

**TOWN OF ANDREWS TOWN HALL MEETING
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SUB-STATION COURTROOM**

110 NORTH MORGAN AVE.

ANDREWS, SC 29510

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2017 @ 6:00 PM

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INVOCATION**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. ROLL CALL**
- 5. OPENING REMARKS**
 - A. MAYOR FRANK McCLARY**
 - B. MAURETTA DORSEY**
- 6. PRESENTATIONS**
- 7. CITIZENS QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

Town of Andrews

Town Hall Meeting Thursday, June 8, 2017 6:00 p.m. Andrews High School Auditorium 12890 County Line Rd Andrews, SC

Mayor Frank McClary presiding in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Invocation was rendered by Council Member David Tisdale.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone present.

Town Officials Present:

Mayor Frank McClary
Council Member David Tisdale
Council Member Terrance Middleton
Council Member Eddie Lee
Council Member Marva Session
Council Member Mack E Watford, Sr

Panel Members Present:

Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway
Georgetown County Public Works Director Ray Funnye
SCDOT Representative Richard Pope
S.C. State Emergency Management Division
Allen Fountain State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Derrec Becker Public Information Officer

Other Organizations Representatives Present:

Georgetown County Council Members Mr. Everett Carolina and Mr. Alston Beard
Town of Andrews Fire Marshal Clinton Stockton
L.T. Wilson and Sons
Helping Hands
Goodwill
Family justice Center
A Fathers Place

Opening Remarks

Mayor McClary stated that the purpose of the Town Hall Meeting is to establish a dialog between the Panel Members and the Citizens of Andrews to discuss emergency issues and to provide an overview of the Town's Budget and Finances.

Presentations

Georgetown County Administrator Mr. Sel Hemingway explained that the issues associated with the Town's drainage system and infrastructure is a major concern and is currently being addressed by the County. He provided some history on the Town's drainage system. In the 1960's the drainage system was mainly open ditches and in the 1990's it was converted to a closed system. During this transformation period no maps, blue prints or records were developed or kept. To date there are no records to indicate or describe the piping system throughout the town. Now some thirty years later there is no way to determine the current condition of the pipes. Therefore, the first step to finding a solution to the many drainage problems within Andrews must begin with having an assessment conducted on the entire drainage system to determine the specifics of the system, its current condition and how efficient it can become. Mr. Hemingway stated that his office has contacted various agencies throughout the State of South Carolina to seek funding for the assessment and repairs to the system.

The County has filed a pre-application for a federally funded Hazard Mitigation Grant to cover the cost of assessing the drainage system. Funding will not become available from that Federal Grant until the Government's next fiscal year budget appropriations during October 2017. A second step in this process has also been taken which is to identify and observe ongoing drainage issues throughout Andrews and to develop a plan of action to resolve the issues. Through this process some repairs and maintenance work has been performed to help elevate the problems. Thirdly, a collective education effort should be implemented to educate citizens on how the drainage system works and how to properly maintain and utilize the system.

S.C. DOT Representative Mr. Richard Pope reported that his department is taking an active role in the collective efforts to help identify and to resolve some of the drainage issues within Andrews. He has been instrumental in helping to locate equipment that is currently being utilized for this project. He encouraged the citizens to report all issues or concerns to the S.C. DOT and he provided a contact number to be used for reporting purposes (843)546-2405.

Mayor McClary highlighted that the Town has been awarded three grants in the amount of five million dollars to invest in the Town's Sewer System. Work has begun on Seaboard Road and almost completed which will reduce the number of pump stations in that area. Funding has been allocated to help identify and to map the Town's underground infrastructure to include locating manholes and water hydrants.

S.C. State Emergency Management Division Information Officer Derrec Becker educated the citizens on how the Disaster Recovery Process begins following a State declared emergency and the role that his Division plays. He stated that his division is responsible for communicating vital information to the public before, during and after disasters. This section coordinates with broadcast, print and social media to disseminate information that is accurate and timely, and promotes public education for citizen preparedness and emergency management issues.

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S.C. State Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Officer Allen Fountain educated the citizens on the role and functions of the Hazard Mitigation Division which is responsible for the Public Assistance (infrastructure) and Individual Assistance (human services) programs, activities and planning to assist citizens and private sector organizations during the recovery phase. These programs provide for the repair of damaged infrastructures and the human services programs administered to the public in the aftermath of a disaster when there is a Presidential disaster declaration. Mitigation has responsibility for programs that focus on the prevention of damage to personal dwellings and state and local infrastructure. This section coordinates technical assistance, including state and local risk assessment, and planning, as well as administers the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

Citizens Questions & Answers

The panel entertained questions and concerns from citizens.

Danny Nixon 405 N. Magnolia Ave: Mr. Nixon spoke of his experiences with constant drainage issues and sewer- backups. Mayor McClary stated that the Public Works Department will visit the location to assess the circumstances and begin work to resolve the issues along N. Magnolia Avenue.

Marion Brown 102 Aspen Avenue: Mr. Brown made a request for the ditches in his community to be cleaned and that the sidewalk along Harper and Aspen Avenues be maintained.

Bradley Prince 401 S. Poplar Avenue: Mr. Prince requested debris pick-up and to have the ditches in his area cleaned.

Maurice Cobb 402 S. Poplar Avenue: Mr. Cobb proposed the question, what is the status of the Town's request to FEMA to be declared a flood zone area? Mayor McClary in response stated that he is still awaiting an answer from the appropriate authority and he emphasized that this is not a decision to be made by Town Officials. He told Mr. Cobb that he would inform him of all updates as they become available.

Lassie Darby 50 Fern Loop: Mr. Darby requested that the canal located behind his residence be cleaned. Mr. Sel Hemingway told Mr. Darby that he will have his office look into the condition of the canal.

David Reddick: Mr. Reddick voiced his concerns about the abandoned Barrineau gas station located on N. Morgan Avenue. He questioned what is being done to have this eye sore removed? Mayor McClary replied that the process to have the station removed is currently in process and it is a lengthy process.

Jerome Johnson 6 Pope Street: Mr. Johnson asked Town Council what is the process to have the Older Mobile Homes located behind the Jones Avenue Park removed? Mayor McClary informed Mr. Johnson that approval was granted to a mobile home owner to move their home into the Jones Avenue Trailer Park because the MBH was previously grandfathered in under the Town's Mobile home Ordinance. However, he is unaware of the second MBH being brought in to the Town and he will begin an inquiry into the status of that MBH.

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Will Newton 502 S. Beech Avenue: Mr. Newton wanted to know what agency is responsible for acquiring the funds needed to have the assessment made on the Sewer System in Andrews. In response Mr. Hemingway stated that the Town of Andrews, Georgetown County and S.C, DOT are all working together to solve the problems and to develop solutions to the various problems and the best source funding is to apply for the Mitigation Hazard Grant.

Marcella Brown 903 W. Elmwood Street: Mrs. Brown requested that the ditch in front of her property be cleaned to help eliminate flooding in her community.

Denis Davis 7 N. Cedar Avenue: Ms. Davis requested that the ditch in front and beside her home be cleaned and the two abandon mobile homes located across the street from her home be addressed.

Charles Altman 406 E. Elmwood Avenue: Mr. Altman requested that the ditch in front of his home be cleaned. He also expressed his anger with the drains along Main Street not being maintained. He stated that he has contacted Mr. Richard Pope several times concerning these matters and has never received any satisfaction.

Jamie Howard 402 S. Beech Avenue: Mr. Howard stated that he has spent \$50, 000.00 for repairs to his home due to flood damage. He requested that the ditches and drains located near his home be cleaned.

Larry King 109 S. Magnolia Avenue: Mr. King voiced his concerns with a sinkhole and constant breakage in the pipes running along S. Magnolia Ave.

Cecil Davis 11700 Gapway Road: Mr. Davis stated that he has contacted Mr. Richard Pope several times about the overgrown ditch located in front of his mother-in-law home and the constant flooding along Tupelo Street. He would like to know when something will be done to resolve this problem.

Dena Brown 209 S. Magnolia Avenue: Ms. Brown stressed her concerns with the drainage and ditches near her home. Her home constantly floods when it rains.

John Darby 103 S. Beech Avenue: Mr. Darby acknowledged the Andrews Public Works, Georgetown County and State workers for the cleaning the drainage and ditches near his home.

Beth Connelly 410 S. Poplar Ave: Mrs. Connelly addressed her concerns about her home being flooded three times within the last eighteen months. She requested that the drains near her home be cleaned.

Henry Vereen 767 Persimmon Street: Mr. Vereen addressed his concerns and made a request for the ditches and drains to be cleaned near his home.

Sydney Withee 509 S. poplar Avenue: Mrs. Withee requested that the drains near her home be cleaned and for debris to be pickup.

Jack Smith 115 Juniper Street: Mr. Smith requested that the Town of Andrews Public Works Department come back and fill in the big hole left at his home eight months ago.

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Lottie Guitard 4 Privet Street: Mrs. Guitard spoke about the condition of the ditch in front of her home and expressed the need for it to be cleaned to help eliminate the constant of flooding.

Ethel Tisdale 409 Martin Luther King Drive: Mrs. Filmore requested that for the ditch in front of this residence be cleaned to eliminate constant flooding.

Town of Andrews Fire Marshall Mr. William Clinton Stockton provided the citizens of Andrews with a detailed description of the duties of a Fire Marshal and encouraged those who may be in need of his services or expertise to contact him and he will be glad to offer his assistance.

A Father's Place Representative Mr. Ronald McGinnis spoke briefly on his organization's mission and efforts to provide job training skills and services to individuals and help them to seek and obtain jobs.

Georgetown County Council Member Mr. Everett Carolina introduced himself and affirmed his commitment to assisting and working together with others to make the Town of Andrews and its citizens lives more pleasant and safe.

Georgetown County Council Member Mr. Alston Beard had no comments.

Closing Remarks

In closing Mayor McClary thanked all of the Panel Members, Council Members, Visitors and Citizens for coming out and making this Town Hall Meeting a success. He encouraged all to take a more active role in the well being and up keep of the Town of Andrews. He announced that the town will be hosting the Andrews Heritage Festival August 9th thru 12th and solicited the support from all. Marc Whitfield interim Chief of the Andrews Police Department was introduced.

Council Member Eddie Lee made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. and was seconded by Council Member Terrance Middleton.

Council Meeting minutes submitted by Chaconas Parson, Town Clerk.