the zoning ordinance with the corrections from the last meeting – that were voted on before the vote on the book in its entirety, he had it available. Gary White stated they would not have the time to look at it. He stated there were a lot of other changes they made as they went through (the ordinance). Mayor Martin stated the ones he had before him were only the ones that Council had voted on at the past Council Meeting. Mr. White stated there were a number of things that needed to be voted on, if they wanted to go through them. Mayor Martin stated this vote would be on the document as it stands; and that changes can always be made in the future. Mayor Martin asked Mr. White if he wanted to bring up a motion for

an amendment; to which Mr. White declined. Mayor Martin called for a vote; Mayor Martin, Lynne Chapman, Tony Craig, Tracey Reynolds, and Harry Holladay were in favor; David Donald and Gary White were opposed.

Consideration of ordinances already in possession of Council

There were none.

Reports from the Administrator and Mayor:

A. Administrator

1. C-Fund Projects

Mr. Mishoe stated the Council was asked to prioritize the list of projects given to them the previous week. He stated he met with Steve Henderson with DOT to look at the project of the sidewalk from Central to Wal-Mart, and his estimate was close to \$500,000 not \$231,000. He stated it would need to be reviewed by an engineer; however, this is a rough estimate. Mr. Holladay asked if DOT would do the engineering for the Town. Mr. Mishoe stated they had not discussed it and that it would need to be storm-water and landscaping engineering. David Donald asked why it fell under the storm-water. Mr. Mishoe stated the water run-off needed to be going in the right direction, so it needed to be engineered.

2. PCMA in Liberty – Speaker Vicky Fletcher

The Pickens County Municipal Association will be in Liberty, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, with Vicky Fletcher speaking.

3. Easley Central Water District

Per the letter from Easley-Central Water District, they will raise the rates (for the Town of Central) beginning in May. Council needs to think about how to handle the increase. He stated it will cost the Town about \$20,000 a year more.

B. Mayor

1. Reappoint Susan Farish to Planning Commission

Mayor Martin stated the Council need to appoint a member to the Planning Commission. Susan Farish had expressed her willingness to serve. At this time he opened the floor for nominations. Lynne Chapman moved to re-appoint Susan Farish to the Planning Commission. Due to the fact there were no other nominations, Ms. Farish was re-appointed.

2. Town Employee Recognition

Mayor Martin stated this was normally done at the Town's Christmas Party, but due to the different format (this past Christmas), he wanted the names read into the record:

Police Officer of the Year Eddie McCall; Administrative Employee(s) of the Year Tina Fincannon and Susan Brewer; Public Works Employee of the Year Isaiah Thompson; Special Recognition to Jimmy Trotter for assisting employees with their Commercial Drivers Licenses; One Year of Service Kerry Avery, Jessica Parham, Eddie McCall, Barbara Melton, John Bowers, Ala Spearman, Phillip Merck, and Phillip Moore; Five Years of Service Sandy Brown, Dale Gillespie, Ben Smith, Khristy Crawford, and Greg Taylor; Ten Years of Service Jimmy Trotter; Fifteen Years of Service Tom Cloer; and Thirty Years of Service E. B. Thomas.

Mayor Martin stated they appreciated all the work that the employees do. David Donald asked why there were 2 (Administrative) Employees of the Year and if there was a tie (vote). Harry Holladay stated there was.

3. Mayor Martin stated the Director of Meals on Wheels Meg Benko has secured a grant to allow a route in Central; and she is seeking drivers.
4. Mayor Martin stated he had read many articles in the newspaper about water rate increases and he was hoping the Town could by-pass an

increase this year. He had a hand-out of an article where Hammond Water District had increased their rates by 26%. He also stated the Council would need to look at the increase from Easley-Central and possibly have to vote on it in March with a second reading in April. He stated someone from the Council needed to get with the Administrator to find out when the (utility) bills go out, in order to put the right date on the billing. He said he thought it was Council's responsibility to make a motion with the date. Ms. Chapman asked if they (the Council) could nominate someone; to which the Mayor stated no.

Miscellaneous business not included in any of the proceeding items

Harry Holladay stated previous the Town recognized Volunteer of the Year.

Mayor Martin requested this be placed on the agenda for the next Work Session.

With no objections, Mayor Martin adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Brown  
Town Clerk

Approved: March 9, 2009