

Town of Andrews

Regular Monthly Town Council Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 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, November 21, 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 Georgetown County Councilman Raymond Newton.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone present.

Town Officials Present:

Mayor Frank McClary
Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee
Council Member Terrance Middleton
Council Member Marva Session
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 Angela Anderson to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2019 Regular Monthly Council Meeting as written. **Mayor Frank McClary; Yes, Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee; Yes, Council Member Angela Anderson; Yes, Council Member Bradley Prince; Yes, Council Member Marva Session; 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 of Andrews presented Town Council Members with a review of the Budgeted versus Actual Revenues and Expenditures Financial Report for the Town of Andrews for month ending October 31, 2019.

Citizens Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

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New Business

Resolution Number 2019-03: Adoption of the Georgetown Hazard Mitigation Plan: Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee and seconded by Council Member Angela Anderson to approve Resolution Number 2019-03 a resolution to adopt the Georgetown Hazard Mitigation Plan. **Mayor Frank McClary; Yes, Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee; Yes, Council Member Angela Anderson; Yes, Council Member Terrance Middleton; Yes, Council Member Marva Session; Yes, Council Member Bradley prince; Yes, Council Member James Altman; Yes, motion carried.**

Administrator's Report

The Administrator reported that she recently attended a SC Community Development Association meeting. The main topic of discussion was affordable housing. Statistics indicates that Andrews residents are 92% low to moderate income. She reported that The Town of Andrews will be partnering with organizations to build new homes, which will provide many with the opportunity to become home owners. Black River United Way sponsored its campaign for Grade Level Reading "Read to Succeed!" on Thursday, November 7th. The Mayor and Administrator volunteered in the Tri-County school event that connects volunteers from the community to every Kindergartener through Third grade students in Georgetown, Horry and Williamsburg Counties. The Mayor and Administrator also attended a ATAX meeting on Tuesday, October 9th and Thursday, November 14th. They presented a presentation on plans to create a historic connection to the Seaboard Air Line Railroad. The plan outlined a pathway connecting the alleyway along the Andrews Museum down to the Railroad Bed Park, creating a tourist stop for train/railroad enthusiasts better known as "Railfans". It was recommended that Andrews receives \$14,000.00 to help fund this project. The upcoming events for the Town of Andrews were reviewed. Members of Council were instructed to inform the Town Clerk Chaconas Parson of their availability to attend the Municipal Association of SC upcoming Hometown Legislative Day on February 4th and the Municipal Elected officials Institute of Government on February 5th.

Council's (Sub- Division Reports)

Council Member Terrance Middleton: No, report.

Council Member Angela Anderson: Solicited assistance and support for the Helping Hands Organization of Andrews with its efforts to provide assistance to those in need during the Holiday Season.

Council Member Marva Session: No, report. She voiced her concerns with the increasing number of dilapidated buildings within the Town of Andrews. This is a concern that should be addressed as we focus our efforts to make the town beautiful and attractive to visitors.

Council Member James Altman: Thanked Justin Duncan and the Public Works Department for their assistance with a recent issue in Deer Wood Estates.

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Council Member Bradley Prince: Thanked the Andrews Police Department for their professional job performance.

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee: Congratulated the newly elected officials to their positions and stated that he looks forward to establishing a productive working relationship with them. He affirmed that he continues to be a servant of the citizens of Andrews. He's periodically working to place work orders and assisting the Public Works Department with completing various jobs. He continues to provide maps of the Town's infrastructure to the Department of Transportation. In addition, during the previous month he has placed No Dumping signs in various locations in an effort to deter illegal dumping or littering in those areas.

Fire Chief Robert Stamper: Mr. Stamper reported that the AFD responded to 41 calls during the month of October 2019. The department had its monthly fire drill on October 7th during which the firemen inspected all of their equipment and cleaned the trucks for Fire Safety Day at the area schools. In addition, the Town of Andrews's seat belt policy and the policy regarding the use of personal vehicles were presented to and discussed with all attendees. Each volunteer was given a beneficiary designation form for SCFA to complete.

Quality Assurance Manager Justin Duncan: Mr. Duncan stated that all of the employees in the Public Works department have been certified in confined space training. Four employees have successfully completed a course in asbestos training. Fourteen of the fifteen inoperable water hydrants mandated by SC DHEC to be replaced have been replaced. The water tanks in the town are required to be washed out annually, and the schedule for this year is as follows: Elmwood Street water tower will be washed out on November 26th, Gapway Road water tower on December 9th and Magnolia Street water tower on December 18th. The Town received a satisfactory rating/grade on its Annual SC DHEC water system inspection on Monday, November 18th.

Mayor's Report

Mayor McClary thanked the Public Works Department for their hard work and established working relationships with SC DHEC and the SC Rural Water Association in an effort to improve the quality, safety and performance of the Town of Andrews water and sewer systems. He also thanked those who participated and supported the Andrews Heritage Festival and the Halloween Truck R Treat along Main Street that was pioneered by Mrs. Chasity Cooper. He recognized Mrs. Frances Elliott, Nickki Hutto and others citizens for volunteering to assist with the decorating of the store fronts along Main Street. Mr. Wesley Hooks was recognized for his donation of the Christmas tree to Town Hall, Ms. Nicole Stone and Ms. Kristin Nesbitt for decorating the Christmas tree. He provided the Council members with a timeline for the design and construction process of the New Municipal Public Safety Complex Building, which is projected to be completed by June or July 2021. Council was briefed on the State of Andrews presentation that the Mayor and Administrator gave on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 which outlines

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the Town's mission and vision for economic growth. The mission of the Town of Andrews is to serve its residents, businesses and visitors with a safe, livable and sustainable community. The vision for the town of Andrews is to transform Andrews into a destination point by leveraging the rich heritage of the railway, dynamic infrastructure capacity and transportation capabilities. He announced that Police Chief Tyrone York resigned from the Andrews Police Department on November 9th, and Captain Joseph Graham is the acting interim Police Chief. The Town will soon begin a statewide search for a successful candidate to fill the vacancy.

Council Member James Altman made the recommendation that the Town include a member of the Williamsburg County Sheriff Office, Georgetown County Sheriff Office and the SC Highway Patrol Department in the recruitment and selection process for the next Police Chief. In conclusion, Mayor McClary assured the community that he has total confidence in the ability of the current staff to serve and protect the town until a new Chief of Police is hired.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Lee and seconded by Council Member Angela Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Town Council Meeting minutes submitted by Town Clerk Chaconas Parson.

Town Hall Meeting Highlights

Mayor McClary opening the meeting with a brief summary informing those present that the purpose of this meeting is to establish an open dialog with the citizens, local and state representatives. This is the opportunity for citizens to address any questions or concerns questions they may have concerning the Town of Andrews.

- Senator Ronnie Sabb and Representative Carl Anderson presented to the Town of Andrews a \$150,000.00 check to help fund the needed building improvements of the Andrews Town Hall.
- Senator Ronnie Sabb and Representative Carl Anderson voiced their strong opinions on the continued need of support for our school system and education. It was stated the topic agenda items for them this year will include a overhaul education and how education is funded. Funding will be allocated to those districts which are generally overlooked when it come to state funding for various reasons and millions will be allocated into the budget for school buses. South Carolina teachers have received pay raises over the past three years. A Pilot Program was established that allowed students within the S.C. School System who quailed for free or reduced school lunch to attend a technical college of their choice for free. Because the program was a success, it was expanded from 1 county to 16 counties within the past two years. There was a freeze on tuition increases this year for all state supported colleges.
- November 16, 2019 has been declared as clean-up day over the state in an attempt to remove garbage and debris from the side of S.C. highways.
- Mayor McClary announced that a satellite program from Horry Georgetown Technical College is now being offered in Andrews. Certified Nursing Assistant and EMT Courses are schedule to be held in Andrews at 30 East Main Street.
- A representative of Coast RTA a local public transportation company serving the Andrews area and surrounding counties. The company is in the process of gathering information from underserved communities in an effort to expand their service area. A Public meeting will be scheduled to obtain input from citizens about the need and demand for services in Andrews.
- County Councilman Everett Carolina gave an update on county projects which consist of the paving or resurfacing 110 roads, the construction of 110 sub-stations, dredging projects and the Andrews Public Safety Complex being funded mainly by the 1% sale tax referendum. He mention that there is a surplus of funds from this referendum, however by law all proposed

projects must be completed before any of the surplus funds can be allocated towards any other projects.

- Brian Brown A representative of GMK Associates stated that his company is now working on the design phase of the new public safety complex for Andrews. Construction is expected to begin in June of 2020. The new facility will be around 17,000 square feet and located on the site of the existing Town Hall.
- Mayor McClary stated that opportunities to bring affordable housing to the Andrews area are being explored. Town Administrator Mauretta Dorsey stated that the starting point to bringing opportunities to Andrews is to provide affordable homes which can lead to economic devolvement growth across the state.
- Mayor McClary entertained questions from citizens who had concerns about water and sewer bills. He explained that the Town of Andrews had neglected to maintain and invest in the up keep of its water and sewer systems for years. S.C. DHEC set a 60% increase in water and sewer rates on the Town of Andrews in 2014. The rates have been raised in increments from that point up until the recent 3.25% set in August.
- Several citizens voiced concerns about increased and/or fluctuations in their water and sewer bills. Mayor McClay suggested that all citizens contact the billing department personally to discuss their situations directly.