

Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday March 8, 1999
Central Town Hall 7:00 P. M.

Present: Mayor Stan Thompson; Councilpersons: Edward Reynolds; Frank Chaka; Keith Martin; Joe Head; Harry Holladay. Administrator Herbert Thompson; Clerk Grace Towe. Citizens: David Donald; Rick Powell; Robert Arnold; Chief Joe Gibbs; Officer Bill Stephens.

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

Invocation by Harry Holladay.

Minutes of the February 8, 1999 meeting were presented. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to dispense of the full reading and adopt as corrected in work session. A motion was made by Keith Martin and seconded by Bobby Busha to accept as corrected. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Mayor Thompson instructed anyone that would like to speak in public session that after they are recognized please stand and state their name and address for the record. Each speaker is limited to five minutes by town ordinance and that time would be called if a person exceeds his five minutes. Mayor Thompson advised the public that the session is not for debate, nor is it a question and answer session. He stated that the purpose of the public session is to give our citizens an opportunity to say to Council what is on their minds, express their opinions and make suggestions.

David Donald - 121 Oakhurst Circle, owner of Central Honda 304 West Main Street. Mr. Donald advised Council that his specific reason for speaking was to advise Council that he had gotten a letter dated 9-04-98 from the Zoning Administrator that specifically identified his business as it affects either public safety, health or an aesthetic nuisance or that it has a negative impact on the overall image of the town and economic viability. Mr. Donald inquired if one specific aspect of the letter applied to him and his business and has there been a change in the way that the zoning enforcement is carried out. Mr. Donald stated that prior enforcement had been done by written complaint. Mayor Thompson asked Mr. Donald if he had any suggestions or opinions to express. Mr. Donald advised that he would need answers to his questions before he could form an opinion. Mayor Thompson advised Mr. Donald to come into Town Hall during business hours and talk with Administrator Herbert Thompson who would address these issues. Mayor Thompson stated that due to some appeal in progress Council would not discuss these issues in particular.

Robert Arnold - 1354 Maw Bridge Road - Owner of Tiger Town Automotive. Mr. Arnold stated that he was not here to complain about the ordinance, but he just wanted to come by and see who the Mayor and Councilpersons were, since he has been in his business a year and a half and no one had come by his business to welcome him to the town. Mayor Thompson advised Mr.

Arnold that the first Monday night of each month is work session where no action can be taken on any issue and that the regular Council meeting is held the second Monday of each month where issues can be acted on.

Mr. Arnold stated that local businesses are a big impact on the town and personally he has sixteen vehicles that he pays tax on and fourteen employees, all local people and he stated that Council should be a little more receptive to businesses as they locate in town. If they do not have time to stop by in person, send a letter to let the people know who the Mayor and Council are. Mayor Thompson reported to Mr. Arnold that we are now working on our latest newsletter and that would be one of the articles in the upcoming newsletter which will provide a list of Mayor, Council, Election Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Planning Commission.

Mr. Rick Powell was recognized. Mr. Powell stated that his business was at 130 Watkins Street, in Central. Mr. Powell stated that his main concern as President of the Merchants Guild is the negative impact that they had been receiving and that he is very concerned with that. Mr. Powell stated that his group definitely wanted to be team players in the Town of Central, but lots of things had been forced upon them which has created a negative impact, including with their customers and with the whole situation that's at hand. He stated that there is definitely a negative impact going on in the Town of Central. Mayor Thompson asked Mr. Powell if he had any suggestions for Council to consider. Mr. Powell stated that he was sure he would be attending most of the Council meetings in the future and unfortunately he did live outside the town limits since he lived in Six Mile.

Mr. Andrew Osborne was recognized. Mr. Osborne stated his name and advised that he lived at 117 Summey Street. Mr. Osborne stated that he had three questions to ask. He stated that he had been to town hall last year and inquired if out of town property owners are liable the same as city property owners. Mr. Osborne was referring to the ordinance that property must be kept up with grass cut, debris moved and general upkeep. Mayor Thompson again asked Mr. Osborne to come to town hall and talk with Herbert Thompson during normal working hours reference this question. Mr. Osborne stated a certified letter was supposed to be delivered to him three times and he had not received it yet. Mayor Thompson asked Mr. Osborne who was sending him this letter and Mr. Osborne stated that he had rather not say. Mayor Thompson stated to Mr. Osborne that if he were having trouble getting his mail he would need to talk to the Postmistress.

RECEIPT AND DISPOSITION OF PETITIONS: None.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Edward Reynolds - Public Safety - None.

Frank Chaka - Finance - Mr. Chaka presented the financial report noting that expenditures were still ahead of revenue due to tax dollars yet to come in.

Keith Martin - Recreation - Mr. Martin reported that the Pickens County Recreation Board met and that the money that Central Recreation has requested to put lights on the Southern Wesleyan Softball field is still uncertain. SWU wants to give a five year lease in lieu of the 20 year lease sought by Central Recreation. Central Recreation has asked for money to upgrade the community building and the board is considering this request, but nothing is final. Mr. Martin mentioned a family activity for the new recreation facility and stated that Tom Cloer had lined up a famil movie for March 26, 1999 for a nominal charge per person. Mr. Martin

reported that Tom Cloer and Kevin Pratt were in the process of installing the irrigation system at the new ball field at the community park and were working with someone from the university for seeding the field and to assume the field would not be ready for this season, but should be in good shape for next year. Mr. Martin stated that Central Recreation is working with Clemson Recreation to sign up baseball teams and it is going well.

Joe Head - Water and Sewer - Mr. Head reported that he and Herbert Thompson had visited the site of the new wastewater facility and the project is going well. He stated that according to the newspaper the City of Liberty had a huge water and sewer price increase and assumed that this was to cover the cost of the new facility. This was information only

Harry Holladay - Planning - Mr. Holladay again brought to Council attention that the town is still being plagued with dogs getting into trash. Mr. Holladay suggested that the men who pick up garbage and the police officer keep a sharp eye on this situation and report it immediately to animal control.

Bobby Busha - No report.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCES IN POSSESSION OF COUNCIL:

A. Second reading of Ordinance to Amend Section 6-2 Article D. The Municipal Clerk shall certify all candidates to the Municipal Election Commission sixty (60) days prior to the election. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to dispense with the full reading of the Ordinance and adopt on second reading. Motion by Frank Chaka, seconded by Joe Head to adopt. The vote was unanimous.

B. First reading of Ordinance #2-99DP to adopt the Municipal Electric Service Agreement with Duke Power a Division of Duke Energy Corporation. The term of this agreement shall be for (3) years with automatic one year renewals unless notice is given in writing by either party 90 days prior

to the expiration of the initial term. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to dispense with the full reading of the ordinance and adopt on first reading. Motion by Frank Chaka, seconded by Bobby Busha to adopt. The vote was unanimous.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATOR:

A. Administrator's Report:

1. Draft Agreement with Rural Fire District. Mr. Thompson reported that he had been in touch with Mr. Johnny Duncan of the Rural Fire Board and discussed this agreement and it would be presented to the Rural Board next Tuesday. Discussion only.

2. Short and long range Planning goals for 1999-2000. Will have ready for next meeting.

3. Resolution #1-99 FT to purchase a KME fire truck using lease purchase method. Two lending institutions have bid on the financing of the new truck. One was BB&T Leasing and the other First Citizens Bank in Central. Mr. Herbert Thompson prefers that we deal with First Citizens

Bank. Edward Reynolds made a motion to finance with First Citizens and Mayor Thompson asked him to temporarily withdraw his motion reference the

bank so that we could deal with the resolution. Mr. Reynolds withdrew the motion. Mayor Thompson called for a motion to dispense with the full reading of the resolution and adopt on first reading. Motion by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Joe Head to adopt. The vote was unanimous.

Again the choice of lending institutions was discussed. Motion by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Joe Head to finance at First Citizens Bank in Central. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Thompson stated that only one item was on the agenda for him, but he requested to add the D. W. Daniel Award for School and Community Excellence to the agenda. After discussion motion by Joe Head, seconded by Bobby Busha to award the organization \$250.00 for this purpose as has been done in the past. The vote was unanimous.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Mr. Herbert Thompson passed out ballots for the nomination of Volunteer of The Year Award.

List of candidates:

Joe Abercrombie

Ronnie Thomas and wife Patricia

Beverly Cureton and Anne Sheriff

Debbie Cumbie

Motion by Keith Martin, seconded by Edward Reynolds to adopt this slate of nominees. The vote was unanimous.

Joe Abercrombie - 6 votes
Ronnie & Patricia Thomas - 2
Beverly Cureton and Anne Sheriff - 3
Debbie Cumbie - 3

Motion by Keith Martin, seconded by Edward Reynolds to give to the top vote getter who was Joe Abercrombie. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Thompson stated that Mr. Abercrombie would be recognized at our next Council meeting.

Mayor Thompson reminded Council that the Pickens County Municipal Association would meet March 22, 1999 at Easley. Mayor Thompson reported that April 5, would be the date for the next work session. Agenda items for this session would need to be given to Herbert Thompson by Thursday prior to April 5 so that the agenda can be published in the paper.

The July work session would fall on July 5, 1999 and after discussion it was consensus of Council to combine work session with regular session on July 12, 1999. No further business, motion by Edward Reynolds, seconded by Joe Head to adjourn. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted;

Grace S. Towe , Clerk, March 8, 1999