

Town of Meggett
Council Meeting
 Meggett SCPA Building
 4776 Highway 165
 November 22, 2010 – 7:00PM

1) Roll Call and Meditation

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Coffin. Council members present were Buster Herrington, Tommy Butler, Tom Hutto and Keith McCarty. Also present was Attorney Andy Gowder, Administrator Ellie Brabham and Planning/Zoning Administrator Gail Seabrook. The prayer was given by Councilman Buster Herrington and Mayor Coffin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Item 2) Approval of Minutes October 2010 Meeting

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

(Item 3) Frontier Update

Matt Zender did the formal introduction of the Frontier General Manager, Tim Ruedy. Mr. Ruedy took the floor to provide the residents information on the new Telephone Co. that will be serving our area. Frontier purchased from Verizon the land lines in this area. He said that with the sale, a lot of the technicians who had worked for Verizon had retired so many of the new technicians are not yet familiar with the area. With the takeover, Frontier will work towards providing better telephone service, by laying in new cables, and updating the electronics in the switching stations. Their goal is to provide a great service as well as high-speed internet at a reasonable rate to as many residents as possible. He went on to also focus on the point that the expense that the company would acquire in providing service would have to make economic sense as far as gaining revenue. Frontier is a company whose objective is to focus on rural telephone service. Presently they have service in 27 states. The company originally started in Rochester, NY. He implied that Frontier was a company that is very customer oriented and emphasized that he himself could be reached should a customer have any concerns. The company hopes to move forward to provide high speed internet to as many residents in the area as possible. They expect to have high speed internet service available to about 1000 homes around the first of January in the Ravenel, Hollywood and Meggett areas. For areas that the population is not enough to provide this service, Frontier is looking at other technology that may help to boost the service beyond the 18000 feet of the switching station.

Tommy Butler asked where the switching stations were located. Mr. Ruedy replied that one was in Adams Run, one was in Ravenel, and one was in Hollywood. He would try to get a map using GIS coordinates showing the locations of all of the switching stations. Tommy also inquired about the service being placed down a road and then stopping the service before the end of the road due to distance of perhaps not enough residents to prove cost worthy. Mr. Ruedy said this is called the last mile and some of the stimulus money appropriated was to be used to provide service for areas that is referred to as the last mile but bottom line it has to make economic sense to lay the lines. He ended saying that Frontier would work to provide better service, as well as provide high speed internet to as many residents as possible.

(Item 4) Old Business

- a. *Windows in the SCPA Building* – Mr. Scheub had not started the work. He has completed the work on the roof but will probably do the windows in January due to the Christmas decorations..
- b. *Paving parking lot* – Tom Hutto said due to the amount of the estimate he was provided by Ledford's he would need to write a bid spec for the drainage around the SCPA Building and Town Hall. Their suggestion was to place drains around both buildings and have them to drain to the back ditch. They also recommended a dehumidifier. Tom asked if the one we had installed for the SCPA building was working. Ellie said she would check with Chris Wilson and have him check the dehumidifier that he installed. Once we get the drainage under control we will then focus on the parking area.
- c. *Sheppard Tract* – Tom Hutto reported that they have withdrawn their application for the landfill with Charleston Co.
- d. *Web page* – Ellie reported that the site is up and running and the e-mails will be set up soon. He came by the office and provided instructions how to add to the web page site or make changes.

(tem 9) New Business

- a. *Walnut Hill Property* - The Town is in the process of applying for greenbelt funding to purchase the walnut grove property. It is a beautiful piece of property with fresh water ponds as well as waterfront. It consists of about 156 acres and could be used for a recreation park either managed by Charleston Parks and Recreation or managed by Meggett. They may be some negotiations in the price due to the decline in cost of land value than when the property

was originally purchased. A motion was needed from Council to move forward with the negotiations. The motion was made by Keith McCarty to move forward with the application for greenbelt funding to purchase the land. The motion was second by Buster Herrington and all voted in favor.

- b. **Annexation** – Jimmy Bell came before Council to request an annexation into Meggett of a two acre tract located at Highway 174 and Little Britton Road. Mayor Coffin said that at present he did not think it was located where it would border an existing property. Buster said that Council had discussed doing an annexation of property along Little Britton Road as well as filling in the donut holes in the areas of the existing boundaries. Eventually they would like to extend the Meggett boundaries to the bridge going to Edisto on Highway 174. Perhaps this property could be included as well in the annexation along Little Britton Road. Mr. Bell expressed that his dealings with Charleston County had been very costly and extremely difficult to comply with all of their requirements. Mr. Bell expressed he would rather work with people he knows rather than Charleston County even if it took longer to move forward with his project of putting a restaurant on this parcel of land. Other considerations for the annexation of Mr. Bell’s property would reflect on any opposition residents may have concerns with of a restaurant in this area.
- c. **Annexation** – Witty Boykin came before Council to request annexation of a 4 acre tract. Council said they would let Attorney Gowder look at this annexation as well in addition to the Bell property and we would do all annexation at the same time.

d.
(Item 10) Miscellaneous Reports (Ellie Brabham)

- a. The tree lighting will be held on Friday Dec 3 this year instead of Saturday. The shops will be open for those attending the tree lighting. The festival will be on Saturday the 4th from 10:00AM to 4:00PM.
- b. We will not have a council meeting in the month of December.
- c.

Upcoming Meetings Scheduled:

Nov. 25 & 26	Closed	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec 3	6:00	Tree Lighting
Dec 4	10AM-4PM	Christmas Festival
Dec 24-31	Closed	Christmas and New Years

(Item 9) Public Comments

Gail Seabrook mentioned that she had attended the meeting with Charleston Public Service at Bees Ferry Land Fill and the topic of discussion was pass a zoning code to prevent trash such as leaves and limbs not to be place in plastic bags for trash pick-up. They will require paper bags instead

. They hope this will be passed by Charleston County Council soon and will go into effect sometime by the beginning of next summer.

With no further comments, a motion was made to go into executive secession to discuss a contractual matter.

Submitted by Zoning and Planning Administrator: Gail Seabrook