

Town of Meggett
Council Meeting
 Meggett SCPA Building
 4776 Highway 165
 August 23, 2010 – 7:00PM

1) Roll Call and Meditation

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Coffin. Present in addition to Mayor Coffin was Buster Herrington, Tommy Butler, Tom Hutto, Attorney Andy Gowder, Administrator Ellie Brabham and Planning and Zoning Administrator Gail Seabrook. Unable to attend the meeting was Councilman Keith McCarty.

(Item 2) Approval of Minutes From July Meeting

The minutes were e-mailed to all Council members prior to the schedule meeting for review and comments. A motion was made by Buster Herrington to accept the minutes as written. Tommy Butler seconded the motion and all council voted to approve as written.

(Item 3) Verizon Update (Matt Zender)

Mr. Zender was unable to be present at the meeting but had provided the information to Gail Seabrook to present at the meeting. Frontier has now taken over for Verizon and is in the process of starting to lay the Fiber Optic cable to provide better service as well as high speed internet to the area. Presently they are laying cable along Highway 17 and will work towards the more densely populated areas first and then move to the lower density areas.

(Item 6) Sewer Update (Gail Seabrook)

Ms Seabrook reported that she had some concerns with Condor and with Pedersen. She explained that a problem had occurred with an individual grinder station for Barbara Gaz in Archfield. At the time she tried to notify Pedersen to go out and look at the problem, the office was closed for vacation. After talking with Condor, they were unaware of Pedersen being out as well and she had not been notified of a backup plan for this situation. She contacted Tim Hill who had worked on some of the grinder stations prior and asked him to contact Ms Gaz and make arrangements for necessary repairs. The invoice was sent to Pedersen by Tim Hill who in turn sent it to Town Hall. It was explained that the individual would be responsible for the repairs. Pedersen then took the invoice to Ms Gaz. Ms Gaz called Town Hall claiming she had been billed for work that was not performed. Mr. Hill was contacted and asked to get with Ms Gaz and go over the invoice and explain the invoice in relationship to the work performed.

Ms Seabrook expressed that for the most part it has become an impossible task to keep up with repairs on the individual grinder stations. Many homeowners choose to work on the systems themselves or call a plumber of their choice and the town is bypassed and has no knowledge of what is being done for repair work. She went on to say she did not think this would cause problems if we just let the homeowners handle the repairs themselves. Condor does a yearly inspection of all of the individual grinder stations and any malfunctions or improper connection could be detected at this time. The homeowner could be notified at that time to make any necessary repairs.

Other concerns were that we are not receiving monthly reports from Condor as stated in our contract. She did indicate that the mission control system installed in the pump station at Medal Trades, allows an on hands view of how the system is performing as well as any malfunctions that may occur which for the most part would be on the monthly report. She also mentioned that she had never received confirmation that the extra pump for emergency situations for the individual grinder stations was ever ordered. Mayor Coffin asked if we needed to have a meeting with Condor and Pedersen. Gail replied that we are supposed to have an evaluation with the three towns and Condor as well as with Charleston Water Systems in the near future and she would check to see if that is to be scheduled soon before we decided on a meeting. Also, she said we have only one pump station whereas the other towns have multiple sites and a lot more problems so they are also dealing with all those issues as well.

(Item 7) Old Business

- a. (mowing of the grass from Church Flats to the sign along Hwy. 165) – Gail Seabrook reported that she had contacted SCE&G and they indicated that the poles were placed 1' within the property line. They were the only one that has permission to cut the grass on the power easement. From the road to the property line, that area would be highway R/W and technically permission would need to be obtained from SC Department of Transportation as well. However she did point out that most homeowners' keep the grass cut along the DOT right-a-way in front of their homes and it never seems to be an issue with DOT. A ditch is also in the area along the side of the road and that may create a problem with the mowing as well. She made the comment that even if we could only cut a few feet along the road edge, it still would make a difference coming into the Town. Tommy

Butler said he would contact the attorney that handles the property estate and see if permission could be given to keep it maintained up to the tree line.

- b. (windows in the SCPA Building) – Ellie Brabham said Mike had come out and looked at the windows and said he would work up two estimates; one with the windows replaced and one with just doing the necessary repairs to the frame and glass to those needing the repairs. He made the suggestion to actually replace the windows for the glass is not the hand blown glass that is found in a lot of the historically buildings. He said that would probably be less costly than replacing just the glass. He also looked at the moisture problem in the side entrance hall and said the moisture was coming in partly because no flashing was placed on the glass area of the walkway. He will provide an estimate for putting flashing and making the repairs to the wall as well.
- c. (paving parking lot) – Gail Seabrook said she had provided the estimate for paving the parking area to Council and from what she had understood, the cost estimate for the paving in concrete was more than Council wanted to spend and they would look at other materials and their cost and talk about this at their retreat. Ellie said that Council needs to be clear as to what area they want paved. She also said that we could investigate the different materials that could be used but we would need to go during working hours because most of the businesses are closed after our work day ends. She said we would try to have some information on the different materials and cost in time for Council to review at the retreat. Buster Herrington said that Larry Commins had made a recommendation to use pavers. Ellie said the pavers cost \$0.77 a piece and shipping cost as much as the pavers. Buster asked where they were shipped from and Ellie indicated that the pavers we presently have on the sidewalks are from Columbia. Tom Hutto said he would check with the company that do paving for their company and find out what they recommend.
- d. (no wake zone Toogoodoo River) – Buster Herrington said that it is the same as last meeting; he is waiting for the report from DNR to determine if the boat traffic is sufficient to place a no wake zone. Gail Seabrook said a resident had dropped off a booklet with regulations and it states that vessels may not operate in excess of idle speed within 50 yards of docks, piers, or when a person is in the water. Council felt boaters would be more alert if an actual no wake buoy was placed in the area.
- e. (land fill) – Tom Hutto told Council that this issue was again coming before Charleston County and quite possibly the Council needed to express again our opposition and concerns about this area for a land fill to Charleston County.
- f. (fire hydrant in park) – Buster Herrington said his help did not show up on Saturday to help him move the fire hydrant so it is still in the same location in the park.
- g. (docks on Westervelt Island) – Tom Hutto said the hearing should be rescheduled in the next couple of weeks.
- h. (appraisals on property) - Tom Hutto inquired if any information had been obtained regarding the properties that the Town was looking at for purchase. Ellie Brabham said that she understood that this was a topic to be discussed at the retreat and the appraiser was to look at the property tomorrow and have the appraisal to us by Friday. She also said that Judy Bair was going to have her information from the real estate agent to us by Friday as well.
- i. (signs) – Tom Hutto asked if anyone had contacted Jason Walker about his sign. Buster Herrington said he had talked with Jason and Jason indicated that he was going to leave the sign as it is in the trailer. According to code it is mobile by being in the trailer and is legal.
- j. (web page) – Ellie asked if Council had received the e-mail she sent showing the main page of the web site. Council said that they had and the only thing they did not care for was the silver part at the bottom. Ellie said she would relay this information and have that part of the background removed.

(Item 9) New Business

Deputy Sheppard spoke at the request of the Town on an issue involving a resident on that has killed at least 3 dogs and neighbors were not sure that the incidents were justifiable by rightful cause. A resident was very concerned about a recent incident where a dog was shot and this being the third dog that this individual had killed. Deputy Sheppard was asked by the Town to clarify what the law states. Deputy Sheppard stated that by law it is legal to shoot an animal if that animal is aggressive towards the person, or other live stock or pets on the premises. It is **not legal** to shoot an animal if the animal is just crossing the property and is not of any threat to you or your animals. Because of the concerns of multiple residents in the area,

they came before the town asking for help with this issue. After much discussion , it was recommended by the Town’s attorney that documentation could be provided to the magistrate and if this type of incident continued to occur, then the Town could speak to the magistrate and the magistrate could call this person in and talk with them. It was also brought up that this particular individual has on many occasions had reports filed for just shooting for hours without stopping and causing concern with all of the neighbors. Deputy Sheppard said he is trying to get an officer with SC Department of Natural Resources to visit the resident and determine if the area in which the individual is shooting into is sufficient thickness to withstand the bullet penetration without the ammunition going through and presenting a danger to livestock that is pastured behind this area. Also it is to be recorded that Children do play in the yard of nearby resident and this is of great concern to all parents.

(Item 10) Miscellaneous Reports (Ellie Brabham)

Ellie Brabham reported that the auditor could not be present at our meeting tonight due to obligations with their children but he has finished the audit and will send the hard bound copy to the Town. He can be at the next meeting if council so desires. He will start the 2010 audit in September and anticipates it being completed by December.

Ellie said she had received the estimate for redoing the walkway and with material and labor it came in at over \$4000.

Upcoming Scheduled:

Sept 27	7:00PM	Council Meeting
Sept 30	6:30	Alliance Meeting (Wide Awake Plantation)

Gail Seabrook said she would like to mention that Charleston Co. Planning had notified the Town than a preliminary meeting was scheduled for the 53 lots on the Bartone Property. She also talked about the problem of not receiving the plats that Charleston Co. should be sending to us. She indicated that she had talked with John Waring on several occasions about the plats and he had indicated that their machine was broken and all of the plats were run upstairs now. She also mentioned that on Early Jersey Rd., property owned by Todd Geiges, lots were created less than one acre and she was wondering how that was approved by Charleston Co. Tommy Butler said that could be approved but they would be non buildable lots.

(Item 9) PUBLIC COMMENT

With no further comments, Mayor Coffin thanked the residents for attending. A motion was made by Buster Herrington to adjourn and was second by Tommy Butler.

Submitted by Zoning and Planning Administrator: Gail Seabrook