

Budget Workshop

Meggett SCPA Building
4776 Highway 165
May 24, 2010 – 6:30PM

(Item 1) Roll Call and Meditation

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Grange Coffin. The following were present: Mayor Pro-tem Buster Herrington, Tommy Butler, Tom Hutto and Keith McCarty. Also present was Administrator Ellie Brabham and Zoning and Planning Administrator, Gail Seabrook. Buster Herrington led the prayer and Pledge of Alligence.

(Item 2) Budget

Copies of the proposed budget were provided to the Council members and were reviewed.

Town of Meggett Council Meeting

Meggett SCPA Building
4776 Highway 165
May 24, 2010 – 7:00PM

(Item 1) Roll Call and Meditation

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Grange Coffin. The following were present: Mayor Pro-tem Buster Herrington, Tommy Butler, Tom Hutto and Keith McCarty. Also present was Attorney Andy Gowder, Administrator Ellie Brabham and Zoning and Planning Administrator, Gail Seabrook. Buster Herrington led the prayer and Pledge of Alligence.

(Item 2) Approval of Minutes From April Meeting

The minutes were e-mailed to all Council members prior to the schedule meeting for review and comments. A motion was made by Tom Hutto to accept as written. All voted in favor.

(Item 3) First Reading of Ordinance 2010-05 (2010-2011 Fiscal Year Budget)

A copy of the budget was provided to Council members. Councilman Keith McCarty said he would like to waive the reading of the ordinance and move to the vote since we had reviewed it in the workshop that preceded the council meeting. Tom Hutto said before we move to the vote he would like to request that we have copies available to the public immediately following the meeting or no later than tomorrow. He felt that the public should be able to have a copy before the public hearing. Given that request and with no opposition he seconded the motion. All voted to accept the budget as written on the first reading.

(Item 4) Proclamation 2010-06 (National Beach Safety Week)

Mayor Coffin read aloud the proclamation 2010-06 of the National Beach Safety Week for the week of May 24th through May 31st. A copy of the proclamation can be obtained at Town Hall.

(Item 5) Verizon Update

The takeover of Verizon land lines by Frontier has been approved by the FCC.

(Item 6) Sewer Update

Gail Seabrook reported that we had two incidents where the resident needed to have repairs. One was Barbara Gaz in Archfield and her pump had frozen due to the system not being flushed when the originally homeowner vacated the premises. Pedersen responded, pulled the pump and replaced with a temporary pump until the manufacturer could figure out if it could be repaired or whether a new pump would be needed. Unfortunately the cost ran about \$2000 for her. A leak between the grinder station and the entrance to the force main was also detected and repaired. The other resident was Rebecca Singleton on Ethel P.O. Road but no problem could be detected when the repairman visited the site. She originally thought the system may be leaking but turned out to be good news for her. Gail said she would notify residents that are connected to have their system flushed if they will not be using the system for time period of a month or longer. This will be preventive maintenance so that a problem will not occur such as the one for Barbara Gaz. She also wanted to commend Pedersen Plumbing for their excellent response time for Ms Gaz as well as their direct communication as to what was found and recommendations.

We also have one tap returned to the Town. We will offer it to the residents that are on the waiting list. She also said she still had not received a written report of what was inspected on the individual grinder stations. Mr. McCall has been out of the

country on vacation and she will again talk with him about getting this report to her. It was asked if we had already refunded the money for the return of the tap. Reply: We will issue the refund when the tap is resold. She informed council that she had told Condor that council had approved the flapper kit to be ordered. Also, Condor was to get someone to call about ordering a residential grinder pump to keep on hand for emergencies but he has not contacted her yet. Tommy Butler asked if everything had worked out for the Stevens Towing project. She indicated that from the sewer standpoint we had provided all information and had no problems. Buster Herrington asked if they had gotten the permits they needed. Permitting for their project is not our problem she explained. She did indicate that Tom Boozer did periodically come by and provide updates. They have encountered other problems which did not relate to any sewer issue. As far as she knows they are still working trying to get all of the permitting that they need and to her knowledge actual work for the project has not begun. Mayor Coffin said he felt that the town should not push the issue of the Harbor Master House being moved. Gail Seabrook said she thought they had made a determination of the final site location for the Harbor Master House and that is not an issue for them. Councilman Hutto confirmed that a permanent location had been decided and it would be used as a storage facility. Ms Seabrook said she thought that the relocation of the Harbor Master House had been included in the plans and asked Mr. Hutto for confirmation on that statement since his company was hired for the project. He acknowledged that was correct.

(Item 7) Old Business

a. Harmony Hall – Tom Hutto reported that he checked on the status with Tom O'Rourke before he left on his vacation and the nonprofit that was interested in the purchase of Harmony Hall has not moved forward at this time. Tom said he would check with PRC again next week.

b. Smoke Free Ordinance – Tom inquired if Attorney Gowder had look at the smoke free ordinance. Andy said he had review the ordinance that had been initiated for other towns and it was pretty simple but he wasn't sure this council wanted to move to adopt this ordinance or not. Tom Hutto asked if anyone knew if Hollywood or Ravenel planned to move in the direction to adopt the ordinance or not? Attorney Gowder said Hollywood had not adopted it at this time but was reviewing it. Keith McCarty said he saw no urgency to move to adopt this now. Mayor Coffin said we had not had any problems with anyone smoking in the buildings. Buster Herrington said the ordinance could cause problems for businesses such as Metal Trades and he felt it should be left up to the businesses to determine their decision for smoking on their premises. Tom asked would the town qualify for lower rates on our insurance since no one smoked that was covered. Ellie Brabham said that was already in play. Keith McCarty thought that adopting the ordinance may bring about some law suits. Council decided not to move forward with adopting the ordinance at this time.

c. Incorporation documents - Attorney Gowder said he finally got a copy of all of the incorporation documentation for the Town of Meggett and he would review them and give a report at the next meeting. Attorney Gowder expressed that it was a quite involved in getting the documents and his paralegal had to actually travel to Columbia to research the information and request the information. Gail Seabrook said she would like to put the information on a computer file listing the annexations and dates. She became aware of how much we needed this file when the Census Bureau asked for proof of annexations of certain parcels in the Town of Meggett. It took hours to search through all of the annexations documents that are filed by the year of the annexation. Keith McCarty said that the purpose of the Census is to just get a head count. He went on to say he had just attended a seminar about identity theft and everyone really needs to be careful with the information they give out.

Tom Hutto inquired about the topics of the maintenance contract and the web page that were discussed at the previous meeting which he was absent. The lawn maintenance contract was given to R&R Landscape. Ellie Brabham said she was going to bring this up in her miscellaneous reports but she would go ahead and address the issue now. Council had talked about a 6 month contract to be sure we were pleased with the services. She made the recommendation that we may want to write our own contract with R&R rather than use the submittal of his contract for signatures. She said a letter had been sent to let him know he was awarded the contract and we would get back in touch with him with the signing of the contract. Tom Hutto asked if this included the maintenance of the pond area as well and Mrs. Brabham indicated it included everything. Mayor Coffin acknowledged to Larry Commins the excellent job he had performed while doing the lawn maintenance service for the Town. Regarding the web page, Mrs. Brabham indicated this was not something that had to be decided tonight. It could wait until our July meeting should council would like to do more research before making a decision. The allocation for the web page is set up in the new budget so the contract can't be negotiated before July.

d. No wake zone on Toogoodoo River – Councilman Buster Herrington said a letter had been sent to SC Department of Natural Resources and they will do a study of the amount of traffic on the river in the area of Parishville Road residents and see if it will meet the requirements for a no wake zone.

(Item 9) New Business

No new business.

(Item 10) Miscellaneous Reports

Ellie Brabham reported that the evening in Meggett event turned out really nice and that she would have the financial report by the end of the week and would get it to council when she had completed it.

Upcoming Scheduled:

June 6	6:00PM	St. Paul's Fire District Meeting
May 31	Closed	Memorial Day
June 28	7:00PM	Council Meeting & Public Hearing (Budget)
June 7		Exchange Club Meeting
June 8		American Legion

Birthdays for June 7, 2010

Buster on 16th and Ellie on 26th.

Tom Hutto said he would like to talk a little more about the web page. He felt we should go ahead and make a decision as to who we would use for our web page rather than waiting until the July meeting. He made a motion to enter into a contract with the Williams Group to do our web page. The motion was seconded by councilman Keith McCarty and all voted in favor.

(Item 9) PUBLIC COMMENT

With no comments from the public Mayor Coffin asked to go into executive session to discuss a legal matter

Submitted by Town Clerk: Gail Seabrook