

TOWN OF MEGGETT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 22, 2013

Time: 7:02PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Call to order by:	Mayor Harry V. "Buster" Herrington III
Type of Meeting:	Council Meeting
Facilitator:	Mayor Harry V. "Buster" Herrington III
Notes:	Jennifer Shackelford

Roll Call:	Mayor Herrington	P	Matt Zender	P
A = Absent	Keith McCarty	P	Andy Gowder	P
P = Present	Tom Hutto	P	Ellie Brabham	P
	Tommy Butler	P	Jennifer Shackelford	P

Mayor Buster Herrington welcomed Jennifer Shackelford to Meggett Town Hall as the part time Administrative Assistant.

Prayer given by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Pledge led by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Minutes from previous meeting held on: March 25, 2013

Mayor Herrington asked if anyone had any questions or additions to the minutes of the March 25, 2013 meeting. Councilman Matt Zender stated the comment was made last month about cows wandering into the marsh and doing what cows do. He asked Councilman Tom Hutto if he would explain what he was referring to, eating grass or what. Councilman Hutto stated that, as well as using the bathroom. He further stated that causes increase in bacterial contamination in the creek which is believed by the National Resources Conservation Service, formally the USDA Soil Conservation Service, to be one of the primary factors causing many of the oyster beds in Toogoodoo's Creek to be closed as a result of poor water quality due to high bacterial contamination. Councilman Zender said and this is due to cows and not failing septic systems? Councilman Hutto said they have not actually done speciation that he is aware of on the actual fecal cult from samples, however there is the urgent potential of failing septic systems, and the direct injection, or the foxmoor injection, of manure in the creek is believed, and found to be in other evaluations such as Isle of Palms to be a greater contributor than septic systems, also this was found to be the case in some studies in Beaufort county. Councilman Hutto said he was not involved with this particular one, but yes failing septic systems are not typically as bad. Everybody here tonight who has a failing septic system or uses the bathroom in the creek, raise their hand, hundreds of cows or some number of cows are doing that. Councilman Zender said he has done some research on coliform specifically, O155 and that said cows have a very unlikely chance of having that in their fecal. He said he had looked on the web and Google and cows with E. Coli are cows that are fed grain, the cows here eat grass because their digestic systems are base verses and if they eat grain they are acidic. Mayor Pro Tem said he thought we were considering the minutes of the meeting. Councilman Zender said he just wanted a clarification. The Mayor Pro Tem said let's just stick to our schedule and if you want to

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bring it up later, you can. Councilman Zender said he just wanted to state that cows in the marsh don't equal ecoli. Councilman Hutto said if you want to take that up with the National Conservation Resource services and the USDA have at it. He further stated he was conveying what he had found to be the case in other areas and what has been brought to our attention by the USDA in their application of this grant. He said he would be happy to give Councilman Zender the name and number of the folks he can call there. Mayor Herrington said the question on the floor is have you reviewed the minutes. Mayor Pro Tem McCarty said he would make the motion to accept the minutes. Councilman Zender said, with that correction? Mayor Pro Tem McCarty said he did not see anything about cows in the minutes. Councilman Zender said I know, neither did I, but it was mentioned. Mayor Pro Tem said, I think a lot of stuff was, but I don't care if you want to put something about cows in the minutes.

Motion made by: Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty

Seconded by:

The Mayor Pro Tem said he would like to make a motion to approve the minutes with Mr. Zender's comment about cows added to it. Councilman Hutto said, cows crapping in the creek is okay. Councilman Zender said, I did not say that. Councilman Hutto then stated I would be happy to make a motion to amend the minutes with the statement that Mr. Zender thinks it's okay for cows to crap in the creek. Mayor Pro Tem said, alright Matt. Mayor Herrington said now we have a motion to accept the minutes as written with the exceptions noted do I have a second. Councilman Tommy Butler seconded the motion.

Motion made by: Councilman Tom Hutto

Seconded by: Council Tommy Butler

In Favor: Mayor Buster Herrington
Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty
Councilman Tommy Butler
Councilman Tom Hutto

Opposed:

Conclusion: Minutes were approved as written with above comments.

Mayor's Salary

Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty asked to wave the reading of the Ordinance to increase the Mayor's salary from \$10,400.00 to \$15,000.00. He stated that this is in line with the salaries of the Mayor's of Hollywood and Ravenel.

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In Favor: Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty
Councilman Tom Hutto
Councilman Tommy Butler

Opposed: Councilman Matt Zender

Lowcountry Leadership Charter School :

Mayor Herrington stated that renovations are under way, making great progress. Work has started in the gym, and the far end of the school will be next.

Litter Pick Up:

Mayor Herrington thanked the 30 volunteers that came out and helped pick up litter on Saturday April 13th. He stated that a farm wagon and a half full of trash was picked up in about three and a half hours. It was a good day.

April in Meggett:

Mayor Herrington stated the April in Meggett Festival was held this past Saturday. We were fearful because of the weather but we ended up having a beautiful day. The vendors were moved inside the SCPA Bldg, which worked out great. The Mayor thanked Ellie for her hard work on the festival. He stated that the festival raised \$1,500.00. Ellie thanked all of those that volunteers as well as the vendors that participated. She further stated that with half as many vendors as usual, we brought in as much money on the Silent Auction and raffles as we have in the past.

Evening in Meggett:

Mayor Herrington stated that we had tentatively discussed this for the 18th, but we may have to readdress that because we are going to do this event in conjunction with a dedication ceremony of the new water fountain which will be in our park. This will be a drinking fountain which has been ordered and should be in within three or four weeks. He further stated that he would inform council of the date of Evening in Meggett as soon possible.

Council Member Reports:

Building and grounds given by:

Mayor Herrington reports that the tenants on the bottom floor of the SCPA Building decided to terminate their lease and move their operation to Charleston, they moved out on Thursday. Also Dr. Meyer will temporally close her office

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downstairs so that she can spend more time with her elderly mother. Mayor Pro-tem McCarty asked Mayor Herrington if we have had any problems with the Landscape Company the town currently uses. He further stated he has heard that the owner is trying to sell the business. Mayor Herrington stated that they had not shown up the last two Fridays. He further state that the gentleman that used to work for that company has gone out on his own, so he came out on Thursday and took care of the grass for us. He did a very good job. Since we will begin working on our budget soon, we will just let him fill in until we put out for bid. Councilman Hutto asked the Mayor what are the terms of the lease agreement with FGN. Mayor Herrington stated they had a two month penalty, which they will pay in six monthly installments.

Communications report given by:

Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty stated that he had nothing new to report. He asked Ellie Brabham if she had heard anything from Municode. Mrs. Brabham stated that all documents had been faxed to them in early April and once they went over them, organized them and compiled them in a complete document, they would present to council and the Town Attorney for any changes or suggestions. They will contact us to set up a meeting at that time. Councilman Matt Zender asked Mayor Pro-tem McCarty where he was with the new website. The Mayor Pro-tem stated we would wait and discuss that in the new budget.

Grants and projects reports given by:

Councilman Tom Hutto reports that Meeks Construction should be finished with the parking area and upgrade of the road into Roxbury Park this week if it does not rain again. The cost per work done by Meeks Construction will be around \$60,000, which 50% of that will be refunded to the town through the LWCF Grant. Core of Engineers called Friday and asked for more information on our alternatives to putting a float on the dock, should know more about that by next meeting. Need to follow up with the Department of Natural resources about the grant they called him about in reference to the waterfront improvement.

Financial report given by:

Councilman Tommy Butler reports that up from last month there is an increase of \$20,000.00 in the bank balance. The CD is showing interest of \$427.00. This CD will be increased to \$75,000.00. The not ordinary expenses for last month were \$2,700.00 spent on Municode, and \$575.00 on contract renewal for Efile, as well as \$2,500.00 on the shed at Roxbury Park. We are in very good shape.

Utilities report given by:

Councilman Matt Zender reported that the wrong size isolation valve was sent for pump station #1. The valve had to be reorder. Once the new valve is received and it is installed, the station will be re-plumbed and the check valve can then be installed. This should take about three weeks. Gene McCall may have a possible solution for Pump Station #4. He has found a company in Ireland with a distributor in Illinois that has an air pump that sucks out the sulfuric acid from the well and passes it through a layer of wet Oyster shells. The Oyster shells react with the sulfuric acid and create a harmless gas. He stated that Hilton Head and Summerville use this system and he will find out how it works for them. If it is working for those two towns, he thinks he may be able to build the system himself cheaper than what the company in Illinois charges for it. Councilman Hutto asked about the water survey. Councilman Zinder responded by saying he has not been able to work on that due to his vertigo.

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Public Comments:

Resident Donald Flippen asked about the completion of the bridge. Councilman Zender responded by saying that it is DOT's responsibility, and they will either repair the bridge short term or if they have the funds replace the bridge. They should know more around July, which is when they do their Budgets.

Mayor Buster Herrington adjourned the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. 7:30PM