

# TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Town Council Chambers, Moncks Corner Municipal Complex, 118 Carolina Avenue TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM

# **MINUTES**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Town Council was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem David Dennis at 6:00 p.m.

#### Present:

Mayor Pro-Tem David A. Dennis, Jr.
Council Member DeWayne G. Kitts
Council Member James N. Law, Jr.
Council Member Latorie S. Lloyd
Council Member Chadwick D. Sweatman
Council Member James B. Ware, III

### Staff Present:

John S. West, Town Attorney
Jeffrey V. Lord, Town Administrator
Marilyn M. Baker, Administrative Services Director/Clerk to Council
Justine H. Lovell, Finance Director
Rebecca T. Ellison, Recreation Director
R. Logan Faulkner, Public Service Director
Robert L. Gass, III, Fire Chief
Stephen G. Young, Police Chief
Lee W. Mixon, Jr., Police Captain
Justin S. Westbrook, Community Development Director
Rebecca Vetter, Business Development Manager
Mohamed A. Ibrahim, Technology Manager

Absent: Mayor Michael A. Lockliear

## **INVOCATION**

Invocation was delivered by Town Attorney, John S. West

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Council Member Chadwick Sweatman.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes: Regular Meeting of Council - November 14, 2023

Motion made by Council Member Law to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 14, 2023. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lloyd and approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

#### **REPORTS**

2. Mayor's Report: Michael A. Lockliear

In Mayor Lockliear's absence, Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis thanked Public Service Director Logan Faulkner, Recreation Director Becky Ellison, and their staff for all their hard work in making the Christmas festivities such a success.

3. Administrator's Report: Jeffrey V. Lord

Administrator Lord reported the following:

- He added that all the festivities, Christmas Tree Lighting, parade, Coaches appreciation dinner, Christmas in the Corner, would not have been such a success without the great staff and the interdepartmental cooperation that Town Departments have. We have a great team and have some really good events during the month of December.
- Spring sports will open January 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The Town received our 5<sup>th</sup> Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting. He added that this is a testament of the high quality of financial reporting that goes on here at the Town. Council thanked staff for their hard work and dedication.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**4. Consideration:** Live Streaming Town Council Meetings

Technology Manager Mo Ibrahim reported that he was asked to research options for live-streaming Town Council meetings. He presented two options:

- Option#1 Upgrading the current system to support this feature will give us a
  little room for expansion in the future. By upgrading the existing decoder and
  mixer with a higher-level one to support new channels for the live-streaming
  feature. The disadvantage is that recording and streaming will be down if the
  recording system is down for any reason. Total cost \$14,500.
- Option#2 The second solution is a standalone system for live streaming over Wi-Fi only. It is linked to social media using its decoder and camera. It will be controlled using a local decoder and a web access portal. The disadvantage is that we will have to deal with two systems for the recording and live streaming (the County and Hanahan are currently using it for council meeting live streaming): \$6,500

This is an unbudgeted expense and will need to be incorporated in a future budget adjustment which will reduce the General Fund Balance. Staff recommends upgrading with Option#1 at a cost of \$14,500. The first option is more expensive and will need someone managing the feed but offers the most functionality.

Motion was made by Council Member Law to approve Option#1 at a cost of \$14,500. Motion was seconded by Council Member Sweatman and was approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

**5. Consideration:** Demolition Assistance Bids for properties located at 509 E. Main Street, 132 President Circle, and 134 President Circle

Administrator Lord reported that the Town received three requests for demolition assistance. Staff solicited bids to demo the above referenced properties. Bids received were as follows:

- Kennedys Grading and Excavation \$24,500
- Icon Construction \$19,970
- Lawrence Construction \$32,000

Staff recommends accepting the low bid by Icon Construction at \$19,970 for the demolition of 509 E. Main Street, 132 President Circle, and 134 President Circle.

Motion was made by Council Member Law to accept the low bid of \$19,970 from Icon Construction and authorize staff to move forward with the demolition of 509 E. Main Street, 132 President Circle, and 134 President Circle. Motion was seconded by Council Member Lloyd and approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

**6. Consideration:** Action to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission, with an appointment from January 2024 to January 2028.

The Planning Commission has one vacancy on the seven-person commission. Staff placed notice on the website and Facebook for a new member and only one person responded. Kathleen Prosdocimo. The term for this position would be a four-year term beginning January 2024 – January 2028.

Motion was made by Council Member Law to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission with Kathleen Prosdocimo. Motion was seconded by Council Member Kitts and was approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

7. Second Reading and Public Hearing: Ordinance No. 2023-11

An Ordinance to amend the business license ordinance to update the class schedule as required by ACT 176 of 2020.

**Public Hearing:** There were no comments from the public.

Motion was made by Council Member Ware to approve an ordinance to amend the business license ordinance to update the class schedule as required by ACT 176 of 2020. Motion was seconded by Council Member Sweatman and was approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Joe Clemmons of 2202 Addidas Street, Eutawville, SC expressed concerns of the Police and the Town of not assisting him with an alleged incident with a local insurance agent. Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis commented that it was his understanding that his case was heard and reviewed by SLED and the Department of Insurance, and they found no basis to move forward. Mr. Clemmons continued to express his concerns, after his allotted time to speak of three minutes expired. Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis asked Mr. Clemmons to please have a seat, however he continued to express his concerns. Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis then asked the Police Department to try to reason with Mr. Clemmons and ask him to please refrain from speaking and take his seat. Council then adjourned to executive session.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**8. Discussion:** Personnel Matter related to an appointed official

Motion was made by Council Member Kitts to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter related to an appointed official. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ware and unanimously approved as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

### Out of Executive Session:

Motion was made by Council Member Kitts to go out of executive session and to reconvene to the regular meeting of Council. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ware and unanimously approved as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

# 9. Town Attorney Resignation and Appointment:

Motion was by Council Member Sweatman to accept the resignation of Town Attorney John S. West and to appoint James E. Brogdon, Jr. as Interim Attorney for the Town effective immediately. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ware and approved unanimously as follows:

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware.

# **Public Input - Continued:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis apologized to the audience for having to cut public input short earlier and asked if anyone else from the public would like to speak.

Gwen Hardwick of Moncks Corner asked what the status was on recycling in Moncks Corner. Administrator Lord responded that residents put all their garbage in the roll cart provided, and when it is dumped at the County landfill, it is then separated for recycling through a program called the Repower System.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Council Member Sweatman, seconded by Council Member Ware to adjourn the regular meeting of Council. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m. Motion was approved unanimously as follows.

Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-Tem Dennis, Council Member Law, Council Member Lloyd, Council Member Kitts, Council Member Sweatman, Council Member Ware

A copy of this meeting's agenda was e-mailed to the Post and Courier, The Berkeley Independent, Live 5 News, Channel 4, Channel 2, and The News Journal Scene. As required, the agenda was posted on the Municipal Complex bulletin board and the Town Website at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

| Minutes Approved and Adopted:     |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
|                                   | January 16, 2024 |
| Marilyn M. Baker/Clerk to Council | DATE             |