Town of Central
Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday February 14, 2000 – 7:00 P. M.
Central Town Hall – 105 Warner St.
Central, S. C. 29630

Present: Mayor Stan Thompson; Councilpersons: Frank Chaka; Joe Head; Edward Reynolds; Administrator Herbert Thompson; Jimmy Moore; Robyn Moore; Clerk Grace Towe.

Mayor Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P. M.

Administrator Herbert Thompson rendered the invocation.

Minutes of the January 10, 2000 Town Council Meeting were presented. Motion was made by Joe Head to dispense with the full reading of the minutes and adopt as corrected in work session. The motion was seconded by Edward Reynolds and the vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC SESSION: Mr. Jimmy Moore was recognized along with his wife Robyn. Mr. Moore stated that he was out to meet people and let them know that he is running for the office of Clerk of Court for Pickens County. This seat is being vacated by Oliver Nealy who is not seeking reelection.
Mr. Moore presented his reasons for seeking this office and stated that he was confident that he is qualified for the position.

RECEIPT AND DISPOSITION OF PETITIONS: None

REPORT FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:
Keith Martin presented a request to place a plaque at theCommunity Park in honor of Robert "RoHo" Herron. After discussion a motion was made by Edward Reynolds and seconded by Frank Chaka to proceed. The vote was unanimous.

Request for three Home Occupation Permits.

1. Melissa Cox request to operate a day care for 6 or less children at 215 College St. The Planning Commission approved this request on January 18, 2000.
2. Aleksander Stavre's request to operate a computer repair service at 113 Foot Street.
3. Teresa Driskill – Private sitter/homemaker service at 142 #2 Copperfield Dr.

Mayor Thompson called for a motion to grant the Home Occupation Permit for Melissa Cox at 215 College Street. Motion by Frank Chaka and seconded by Joe Head to accept. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Thompson called for a motion to grant the Home Occupation Permit for Aleksander Stavre – computer repair at 113 Foot St. pending the signature of

the property owner on the form. Motion by Edward Reynolds and seconded by Frank Chaka to accept. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Thompson called for a motion to grant the Home Occupation Permit for Teresa Driskill for private sitter/homemaker service at 142 #2 Copperfield Drive. pending the signature required on the permit. Motion was made by Joe Head and seconded by Edward Reynolds. The vote was unanimous.
It was noted that the above applications for Home Occupation had been approved by the Central Planning Commission on January 18,2000.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Edward Reynolds – Public Safety – Mr. Reynolds reported that the fire department activity had been relatively quiet during January but that several training sessions had been conducted and more is to come later.

Chief Joe Gibbs reported that the police department had been relatively busy during the month of January and that a resident of Central had been arrested and incarcerated on drug charges. He is now out on bail. Chief Gibbs reminded Council that in 1996 he had put in an application to attend the FBI Academy, which is a national academy for law enforcement officers and that he had been chosen to attend.

Frank Chaka – Finance – Mr. Chaka reported that the financial status of the town is above the percentage but noted that the impact fees that were sent to Pickens had made the difference.

Keith Martin – Recreation Department - Mr. Martin was out with his wife and newborn daughter, Haley Christine born at 6:30 A.M. this day.

Joe Head – Water and Sewer - Administrator Herbert Thompson discussed the government requirements for procedures that require a winch.

Harry Holladay – Planning - Mr. Holladay was out of town.

Bobby Busha – Streets and Sanitation - Mr. Busha was out sick.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Herbert Thompson reported that Chief Gibbs had informed him that Pancho's Mexican Restaurant had applied for a beer, wine and mini-bottle permit. Chief Gibbs had protested without going to Columbia for a public hearing. Mr. Thompson reported that he had been in a meeting this day reference the curbside recycling truck. It appears that the five cities, Norris, Pickens, Liberty, Six Mile and Central will have to go together and purchase a new recycling truck from next year's budget but the amount from each town has not been determined.

Mr. Thompson reported that there was another S. C. DOT study done at Watkins Street and Hwy 93 and at this time no changes had been noted reference the possibility of a traffic control device and it was reported that the area had not caused the number of accidents, however, DOT reported that they would review this intersection again . Chief Joe Gibbs reported that another study is now in progress.

Administrator Thompson presented a letter from Chad Brooks, Pickens County Sheriff's Department, Narcotics Division commending Chief Joe Gibbs and the entire Central Police Department on their assistance on a recent drug investigation. In Octobrt of 1999 Chief Gibbs obtained some information a suspect living in Central that was possibly involved in drug trafficking. Chief Gibbs then contacted me (Chad Brooks) and we began a joint investigation, of which much time has to be spent for this type operation, but it is very demanding of anyone involved. Chief Gibbs and the officers of the Central Police Department went over and beyond their normal duties to assist in any manner that they could. They assisted with surveillance, the use of their drug K-9 and helped to track down various information through various paper trail. This assistance was very valuable in the outcome of this investigation. In the end we were able to make an arrest and seized approximately 81 lbs of marijuana. The Town of Central should be very proud of their police department. Please express my thanks to Chief Gibbs and his department for all their assistance. If I can ever help you in any way, please feel free to contact me. Sincerely, Chad Brooks, Agent Special Operations Division, Pickens County Sheriff's Office.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Stan Thompson discussed a Council Planning Session for March 6, 2000 to be held at 6:30 P.M. before the regular work session.

Mayor Thompson noted that it is time to discuss Volunteer of the Year and asked Council for their permission to hold this item over for the Executive Session. It was concensus of Council to hold over.

Mayor Thompson reminded Council that the next Pickens County Municipal Association meeting would be held in Six Mile on February 28, 2000. He reminded each member to get their Statement of Economic Interest to Columbia on time which is by April 15, 2000.

Mayor Thompson called for a brief executive session to consider three matters, one being personnel, one a legal matter, and a contractural matter dealing with 18 Mile Creek Project. Motion for this session was made by Edward Reynolds and seconded by Frank Chaka. The vote was unanimous

After executive session Mayor Thompson recalled the regular session . Mayor Thompson recommended Beverly Cureton and Anne Sheriff as Volunteers of the Year 1999 for their efforts in developing Central History Museum. Motion by Joe Head and seconded by Edward Reynolds to name these as volunteers of the year. The vote was unanimous.

Concerning the acquisition of a tract of land as a potential site for a new City Hall. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to list this item for the March, 2000 meeting as a Public Hearing prior to the regular council meeting . No motion was made to this item. Mayor Thompson then called for a motion for an agenda item addressing acquisition of land for a future possible site for a new town hall. Motion was made by Frank Chaka and seconded by Joe Head. The motion was unanimous.

There being no further business, Mayor Thompson called for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Edward Reynolds and seconded Joe Head to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace S. Towe

Grace S. Towe
Clerk
02/14/00