Town of Central
Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday January 11, 1999
Central Town Hall - 7:00 P. M.
105 Werner Street
Central, S. C. 29630

Present: Mayor Stan Thompson; Councilpersons: Edward Reynolds; Frank Chaka; Keith Martin; Joe Head; Harry Holladay; Bobby Busha; Administrator Herbert Thompson; Clerk Grace Towe. Brian Fulkerson, The Messenger.

Mayor Stan Thompson called the regular Council meeting to order and gave a roll call.

Invocation by Harry Holladay.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Town Clerk, Grace Towe administered the Oath of Office to the three newly elected Councilpersons: Joe Head; Keith Martin and Frank Chaka and the three were seated.

Minutes of the December 14, 1998 Regular Town Council meeting were presented. After corrections motion by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Joe Head to adopt. The vote was unanimous.

Public Session: (30 minutes) No input.

Receipt and disposition of Petitions: None

Report from Council Committees:

Edward Reynolds - Public Safety - Mr. Reyonlds reported that the fire department had a couple of fires, but nothing major. A training class was held January 9, 1999 with good participation. Mr. Reynolds reported that Chief Gibbs could not be in attendance tonight, but Chief Gibbs had briefed Mr. Reynolds on some money that had been received from the Federal Court System in 1995 and has since been in CDs. These funds can only be spent for the Police Department. Mr. Reynolds reported that Chief Gibbs recommended that this money be spent on updating a car and possibly a new motor in another car. Mr. Herbert Thompson informed Council that approximately $45,000.00 was received from this source and that it was the settlement of a law suit involving American House Spinning and since the police department only can utilize these funds Mr. Herbert Thompson suggested to Council that a new car be purchased along with one good used car. When these funds are spent it must be documented and recorded with the Clerk of Court in Pickens and to the Federal Judge in Anderson who handled the court case. Mr. Herbert Thompson suggested that the town purchase one new car and get a used car from Missouri to replace the investigator's 1985 vehicle. After discussion, a motion was made by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Bobby Busha to purchase one new and one used vehicle for the police department and let Herbert Thompson make the decision to spend the money available as long as it is within the budget. The vote was unanimous.

Frank Chaka - Finance - Mr. Chaka gave the financial report and recommended that the budget be amended because of the expense involved in the Central-Clemson-YMCA Recreation facility.

Keith Martin - Recreation - Mr. Martin reported that Recreation Director Tom Cloer had been spending a lot of time at the new recreation facility. The membership drive is going well. Mr. Martin discussed the adding of Kevin Pratt as Tom's assistant and the need of another desk to accommodate Kevin. After discussion, a motion was made by Keith Martin seconded by Ed Reynolds to purchase the desk and install in the council chambers. The vote was unanimous. Mr. Martin reported that basketball season is still under way and they are still having to use Central Elementary's gym as well as the new recreation facility for practices.

Joe Head - Water and Sewer - Mr. Head reported that the light is out on the water tank. For after hour services Mr. Head has told citizens to call town hall and if the office is not open the phone will roll over to Clemson and they will get to the proper source for help. He asked for the police officers to be alert to unsafe vehicles, such as one head light.

Harry Holladay - Planning - No report.

Bobby Busha - Streets and Sanitation - Mr. Busha again discussed the parking problem at the corner of Watkins Street and Main Street. Vans block the view of oncoming traffic and near accidents happen all the time.

Report from Mayor and Administrator:

Administrator's Report:

Mr. Herbert Thompson read a letter from Rev. David Randolph, dated January 6, 1999. The letter was a direct result of Karen Dixon's professional courtesy when Mr. Randolph reported that a Christmas package valued at $300.00 had been placed in trash pick up in error. Karen contacted the garbage pick up crew and they went through the days pick up and located the missing items. Karen advised Mr.Herbert Thompson that the men involved were Ronnie Jenkins, Mike Roach, Earl Galbreath, Tom Reynolds and Thomas McAlister.

Herbert Thompson reported that a purchase order had been issued for a new fire truck. Blue prints should arrive in 3 to 4 weeks so that it can be verified that all the items ordered are being considered.

A long term Rural Fire Contract has been requested and Mr. Thompson has been in contact with Mr. Johnny Duncan reference this matter.

Short and long range goals from the 1998 planning retreat were looked at. (refer to attachment. Mr. Thompson reported that the lift station at Hamilton Place has been completed, waiting on DHEC approval.

New 1500 GPM pumper for the fire department has been completed. Converting basketball courts for other use has been completed to provide for a baseball field to be in operation by this spring.

Investigator for the police department has been secured.

Long range goals were discussed that included an on going effort to reduce the sewer I&I. Quite a bit of work has already been done on this project. Several of the long range goals have been started but not completed.

Code enforcement is now being done by our police department.

Mr. Herbert Thompson reported that Jennifer DeFoore Ellenburg intends to apply for a permit to sell beer and wine at 111 West Main Street known as the Cool Bean Restaurant. Currently it is council policy to protest any and all permits for beer and wine.

Old school update - Mr. Anderson who is taking care of the old school has obtained an architectural firm from Atlanta, Ga. and Mr. Thompson presented some preliminary sketches proposed for the facility.

Mr. Thompson reminded council that open house for the Central-Clemson-YMCA Recreation facility would be Sunday January 31, 1999 from 1-5 P. M. Ribbon cutting will be held at 2:00 P. M.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Thompson reported that different options for land for the new post office were still being pursued.

Mayor Thompson reported that COG had requested a person from one of the Municipal Councils of Pickens County to serve on the COG Board. The current representative is Chris Christopherson from Easley and it is not known if he would be willing to serve another term. Mayor Thompson asked if any one of Central's councilpersons would like to serve on this board. The next county municipal meeting will be January 25, 1999 at Six Mile at 7:00 P. M.

Mayor Thompson read a letter of appreciation from the town employees for the Christmas dinner and Christmas bonus.

Mayor Thompson reported that Mayor Larry Abernathy of Clemson had suggested that we come up with a name for the new recreation facility since it is being portrayed as the "new Y". This to be discussed later.

Mayor Thompson requested to go into executive session for discussion of a pending contractual matter. Motion by Keith Martin, seconded by Joe Head to go into executive session. The vote was unanimous.

After executive session Mayor Thompson recalled regular session to announce that there was some discussion about the post office. Mayor Thompson called for a motion and a second that we entrust to the Town Administrator the duty of contacting the current owner of the building that is currently being used for the post office to see if she might have some interest in selling that property to the Town of Central at such a time as it is no longer used for a post office. Motion was made by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Frank Chaka. The vote was unanimous.

There being no further business a motion was made by Bobby Busha and seconded by Frank Chaka to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted;

Grace S. Towe

Grace S. Towe
Clerk
01/11/99