

William C. Collins, Mayor

Council Members:

Terry Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem

Walter Bailey

Aaron Brown

Kima Garten-Schmidt

Bob Jackson

William McIntosh



Clerk-Treasurer

Lisa L. Wallace

Town Attorney

G. Waring Parker

Town of Summerville

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 8, 2015

ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Bill Collins and Council members Walter Bailey, Aaron Brown, Kima Garten-Schmidt, Bob Jackson, Terry Jenkins and Bill McIntosh. Also present were Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services & Clerk-Treasurer, and G.W. Parker, Town Attorney. Members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting and were also present.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Summerville Town Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2015. The meeting was opened with prayer by Ms. Garten-Schmidt, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Collins called for any comments from the public. Jane Orenstein representing the Cultural Arts Alliance gave an update on the Summerville Rocks project and invited everyone to attend their upcoming event on April 25th. Robin Caraway, owner of Four Green Fields and a representative of Summerville D.R.E.A.M., reported that they have exciting things coming up and invited everyone to attend their Third Thursday events. Carolyn Gorman requested that council reconsider the vote on the hotel project bond issue in light of recent legal filings for a motion for a partial summary judgement. She asked if council members have met with their constituents to ascertain how they feel about the project. She stated that the plaintiffs in the lawsuit have alleged that the town violated its purchasing ordinance and asked council not to commit any more money to the project until there is a ruling from the court. William Harbeson reported that no one has yet come out to clean out the culvert near his house. He also stated that he is concerned about truck traffic driving in front of his house and requested "No Thru Trucks" signs as they are in other parts of town. He also stated that he was concerned that the restaurant/bar area would not be sound proof. Joyce Delk of 208 Essex Drive stated that she felt compelled to ask council to vote "no" on the hotel bond and that council should hold off on taking any action until the lawsuit has been resolved. She was also concerned that there was no separation between the hotel and the condominiums. She also stated that she feels the hotel issue is a matter that should have transparency. Chris Melfi of 418 Central Avenue was concerned about the Pine Street/Central Avenue bridge reporting that support barriers have been added and that children play under that bridge. He is concerned that someone will get killed. He also requested sidewalks across the railroad tracks reporting that there were only two access points across the railroad. An unnamed woman stated that her husband spoke earlier and she wanted to

add to his comments. She stated that he mentioned a culvert on Laurel Street that needed to be cleaned but there is also a storm drain across the street that is totally clogged and would like to have that addressed also. Brian Peacher asked if the town made a payment to Applegate & Co. for preconstruction costs adding that, in his opinion, he finds it fiscally irresponsible to make payments for a project and issue bonds while the issue is still in the courts. Heyward Hutson said he had not intended to speak but he felt forced to challenge the claim that the town council is operating the same way it has for the last 40 years. He pointed out that boy scouts were present to see how government operates and asked about the 9 million dollars that was in reserve under the previous Mayor. Mayor Collins pointed out that that information is available online in the town's annual audit report. Mr. Hutson also requested that someone provide an explanation of the committee reports before approving them. Diane Frankenberger of 310 Central Avenue who also owns a business at 206 E. Richardson Avenue stated that she has lived all over the United States and has never been to a place where people can get up to address council and be so insulting and then treated so nicely in response adding that council has been very patient. She also reported that SCDOT is very close to repairing the bridge on Central Avenue. There being no further comments, the Mayor declared the public comments portion of the meeting closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Mrs. Garten-Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2015 council meeting and the March 24, 2015 special council meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the April 6, 2015 Finance Committee Report and the April 1, 2015 Public Safety Committee Report as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

PETITIONS

Ms. Wallace reported that no petitions for annexation were submitted.

PENDING BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to have second and final reading of Ordinance #15-0301 authorizing the issuance and sale of limited obligation 20-year bonds pledging hospitality fees not to exceed \$9,500,000. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to have second and final reading of Ordinance #15-0302 authorizing the issuance and sale of limited obligation 20-year bonds pledging franchise fees not to exceed \$18,000,000. During discussion Mr. McIntosh stated that he did not vote for the franchise fee increase or first reading of the ordinance and hopes council will consider paying off the bond early. Mr. Jackson stated that he also voted against the franchise fee increase but feels that the town has much need for these roads. Mayor Collins called for the vote and Mr. Bailey, Mr. Jenkins, Ms. Garten-Schmidt, Mayor Collins, Mr. Brown and Mr. Jackson voted in favor of the motion and Mr. McIntosh voted against the motion. The motion carried.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to authorize a Resolution adopting a Town of Summerville Right-of-Way Acquisition Policy. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Ms. Garten-Schmidt, to approve a Resolution authorizing construction improvements to Gahagan Plantation Trail by SCDOT. The motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Garten-Schmidt asked Mayor Collins to explain to the public how the committee meetings and finance committee meetings work. Mayor Collins reported that there are four standing committees of council consisting of 3 members of council each: Planning and Development, Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Public Safety. He added that there is also a Finance Committee consisting of all members of council. These committees meet to consider the business of the town that falls within their jurisdictions. The Chairman of each committee then provides his or her report at the finance committee meeting to give other members of council and the public an opportunity to hear what took place. The reports are then forwarded to full council to be considered for approval.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. on motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services
Clerk and Treasurer

APPROVED:

William C. Collins, Mayor