



TOWN COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

Minutes

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Monday, 25 April 2016

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

This meeting's notice was published in the Post and Courier newspaper.

I. Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Heyward at 6:30 PM.

II. Roll Call

In attendance were Councilmembers Dunmyer, III, Salters, Scott, Townsend, Planner/Zoning Administrator Holton, Attorney Austen and Clerk-Treasurer White. Councilmembers Sausser and Smalls, Sr., were absent.

III. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation was given by Mayor Heyward followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion to adopt the agenda as prepared; Councilmember Townsend seconded and all voted in favor.

V. Public Comments

Carol Tillman, 5045 Highway 162, stated that she would like clarification as to when the music should stop being played at Wide Awake Plantation. It was her understanding that all music should stop at 9:00pm or there would be a fine. She lives less than half a mile away and can still hear music being played past 10:30pm. She has called the police once and would like the owners of Wide Awake Plantation to be responsible.

Ray Larkin, Lowcountry Leadership Charter School, stated that he wanted to discuss the Hollywood sewer system, specifically, pump station #111. He said that pump station #111 has a history of failures and Hollywood had a report done in 2013 by The Clearwater Group that stated that unless there were major repairs on the unit, it would continue to have failures, which brings them to April 19, 2014. They had been in the new school for 4 months and upon entering that morning, it smelled of sewage and 10,000 square feet had been flooded due to the back-up of pump station #111. The cost of repairs to date is \$280,000. They have filed a claim with the Town of Hollywood and have been denied. Pump station #111 has failed at least 3 times since then. He has sent a letter to the Mayor and has not received a response. The Board has decided to proceed with 4 steps, the first being addressing Council tonight, the second will be notifying DHEC, the third will be the media and the last would be a lawsuit. He is hoping that Lowcountry Leadership Charter School and the Town of Hollywood can come to an amicable solution to this problem and hopes to hear from someone soon.

VI. Presentation

Sgt. Phillips, Charleston County Sheriff's Office gave an overview of his relationship with the Town of Hollywood and the "We Believe" project, a mentorship program, which will address the vision of some of the needs in the Hollywood area. He talked about the "Lunch with a Deputy" program that is now being implemented at E.B. Ellington and Minnie Hughes Elementary Schools where officers meet with a small group of 5th graders and have lunch with them. He provided a handout that gave contact information and resources for the Charleston County Sheriff's Office and talked about when to call 911.

VII.

Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing held on March 28, 2016 as prepared. Councilmember Scott seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on March 28, 2016 as prepared. Councilmember Scott seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.

VIII. Committee Reports

Finance-Councilmember Salters made the motion to accept the Finance Report as information; Councilmember Dunmyer, III seconded and all voted in favor.

Planning/Zoning-Councilmember Dunmyer, III voiced his concern about not having a quorum for the April Planning Commission meeting. He said that all parties agreed to work hard to put this in place and action needs to be taken. We need to enforce the ordinance. He asked for a status as to why there was not a quorum. Mr. Holton stated that two people from the Planning Commission said they would not be able to attend due to prior engagements and a third called on the evening of the meeting and he could not speak for the others. Councilmember Salters mentioned that it was very unusual for the Planning Commission members not to meet. This is the first time in a very long time that they did not have a quorum and there were legitimate reasons as to why they did not meet. She said that we may have to be a little considerate when it comes to the Planning Commission because they do meet on a regular basis and she has attended several of the meetings. Mayor Heyward said that there is an ordinance in place and all Commissioners are expected to have a meeting or educational training every month. These meetings are scheduled the same time every month and all members need to be responsible if they truly wish to serve the public. Councilmember Scott made the motion to accept the Planning/Zoning Report as information; Councilmember Dunmyer, III seconded and all voted in favor.

IX. Old Business

None.

X. New Business

Resolution 23-2015-16: *SCE&G Franchise Agreement to include gas*: Mayor Heyward explained that she met with SCE&G on April 11. The Town is currently receiving 3% of all electrical fees from customers. It was brought to her attention that some residents in Poplar Grove has gas service. We would need to amend or sign a new agreement with SCE&G in order to get a percentage from the natural gas customers. This would be the time to look at an increase as well. Mayor Heyward asked for a motion to discuss this issue. Councilmember Dunmyer, III made the motion; Councilmember Townsend seconded. Councilmember Salters asked how much money are we talking about. Mayor Heyward stated that the percentage is now 3% and the maximum amount is

5%. Councilmember Townsend asked if the increase would be passed on to customers and Mayor Heyward answered yes. Councilmember Townsend also asked if we had information on what other places are charging. She mentioned that we are among the lowest. The current agreement was signed in 2009 and she has not done any research to find out if there was a previous increase prior to that time. Councilmember Townsend recommended that the issue be tabled until more information can be provided as to what other municipalities are being charged. All voted to table.

XI. Mayor's Update:

Mayor Heyward mentioned that at the last meeting, there were residents from Poplar Grove that came out to voice their concerns about the commercial building operating in a residential area for real estate sales. She met with Steve Cebulka, resident of Poplar Grove, to discuss his concerns. It seems to be an internal issue with the HOA but she always welcomes residents to come out and voice their concerns and will continue to follow-up with this issue. She asked Council to give some thought to the SCE&G Franchise Agreement. Information will be provided on what other municipalities are charging at the next meeting. On April 20th, Hollywood Realm, the corporation that holds the Town's property met with Nicki Toomes from Rural Development. She explained the process for the new Town Hall to the Board members. We need to have our applications in by September for funding. The current interest rate is 2.25%. Mayor Heyward mentioned that Hollywood's median income has grown to \$54,754 from the last census. This is a huge increase from the last census 10 years ago which was \$30,297; the population has grown to 4,842. The Serenity Garden dedication and Gospel Fest will be held on May 14 at Wide Awake Park. She encouraged all to attend. Volunteers are still needed to get the park ready. Reverend John Bradley of St. Luke Church will be the guest speaker. Senator Margie Bright-Matthews, Representative Robert Brown, Reverend Betty Clark, Pastor of Emanuel AME and the family of DePayne Middleton will also be in attendance.

XII. Comments from Mayor/Council:

Councilmember Salters suggested that a press release be sent out and an invitation be extended to the Municipal Association for the Serenity Garden dedication.

Councilmember Townsend asked about the status of the new Holly Grove unit. Mayor Heyward answered that the contract was awarded to Fisher Construction.

Councilmember Dunmyer, III asked how the Census got the information for the income. Mayor Heyward answered that an application was filled out or a representative came by residents' homes to compile this information. He is concerned that this information may not be accurate. We may not get grants or the State's support and this is going to hurt the Town.

Councilmember Scott said that something needs to be done to clean up the Town. He has walked Hollywood and seen abandoned cars, dilapidated buildings, grass that hasn't been cut in years and this problem needs to be addressed. He feels that the biggest problem is with the homeowners and has been working with Beth to send letters to them. He is willing to give up part of his salary to hire a Code Enforcement Officer and challenged Council to do the same. Mayor Heyward said that we would have to look at the legal ramifications. This is budget preparation time. If Council feels this is a position we need to advertise for, then we can figure out how to do that. This person would need to be trained. In the meantime, if anyone on Council see a property in distress please call the office with the address and we can send a letter to the property owner.

Councilmember Dunmyer, III said he would like to know how complaints from residents are handled. There are times when an issue is brought up during meetings and never heard about again. He knows that they are being resolved but would like to get updates on the outcome.

Councilmember Salters, commented about the code enforcement and thought it was a great idea. She said the main issue is how to instill pride in the people of Hollywood to want to have a clean town to live in. We can pass ordinances but if people don't have pride about their homes and themselves there is not a whole lot that we can do.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

**Prepared by:
Tynetta White
Clerk-Treasurer**