

**TOWN OF CENTRAL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
1067 WEST MAIN STREET - CENTRAL, SC 29630
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 -7:00 pm**

Present: Mayor Andrew Beckner, Council Members Joe N. Moss, Lynne Chapman, Ken Dill, Curtis Peek, and Robert Griffin; Town Administrator Phillip D. Mishoe; Police Corporal Shane Bagwell; Fire Chief Ed Reynolds; Main Street Director Katherine Brooks; Karen Martin, Ed Martin, Debbie Peek, Samantha Wood, Sara Levitt, Tori Bell, Cam Whiteside, Andrew Moody, Jack Queener, Suzi Benkowitz; and Town Clerk Susan A. Brewer.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Andrew Beckner.

Joe Moss rendered the invocation.

Reading of Regular Council Meeting Minutes 01-13-2025-2024

Lynne Chapman made the motion to adopt Regular Council Meeting Minutes 12.09.2024; seconded by Joe Moss. The vote was unanimous.

Public Session – (30 Minutes Total)

Sarah Levitt owner of Jitter's Brewing Company approached Council. She said she was there on behalf of all downtown businesses as well as residents who need safe simple access to local businesses. She thanked Council for their time and attention to the pressing needs of our community. She said they heard on a daily about the limited parking in the downtown district. She said it is vital that Council prioritizes increasing marked parking and way signs. She said for the past six years they have battled with bringing customers into their businesses. She said it is imperative that as our population grows parking be added and be marked. Sarah said for six years Jitters has been paying into the Central's Hospitality tax. She said Councilman Peek offered to look up the code which states that Hospitality funds are to be used for tourism and Recreation. She said it is time for at least a portion of those funds to be earmarked towards items that will help our businesses succeed. She said it is clear that those who have already invested so much in the revitalization of our downtown district could benefit from your consideration in this matter. Businesses are already limited with resources and we need to contribute towards getting over the over 8,000 Vehicles passing through our town to stop instead of using our downtown as a thoroughfare. She said all business owners she had spoken with regarding this matter express a unified confidence that when someone chooses to stop in our town they will visit and support multiple businesses. She said along with increased Parking Way signs and sidewalks it's also imperative that Council upholds the ordinances already in place to eliminate vacant buildings in the downtown district. She said more businesses in town it increases the chance of passerby's will stop and support the vitality of our town. She

said the community is showing up by supporting us as best as they are able and it was time that our elected council members come alongside our community supporting growth by releasing funds immediately to make public parking more accessible. She said the potential is here and they need our Council to support the hard work that they have done to see the fruits of their labor. Sarah thanked Council for their time and consideration. Mayor Thanked her for her statement.

Mayor asked for a unanimous consent to add item on the agenda. He said Daniel Air Force Junior ROTC has asked us to provide financial support of \$1,000 and two payments of \$500. One is for a funding requirement for a grant that they are seeking. It would be a government support for that Grant that's \$500 and then the other one would be \$500 for four scholarships for students who are taking the summer Cadet leadership course this summer so he asked for unanimous consent to add that to the agenda. There were no objections.

Mayor made the motion that we support Daniel High School Junior ROTC for their funding requirements and provide \$1,000 in funding for the Daniel Air Force Junior ROTC; seconded by Lynne Chapman. Ken Dill asked where will that money come from. Mayor stated the General Fund. The vote was unanimous.

Receipt and Disposition of Petitions (15 Minutes)

Mayor did report he did have a petition dated January 27th it was from the Main Street District Merchants asking us to enforce our Town codes on vacant buildings and he said he would said thank you for this petition and thank you for the comments earlier. He said he was going to offer a potential solution for discussion at work session next month.

Planning – Paige Bowers

Streets and Public Safety – Joe Moss

Joe Moss reported the fire department responded to 61 calls in January.

Enterprise and Community Engagement – Lynne Chapman

Lynne Chapman reported for the month of January the Water and Sewer Department completed 103 work orders. The meters were read on January 18th while rechecks were done on the 19th and disconnects were done January 30th. 44 customers were disconnected for nonpayment and of these 26 were reconnected. The sanitation department both residential and Commercial operated on normal schedules for the month of January with the exception of Wednesday, January 25th in observance of Christmas. Routes resumed to normal on January 26th.

Lynne Chapman said the next Community Engagement meeting would be held at on the January 23rd at 7:00pm. She said she looked forward to seeing everyone there.

Recreation – Ken Dill

Ken Dill reported the Recreation Department used grant funds to purchase Trees and Shrubs and renovated the #7 Disc golf hole that crosses the creek under the powerline. By Fall should be very pretty and colorful addition.

Ken Dill reported the Recreation Department planted Rose of Sharon bushes and Figs at the historic depot replacing the trees that were killed by disease. The plants were donated by Mr. Mac Martin. Pecan and Oak trees were planted at the disc golf course, also donated by Mac Martin.

Ken Dill reported we would be hosting the city Basketball Tournament at the Indoor Recreation Center Feb. 10-14 for ages 8-17.

Finance and Marketing – Curtis Peek

Curtis Peek reported our general fund currently has a balance of \$918,176.91 compared to the balance at the end of December that was \$649,261.33. This is an increase of \$268,915.58. This is an increase of 34.31% in the general fund from December to January.

Our Enterprise funds have the following revenues for the month of January and surplus or deficit for the month. Also listed is a percent difference from the previous month to the current month.

The water account for January had a revenue surplus of \$10,252 and for the year we currently have a surplus of \$35,267. This is an increase of 33.61% in our water revenue account from last month to this month.

The sewer account for January had a revenue surplus of \$22,414 and for the year we currently have a surplus of \$96,163. This is an increase of 26.38% in our sewer revenue from last month to this month.

The sanitation account for January had a revenue surplus of \$17,319 and for the year we currently have a surplus of \$51,558. This is an increase of 40.37% in our sanitation revenue from last month to this month.

Tourism and Economic Development – Robert Griffin

Robert Griffin reported;

- Katherine is working on bands for the upcoming first Friday concerts at the Depot which will run March 7, April 4, and May 2 from 6-9pm.
- Katherine is coordinating the Easter Egg Hunt which right now is set for April 6 with more information to come.
- Joe Moss's Unity in the Community at Bolick Field from 10am -2pm on Saturday, April 12. Games, free food, inspirational singing and messages. Bring canned goods to support Clemson Community Care.
- The Sanders and Company car show will be May 24th, Labor Day weekend on Mainstreet from 10am-300pm.
- HUK Central Pro-Am Disc Golf tournament May 2-4.
- Police Dept. Fundraiser at Depot June 14, 11am-5pm with food, fun, and music.
- Central Tigers Super Saturday August 23, 10am-3pm.
- Farmers Market will start back in May, more information to come.
- Trunk or Trains will be Saturday, October 25, 1pm-5pm.

Consideration of Ordinances and Policies already in possession of Council
None

Reports from the Administrator and Mayor:

Administrator

Phillip Mishoe asked for a head count for the PCMA being held at Six Mile on February 25th. There were 5.

Mayor

Executive Session

S.C. Code of Laws, Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) Personnel Matter

Section 30-4-70 (a) (2) Contractual Matter

Mayor made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter and a Legal matter; seconded by Curtis Peek. The vote was unanimous.

Return from Executive Session

Council returned from executive session where no decisions were made only information was shared.

Action Items

Mayor moved to authorize the Town Administration to explore the framework of a Tax Increment Financing Program to explore; the possibility of expanding infrastructure that is needed to support controlled growth for the Town of Central; seconded by Curtis Peek. The vote was unanimous.

With no objections, Mayor Andrew Beckner adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Brewer, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved: 03.10.2025