

**TOWN OF CENTRAL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
1067 WEST MAIN STREET, CENTRAL, SC 29630
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020 - 7:00PM**

Present: Mayor Mac Martin, Council Members Lynne Chapman, Joe N. Moss, Harry Holladay, via zoom Paige Bowers, Ken Dill, and Daniel Evatt; Town Administrator Phillip D. Mishoe; Fire Chief Ed Reynolds; Police Chief Steve Thompson; Sergeant Tim Striss; Officer Jake Mealy; Jason Dutton of the Carolina Canine Academy; Sarah Hayes, L.C. Hayes, Franklin Reynolds, Susan Abercrombie, Kyle Abercrombie, Katie Gardis, Beth Peterson, Gussie Pinson, Edith Williams, Rosa Grayden, Heather McEuen, Antigone Maes, Nich Raider, Evangleos Sourpas, Alysén McCaughey, Ben McEuen, Eunice Lehmacher, Kate Byrd; and Town Clerk Susan A. Brewer.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mac Martin.

Joe Moss rendered the invocation.

Reading of Regular Council Meeting Minutes 07.06.2020 & Reading of Special Called Meeting Minutes 06.30.2020

Chair made the motion to adopt Regular Council Meeting minutes 07.06.2020 & Special Called Meeting Minutes 06.30.2020; seconded by Lynne Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Public Session

Franklin Reynolds approached Council. He said that on June 25th he noticed some good activity at the Rural Fire Department. He said he recognized both of the individuals that were there. He said he thought we were finally getting a firefighter at the station that we were paying for. He said the bay doors were up and some bushes got trimmed. He said he saw them outside and even saw a grill one day. He said this activity went on through the weekend and by Monday he was getting excited that we were getting what we were paying for. He said on Monday, June 29th the Administrator confirmed that two fire fighter that were exposed to COVID-19 were being quarantined at the station. He said that he expressed to him that he was not happy about this decision nor was the County Administrator. He said this was a working Fire Station that was paid for by the citizens of the rural fire district. He said that the people do not want the building to be used in this manner. He said he guessed with all of them sitting down in the city think this is a great idea. He said there were no signs placed nor was people that should have been notified told about this. He said in the response to a Facebook Post about the situation the Town of Central replied back of course after the deflection statement "We were returning a Favor". He said in the middle of a pandemic your first responders were exposed you were returning a favor? He said in government you do not return favors. We write policies, procedures, guidelines and we stick to them. He said in his opinion, this was a borderline ethics violation because of the people involved and because we admitted we were returning a favor. He said then came the flat out lies. He said that he was told that there were signs in place and people were notified. He told Council to remember he lives there. He goes by there every day. Sometimes three, four, or five

times a day. He said there were no signs in place and then all of the sudden Monday signs were placed. He said then he was told the rain had washed the old ones away so that is why the news one was put up Monday. He said that he was also assured that the lady that shares the office at the station was notified. He said that he had a message on his phone that he would be happy to show them (Council) that she was notified of the quarantine going on there. He said the Administrator and Fire Chief had the opportunity to do what was right and be leaders during this unprecedented time but instead they chose to sit down here in the city and tell him what was going on in our fire station when he was seeing the exact opposite in his own eyes. He said in his honest opinion, they both lied and then scrambled trying to cover it up and putting the public in risk. He said he wanted them (Council) to hold someone accountable. He said he sent the Administrator an email stating that both he (Administrator) and the Fire Chief should resign their position for such incompetence and putting the public at risk in this situation and the he hoped they (Council) would support this.

Evangleos Sourpas 305 Gassaway Street approached Council to discuss issues of flooding in the backyards on Moore Street and North of Berry Street with the property line with Central Textiles. He had printouts for Council to review. He thanked Curt Edsall for coming out and walking the property. He said there was a blockage not created by a beaver. He said that Will Mullinax came and cleaned up the blockage and he agreed that it wasn't created by a beaver. He went over the print out to explain the problems down there. He said Ms. Williams has worked hard all her life to have her home. He said after Will Mullinax pulled the blockage down, he wanted to see where the water went. He said he believed the water is at its level. He said the pond was holding the water high. He said that the creek was what you expect to see but not stagnant water. He said we needed to come up with a plan to take care of this issue. He said he was basically there to help get the issue resolved. They just want the Mill to be a good neighbor and help get the problem resolved. He said that Pickens County rules is that we have to do nothing. Mayor said that he felt like we could get in touch with the Mill and see if we could get something done. He asked if he had given the Administrator a copy of the print out. He said that he did. Mayor told him that we would see what we can come up with.

Alysen McCaughey

Alysen McCaughey of 111 Sour Wood Street. She approached Council to discuss the proposed Police Advisory Board. She said she was glad Council has taken the initiative to move forward with the board. She said that she was wanting to know the right avenue is to have this discussion. She said that she had some questions that they could discuss tonight if they wanted to address those and would also be willing to meet them at a later date to discuss them. She wanted to know when they were actually going to meet and discuss the committee as a whole. She said that one of the things on their list was to make sure the care and the needs of the most vulnerable people in our town. She said if we protect the most vulnerable people it would protect all of us. She said one of the things they wanted to talk about was the membership section. She said they would like to see some other types of people on the committee based on the research they had been doing. She said that they thought that having someone on the committee that has

mental health background, social worker, healthcare background, so that when you are dealing with certain situations you would have experts in the situation. She also said that they think disabled veterans would be another person they would like to see on the committee. She said they thought that we should spell out instead of saying an ethnic minority member. It should say a black resident, a Hispanic resident, a female resident, and instead of a SWU staff member have a college student that resides in town. She said what they wanted to from this question how did you (Council) come up with the requirements and if this was something they could discuss as a whole to make sure what needs to be on this committee to serve the community? Mayor told her that what she is talking about was an old guideline plus Chief added some things. He said that it will probably be on Work Session next month and if she had the list of suggestions, she could email it to Phillip or to him and he would put it on the agenda. He said that this was a discussion Council would be having. If there are too many people the meeting will never happen or if there are not enough. He said there was a lot to discuss. Alysen said that they have done a lot of research and they had some other individuals wanting to speak and give them time to process what they are purposing. She said again they just want it to be like a conversation in our community. She said they were not telling them (Council) what to do but again they wanted to have their input heard since policing is about the community and they were out there every day where they (Council) are not. She said they were there to help.

Rosa Grayden

Rosa Grayden said she resides at 101 Cantrell Drive. She said that she wanted to make a statement. She said that people say she was trouble. She said she was trouble but a good kind of trouble. She said people would come to her to represent them to bring things before Council that they are afraid to do. She said that if Councilmember has anything derogatory to say or a question about her stance to be man enough or woman enough however it may be to confront her. She said the one thing that she does not do is go around and badger a person, she will go to them. She said she was going to advise them to please come to her because she is definitely good trouble. She said she helps folks out.

Rosa Grayden said she wanted to talk about the advisory board and she thought Alysen had covered some of it. She said they were talking about a mission. It is to represent the Town of Central, Community of the Town of Central, Advisors to the Police Department, and the Town Council as it relates to police community relations. She said it would relate to police training, police programming, and public education. She said she could vouch for public education because she went through personal training Clemson as her residents. She said there were things she needed to know and not judge. As an advisory to the Police Department and the Town Council why does it include the Chief of Police and a Town Council member and could it be amended to exclude those roles that sits on the board? She said her and Alysen wanted to get people involved because when they are not involved, they aren't adding anything to the table. She that she thought the Chief of Police should answer to the Administrator because the Police Chief is a hired position and the Town Council person is elected, and the advisory committee should advise these positions already in place. She said

she wanted to know about the revision of the committee because at the last meeting she said that it was almost like military top secret to get access to the revision. She asked Council what is available for public knowledge because the community needs to know there is an advisory board because they might could go to the advisory board and some things solved. Either through a letter or an email and this shouldn't be top secret. She said she has been on an advisory board as good trouble. Mayor told her we would publish the proposal with the agenda and they would talk about it next month. Rosa Grayden asked if it would be the first Monday or the second Monday. Mayor said it would be the first Monday. Phillip Mishoe said that was Labor Day and we didn't know when we would meet. Mayor asked Rosa which would be better for them and she said either would be fine. Rosa then said if there was anything they need to question about or concerns about the things that she does understand that she is good trouble.

Heather McEuen

Heather McEuen resides at 817 Johnson Rd. She approached Council and asked if the meetings for the Police Advisory Board would be open to the public. Mayor Martin told her all meetings are open to the public.

Eunice Lehmacher

Eunice Lehmacher introduced herself to Council. She wanted to let them know she was running for the SC District 3 House of Representative. She said that she has a lot of experience with social working and she would be glad to help us finding someone for our committee.

Receipt and Disposition of Petitions

None

Reports from Council Committees:

All committee reports are on file in the Town Clerk's office and available for review upon request.

A. Planning – Paige Bowers

None. She said they will be meeting this month. Mayor asked if it would be a zoom meeting. She said it would be a zoom meeting and Curt would be at Town Hall if anyone wanted to attend.

B. Streets and Public Safety – Joe Moss

Joe Moss thanked the fire department in assisting Pendleton fire department in the outreach day. He requested to put driveway skirting between public and private roadways to be put on the Work Session Agenda.

C. Finance and Marketing – Lynne Chapman

Lynne Chapman asked Phillip Mishoe to discuss the financial report. Phillip Mishoe said that this was the first month of the budget year. He said we consider these the cold months because we do not generate a lot of revenue during these months. He said water and sewer are both in the red. He said

we used fifteen percent less water than we did last year in this month. He said the only thing he could think of was Clemson didn't have summer school this year. He said that sanitation was in the black and that was a good sign that the changes in recycling is working.

D. Recreation – Ken Dill

Ken Dill reported the Central Tigers Football and Cheerleading program for this fall is still in limbo due to COVID. We are waiting for final decisions from the SC High School League and the SC Parks and Recreation Association. We hope to have a final decision by mid-August.

Ken Dill said the completion date for new gym at the Indoor recreation Center has been pushed back to late September. He recommended for those who have not driven by to do so.

E. Enterprise- Harry Holladay

Harry Holladay reported that disconnects were done the first time since March. He said 55 customers were disconnected with 31 reconnected. He said there were 240 work orders done and they have been busy.

F. Tourism and Economic Development – Daniel Evatt
None

New Business

Extension of Ordinance #06-30-2020 FACE COVERINGS

Chair discussed briefly the Face Covering Ordinance. He asked the Administrator if he had any information. Phillip Mishoe said Clemson students were starting back on September 24th and we would have another meeting before then to decide if we needed to suspend the Ordinance or Extend it. Chair made the motion to extend Ordinance#06-30-2020 FACE COVERINGS to September 24th; seconded by Lynne Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Old Business

None

Introduction and consideration of New Ordinances, Policies, and Resolutions

Resolution #08-03-2020 JES

Lynne Chapman made the motion to adopt Resolution # 08-03-2020 JES; seconded by Joe Moss. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution #08-03-2020 JDS

Chair made the motion to adopt Resolution #08-03-2020 JDS; seconded by Lynne Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Consideration of Ordinances, Policies, and Resolutions already in possession of Council

Second Reading of Ordinance #08-03-2020 EMERGENCY

Chair made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance #08-03-2020 EMERGENCY; second by Harry Holladay. The vote was unanimous.

Second Reading of Ordinance #08-03-2020 SLAGEL

Lynne Chapman made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance # 08-03-2020 SLAGEL; seconded by Daniel Evatt. The vote was unanimous.

Reports from the Administrator and Mayor:

A. Administrator

Phillip Mishoe reported the Spring Forest Project was a week out from being completely done. They have the sewer line finished and the storm water drain. He said they were going to seed the ground. Mayor said to put the basketball courts on the agenda for next month. Joe Moss asked if Pickens County would assist us grading. Phillip Mishoe said they probably will but it would be on their time. He said they would work us in.

B. Mayor

Executive Session

Chair moved to go into Executive Session to discuss legal Section 30-4-70 (a) (1) and Section 30-4-70 (a)(2), legal action; seconded Lynne Chapman. The vote was unanimous.

Return from Executive Session

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

With no objections, Mayor Martin adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Brewer, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved: 09/14/2020