



**TOWN OF CENTRAL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 13, 2007 - 7:00 PM
CENTRAL TOWN HALL
1067 WEST MAIN STREET
CENTRAL, SC 29630**

Present: Mayor Mac Martin, Council Members David Donald, Tony Craig, Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, David Boyles, and Gary White; Town Administrator Phillip Mishoe; Fire Chief Ed Reynolds, Finance Director Jerri Martin; Fire Department's Executive Officer Ben Smith; Utility Billing Clerk Susan Brewer; Citizens Kerry, Connie, and Trevor Avery; Ron, Carolyn, and Ian Alexander, Brad, Amy, and Emma Norris; Judy Griffin, and Katie Brown; and Town Clerk Sandra L. Brown.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mac Martin.

Lynne Chapman rendered the invocation.

Mayor Martin swore in the new Police Chief Kerry Scott Avery.

Chair moved to add the following items to the agenda: Executive Session, Item 12; Monies from Hospitality Funds for the Community Park, Item 7B; Roof Leak at Fire Department, Item 7F; Water Rates, Item 7B; Impact Fee Audit, Item 7B. This was seconded by Lynne Chapman; the vote was unanimous.

David Donald requested to add an item to the agenda – Ordinance #07-11-07 ANNEX; seconded by David Boyles. David Donald, Tony Craig, David Boyles, and Gary White were in favor; Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, and Mayor Martin were opposed.

Reading of Special Called Meeting Minutes of 07/07/07

Chair made the motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. The vote was unanimous.

Reading of Regular Council Minutes of 07/09/07

Chair made the motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Lynne Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Reading of Special Called Meeting Minutes of 07/11/07

Chair made the motion to accept the minutes as presented; seconded by Gary White. The vote was unanimous.

Public Session

Judy Griffin, 312 Lakeview Drive, Liberty, SC; she also owns a house in Central. Ms. Griffin stated her husband was kicked off the football team after 33 years. He was told he had some complaints about him from some of the parents. He has not been told what the complaints are or who the parents are and why he was asked to resign from the football team. Word is out that he resigned and he did not; he was asked to remove himself from the football team. Ms. Griffin stated he (her husband) needs to be approached because he gave 33 years to the kids in Central. He wanted two more years. They did not give him a reason, and that is what she wants – a reason. All he asked was to take it down to the parents. She also stated last year when Jamie was removed from the football team, he was brought in with the parents and they sat down and discussed the problem. They didn't give him (her husband) that opportunity; it was not offered to him. They just told him that they had some complaints. Mayor Martin asked who Jamie was and Ms. Griffin stated he was last year's coach Jamie Wilson; and the other one was Bull McCall, Bill Jr. Ms. Griffin stated the whole problem is Jason, Bull, and Jason are good friends. This is Bull's son's first year at the Recreation Center on the 11-12 team; and he wanted him to start but Robert (her husband) wanted someone with more experience to start. They all got mad, so he decided to put Bull as Head Coach so he could put his son where he wanted him. Now, his son is starting and Bull is the Head Coach, all because he is friends with Jason. Ms. Griffin stated they could read between the lines, all these little Clemson people who think they are better than everyone and their little opinions. They don't think about the little guys who have nothing, who her husband went to pick up and take to the game because that is the only way they have to the game; then he takes them home. They don't look at these kids, they look at all the little richly people for opinions. Ms. Griffin stated they have talked to almost every parent except the "important ones" as Bull said. None of these parents stated they wanted Griff (her husband) gone – nobody! The only ones that said anything are the ones who are friends with Jason and Bull. She stated she thought it was sad someone has to be treated this way who gave 33 years of their time and no money and put someone in there that is their friend. Basically that is what happened and she feels it needs to be addressed.

Receipt and disposition of petitions

There were none.

Reports from Council Committees:

Gary White – Planning

The Planning Commission did not meet in July but will meet this month to address a Home Occupation Permit.

David Boyles – Water & Sewer

For the month of July the Water and Sewer Department completed 94 work orders. In addition to work orders they made several taps, tested meters, flushed sewer lines, flowed hydrants, and performed several water reconnections.

David Donald requested an Impact Fee Audit. He stated some people paid water and sewer fees then didn't pay the fire and police. He stated it was sporadic, all over the board. He asked if it was a problem with the form or did they not pay, etc. Mayor Martin asked Mr. Mishoe to get a report on this and possibly change the form.

Lynne Chapman made the motion to increase water rates by 60 cent per 1,000 gallons; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. Mr. Boyles pointed out it was a 21% increase. Mayor Martin stated the 60 cent increase will be a smaller water bill; the high users will pay the high bills. Mr. Donald stated he was disappointed we did not plan ahead to flow the hydrants. He said he had heard Mr. Boyles state month-after-month that the water department flowed hydrants; therefore he does not understand how it fell through the cracks. He said he felt there are other ways to reduce the cost other than raising the fees; and that we are putting a band aid on something that needs more study. Ms. Chapman asked him what he proposed as a solution. He stated we need to look at how we can cut expenses in the Water Department, such as salaries. Ms. Chapman stated we have already cut salaries by not giving a raise. Mr. Boyles stated what bothered him about it was, under the normal procedures there is a Work Session the first Monday of every month and that gave them a week to study issues. Mayor Martin told Mr. Boyles that he was the one who complained about meetings and that there was only one item on the agenda for the Work Session so he scheduled it for one hour before the Regular Council Meeting (parts of tape not audible). Mr. Boyles stated he was opposed to arbitrary meetings. Ms. Chapman asked Mr. Mishoe if the fees are not increased, what would happen. Mr. Mishoe stated we lost \$6,000 this month, next month it will be \$12,000 and Lynne asked if the month after would be \$18,000 and Mr. Mishoe stated yes (part of tape with Mr. Mishoe's comments not audible). Ms. Chapman stated if we continually go in the hole each month, we are mismanaging the citizen's money. Mayor Martin called for a vote. Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, David Boyles, and Gary White were in favor; David Donald and Tony Craig were opposed.

Tracey Reynolds – Finance

Ms. Reynolds commended Mr. Mishoe for the fine job he did creating a new Financial Report; we can now understand our cash-flow compared to our budget. We are just starting our fiscal year and although we don't have much to go by, next month it should be easier to understand.

Lynne Chapman – Recreation

Ms. Chapman passed out the schedule for all 3 age groups of the Central Tigers Football team.

The Central Tigers Football Super Saturday will be Saturday, September 1st. The 8 year old and under will play at 10:00 am, the 12 and under will play at 12:00 noon, and the 10 and under will play at 2:00 pm. The Central Fire Department will be assisting the Recreation Department's fundraising efforts by grilling hamburgers and hotdogs as they have done in the past. The Recreation Department has submitted a request to Wal-Mart to donate the food items needed for this event.

The Recreation Department would like to thank Coach Randy Robinson, his coaching staff, and the football players at Daniel High School for running an excellent football camp July 23rd – 26th. Also, a special thanks to the Daniel High Cheerleaders and their staff for working with the (Central) cheerleaders during the same time.

Lynne Chapman made a motion to take \$5,500 from Hospitality Fund to make changes (to the Community Park) that were pointed out by Tom Cloer in the Work Session; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. David Donald asked if this would be a "stretch" for Hospitality Tax money - to pave a parking lot - and how would it attract tourism. To which Mayor Martin stated it was "right down the line." Tony Craig asked if the County released the funds, would the money go back into our account. Mayor Martin stated it would not, due to the fact it was not included in the grant. Those in favor were Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, David Boyles, Gary White, and Mayor Martin. Opposed were David Donald and Tony Craig.

Tony Craig – Streets and Sanitation

For the month of July the Street Department completed 19 work orders, picked up 110 loads of brush, 15 loads of metal, and 27 loads of wood. They also kept streets cleaned, assisted the Water Department with reading meters, mowed grass, and ran the weed-eater around town.

Reynolds Complete Yard Service mowed the cemetery June 19th and July 5th.

David Donald – Public Safety

Police and Fire Department reports were in the packets.

He stated he was looking forward to working with Mr. Avery and told him if he could help him in any way, please call.

Ordinances already in possession of Council:

A. Second reading of Ordinance #07-09-07 RATES

To allow 2 readings on rate changes

Mr. Boyles made the motion to accept this ordinance; seconded by David Donald. Mayor Martin stated last month, at the first reading of this ordinance, the budget was just passed and he thought it was a good idea to have 2 readings; looking at the difficulty of running a bare-bones budget it is irresponsible to have to do 2 readings of rates because another month like this one, it will take 2 months and we could be way-in-the-hole. Therefore, he wanted to change his support to 1 reading. Mayor Martin called for a vote; David Donald, Tony Craig, David Boyles, and Gary White were in favor. Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, and Mayor Martin were opposed.

B. David Donald made the motion to adopt Ordinance 06-11-07 ANNEX; seconded by David Boyles. Ms. Chapman did not have a copy of the ordinance and asked Mr. Donald to read it aloud. Mayor Martin asked Mr. Donald his motive for forcing this ordinance to the table. Mr. Donald stated we have had the 1st reading and 30 days have passed and he felt we should have a 2nd reading now. Mayor Martin stated the power of attorney letter included they could have a 2nd reading of the annexation after the closing of property when they would take possession of the property. Mr. Boyles stated this comes up every year when the property owner tries to sell the property. He said we should annex the property now. Mayor Martin stated we do not have the authority from the property owners now. He also stated they are there to look after the best interest of the Town of Central and the property has no tax value therefore it would not be advantageous to annex it at this time. Mayor Martin moved to table this item; seconded by Lynne Chapman. Tony Craig, Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, and Mayor Martin were in favor of the motion; David Donald, David Boyles, and Gary White were opposed.

Reports from the Administrator and Mayor:

A. Administrator

There is more Streetscape work to do next week. They are presently awaiting DHEC's approval.

The Rail Road Club is working on the Old Allen House every Saturday morning; if anyone has any spare time they would appreciate the help. Mayor Martin stated this is now called the Central Rail Road Museum.

B. Mayor

Chair made the motion to accept Resolution 08-13-07 FD and Resolution 08-13-07 PW; seconded by Tracey Reynolds. Lynne Chapman, Tracey Reynolds, Gary White, and Mayor Martin were in favor; David Donald, Tony Craig, and David Boyles were opposed.

Chair moved to allow the Administrator to proceed with funding to grant the request from the Fire Department for funding for the roof leak; seconded by Tracey Reynolds, (Mr. Mishoe's comments not audible). All were in favor with the exception of Tony Craig who was opposed.

Clock Fund raising has gone well; we have exceeded our goal.
The last day to participate is Friday.

Filing for election starts this Wednesday, August 15th at 12:00 noon, and ends Wednesday, August 29th at 12:00 noon. Applications are at the front desk or see Town Clerk.

No Pickens County Municipal Association Meeting this month; next meeting will be in September in Liberty.

Executive Session

Chair moved to go into Executive Session to discuss disciplinary action of Town personnel.

Council returned from Executive Session where no votes were taken, no decisions were made; only items were discussed.

David Donald asked the Administrator for the line item figures in the un-audited final figures of the budget.

Gary White made the comment that Main Street looks good without the poles.

Chair moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Brown
Town Clerk

Approved by Council: September 10, 2007