

Town of Andrews

Regular Monthly Town Council Meeting Thursday, July 25, 2019 6:00 p.m.

Sheriff's Substation

110 N Morgan Ave. Andrews, SC

The Town of Andrews met for their Monthly Town Council Meeting on Thursday, July 25, 2019. Mayor Frank McClary presiding in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation was rendered by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone present.

Town Officials Present:

Mayor Frank McClary
Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee
Council Member Marva Session
Council Member Terrance Middleton
Council Member Angela Anderson
Council Member Bradley Prince
Council Member James Altman

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee and seconded by Council Member Marva Session to approve the minutes from the Thursday, June 20, 2019 Town Council Meeting, on Thursday, June 27, 2019 Public Hearings and Special Called Town Council Meeting as written. **Mayor Frank McClary; Yes, Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee; Yes, Council Member Marva Session; Yes, Council Member Bradley Prince; Yes, Council Member Terrance Middleton; Yes, Council Member Angela Anderson; Yes, Council Member James Altman; Yes, motion carried.**

Monthly Bank Statements

The monthly financial statements were included in the Council's packet for informational purposes only.

Financial Report

Mrs. Brenda Jackson, CPA for the Town was absent. The Budgeted versus Actual Revenues and Expenditures Financial Report for the Town of Andrews for month ending June 30, 2019 was included in the Council's packet for informational purposes only.

Citizens Comments

Jerome Johnson of 6 Pope Street stood before the Andrews Town Council and commended the members for working together and taking advantage of various training opportunities which provides them with the knowledge of how to effectively serve and to fulfill their duties as elected officials.

Samuel Marsh of 602 S. Poplar voiced his concerns with the increasing amount of problems arising from the decaying of clay pipes in the Town's water and sewer system. He inquired about a proposed plan to address the upgrading or replacement of clay water and sewer pipes in the Town of Andrews. Mayor McClary responded that the County has contracted with the Centex Company to complete phase 1 of the storm drain project. This company will begin assessing the entire Town and its storm drain system to identify all of the problem areas. Once these areas have been identified then the next phase will be to determine the most effective and efficient means of eliminating the problems. As part of this project, meetings will be held in which citizens will be invited and encouraged to attend and to provide vital information concerning the known problem areas in their community.

New Business

^{1st}Reading Ordinance Number 2019-07: An ordinance to amend the Town of Andrews Business License Ordinance to state that renewal applicants within the municipal limits must submit copies or portions of state and federal income tax returns reflecting gross income figures at the time of application and to update Appendix B to the 2019 Business License Class Schedule recently released by the Municipal Association of S.C. **Mayor Frank McClary; Yes, Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee; Yes, Council Member Marva Session; Yes, Council Member Bradley Prince; Yes, Council Member Terrance Middleton; Yes, Council Member Angela Anderson; Yes, Council Member James Altman; Yes, motion carried.**

Administrator's Report

Ms. Dorsey stated that she recently attended the Municipal Association of South Carolina Annual meeting which was held in Greenville, S.C. July 18th-21st, 2019. She attended a Pre-Conference Mobile Workshop hosted by Greenville city officials: Greenville is one of S.C. fastest growing cities. Participants received a behind the scene overview of successfully completed projects along Falls Park, and were educated on how the city used its natural resources to turn its downtown into beautiful place, through strategic planning and leveraging private and public partnerships. She stressed how vital a strategic plan is to the growth and development of a town. Another session she attended was Preparing your city for opportunity zones, opportunity zones came into existence after the passing of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 proposed by Senator Tim Scott. Opportunity Zones were designed to encourage long-term private investments in low-income communities. The zones themselves are to be comprised of low-income community census tracts and designated by governors in every state. South Carolina designated 25 percent of qualifying census tracts as opportunity zones. Municipalities can apply for grant funding to offset the costs of obtaining an outside vendor to assist in the structuring of a competitive opportunity zone program to attract investors. She attended another session Returning Citizens to Work; it focused on getting individuals who are released from prison back into the work force. The Department of Corrections is now providing its inmates the opportunity to gain work skills and job training as a means to help prepare them for reentry

Thursday, July 25, 2019
Town Council Meeting minutes
Page 3

in to society upon their release from prison. The City of Columbia has passed an ordinance to remove the “check box” if you have ever been convicted of a crime from their applications for employment to help eliminate individuals from reoffending and being automatically discriminated against. Cyber Security was another major topic and one that must be addressed in the Town of Andrews by Town Council. The Town of Andrews will have to update the server by the end of the year due to Microsoft no longer being able to support windows 7 and 8.

Council Member Terrance Middleton: Mr. Middleton confirmed everything that Ms. Dorsey stated about the Municipal Association of S.C. and the trainings opportunities and resources offered to help elected officials and municipal employee’s carryout their duties most efficiently and effectively. He elaborated on one session that he attended during the MASC Annual meeting where the attendees were asked to identify one major attraction within their city that would draw visitors to your city. He responded that one major attraction to the Town of Andrews is Black River. Black River is a 151 mile long black water river in South Carolina. It was stated that a city’s strategic plan should incorporate and focus on the development, marketing and advertising its main attraction or its uniqueness with an ultimate goal to increase revenue.

Council Member Angela Anderson: Mrs. Anderson explained her reasoning for voting no on the approval of the Town of Andrews FY2019-2020 Budget during the June 20th and 27th meetings were due to the fact that she had not attended any of the previous scheduled Budget Work Sessions because of conflicts with her schedule. It was her belief that it would be unfair to the citizens and to the Town if she voted on something that she had no first-hand knowledge of, such as the proposed FY2020 Budget. In her report she elaborated that Greenville is a beautiful city. One main attraction that caught her attention was how the City residents come together on Thursday and Friday nights to socialize and have a great time while the entire Main Street is blocked off. She believes that this same idea could be successful in Andrews if Town Council and the people in the Andrews Community would come together and work together; they could host an event of this magnitude along the Andrews Railroad Bed. The future of Andrews can be beautiful and prosperous once a strategic plan is established and implemented. In closing, she solicited support for the Helping Hands of Andrews Food Bank.

Council Member James Altman: Mr. Altman thanked the Administrative Staff for their assistance with bringing him up to date on the business of the Town. He informed everyone that Mr. Lloyd C. Morris is very thankful to the Towns employees for repairing the water leaks in front of his home.

Council Member Marva Session: Ms. Session made reference to the Municipal Association Annual meeting workshop Best Practices for Strategic Planning. One idea that caught her attention was how the City of Hartsville, created a small city within the City of Hartville for children by painting a mural along the back wall of a playground. She also expressed her vision for further development of the Andrews Railroad Bed Park to include a local community based farmers market or vendors market, with park benches to create designated seating areas. If the residents and town officials come together and plan how to utilize the town’s resources to their fullest potential, then the Town could become profitable by developing means to generate revenue.

Council Member Bradley Prince: Mr. Bradley stated that he was unable to attend the MASC Annual meeting due to a conflict with his work schedule. However, he is very pleased to hear the enthusiasm and drive in the other Council Members to apply the newly gained knowledge in various projects to make the Town of Andrews grow economically. He voiced his concerns with more and more of the Towns fire hydrants being wrapped with trash bags with regards to a higher ISO rating and increased home owner's insurance premiums. He encouraged the Mayor to continue to re-negotiate the Fire Service Assistance Agreement between the Town of Andrews and Georgetown County with regards to an increase in the revenue received for services rendered.

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee: Mr. Lee stated that he continues to be a servant of the citizens of Andrews. He's periodically working to place work orders and assist the Public Works Department to complete various work orders. He's still providing maps of the Towns infrastructure to the Department of Transportation. He attended the MASC Annual meeting in Greenville, SC. He attended a work session titled Best Practices for Strategic planning which highlighted some important characteristics that elected officials must possess and display to help your Town to become and remain successful: one must be a team player, a visionary, must be willing to move out of your comfort zone and work towards making your Town attractive to investors.

Fire Chief Robert Stamper: Mr. Stamper reported that the AFD responded to 33 calls during the month of June 2019. The department had its monthly fire drill on June 3rd and the firemen installed a new #3 discharge valve on Engine 3. On June 4th NAFCO came and measured Robert Stamper, Brad Prince, Harrelson McKenzie and Kyle Cantley for new fire suits. Recently some of the firemen attended a narcan training at the Andrews Public Library. The department has experienced more calls than usual as a result of more individuals over dosing on heroin.

Mayor's Report

Mayor McClary addressed the concerns with fire hydrants being covered by the Public Works Department by stating that the Town was under DHEC Consent orders to cover the inoperable or problem hydrants indented by professional contractors. A contract will close on tomorrow that will address the repairing and replacement of the inoperable hydrants in the Town. The funding is now available and the bids are coming in and with that respect the addressing of these issues will be underway within the next 30 days. The fire calls rates will remain the same, the negotiation with Georgetown County was unsuccessful and their annual contribution towards fire service calls remains at \$35,000.00 annually. The Andrews Recreational Center will provide a basketball court, fitness room and a complete section for the aging community. The anticipated opening date will be in September. He stated that he attend the MASC Annual meeting. He is very glad to see his fellow Council Members full of drive and they all have a vision for making the Town better. He explained that before any of this can happen outside investors must be identified as funding sources. Investors are not going to come to Towns where the people are not working together and there is no skilled work force. The Andrews Economic Development Team is currently seeking free funding that can be utilized for the development of Parks. He identified a few attractions that the Town of Andrews has to offer; Rail Road, Sky Diving, Black River, and A Nature Walk three miles outside of Andrews and Kayaking, just to name a few.

Thursday, July 25, 2019
Town Council Meeting minutes
Page 5

Burger King will soon open an establishment in the Town of Andrews. St. James Santee Health Clinic will be extending their services to a new location by Food Lion. A Mobile Van will be coming to Andrews to provide free medical and dental screenings to citizens once or twice a month. The S.C. Bar Public Service programs will be offering legal seminars, free of charge to all. The first session will be held on September 5th entitled Family Law Issues. The second session will be on Real-estate Law Issues. The third session will be on Criminal Law Issues. The fourth session will be on Wills, Estates and Probate. The fifth session will be on S.C. Worker Compensation Law. The sixth session will be on Elder Law Issues. These sessions will be held at the Andrews Library from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. and will be facilitated by attorneys from across the state of S.C.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Council Member Terrance Middleton and seconded by Council Member Angela Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Town Council Meeting minutes submitted by Town Clerk Chaconas Parson.