

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: *February 25, 2013*

Time: *7:00PM*

Location: *SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165*

Call to order by:	<i>Mayor Harry V. "Buster" Herrington III</i>
Type of Meeting:	<i>Town Council Meeting</i>
Facilitator:	<i>Mayor Harry V. "Buster" Herrington III</i>
Notes:	<i>Ellie Brabham</i>

Roll Call:	<i>Mayor Buster Herrington III</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Councilman Matt Zender</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P
A = Absent	<i>Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Attorney Andy Gowder</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P
P = Present	<i>Councilman Tommy Butler</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P	<i>Ellie Brabham</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P
	<i>Councilman Tom Hutto</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> P		<input type="checkbox"/>

Prayer and Pledge

Prayer given by: *Mayor Buster Herrington*

Pledge led by: *Mayor Buster Herrington*

Minutes from previous meeting held on: *January 28, 2013*

Motion made by: *Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty*

Seconded by: *Councilman Tommy Butler*

To accept minutes as written

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

Opposed:

Conclusion: *Minutes were approved as written*

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Item # 5: Charter School:

There will be a groundbreaking ceremony in early April for the construction to begin on the building which will house the Lowcountry Leadership Charter School. Invitations to this ceremony will be sent out very soon. Renovations and additions will begin in March and completed by the end of August. Mrs. Mackey Larkin, the new Principal of the school has also been appointed as the Manager for the Planning and Implementation grant. Employment opportunities for teachers have been posted and interviews will begin this month. Mrs. Larkin and her assistants are using the Greenhouse in Hollywood as a temporary office. Several grades have reached capacity but they are encouraging all those interested to submit an application for enrollment consideration. This Charter School is a state sponsored school which means they do not get any funding from the county. They are purchasing their facility and will be taking donations which are tax deductible. For more information you may visit their website at www.lowcountryleadershipcharterschool.org.

Item # 6: Upcoming Events :

On March 9th the town will be hosting an Oyster Roast at Roxbery Park 1-5pm. April 13th the town will have a Litter Pickup Day in preparation for the April in Meggett Arts and Crafts Festival on April 20th. The flower beds around Town Hall will also be spruced up. The town is in need of volunteers for the festival as well as for help to setup road blocks on the morning of the festival and remove them after the event.

Item # 7: St Paul's Alliance

Mayor Herrington stated that he had talked with Mayor Opal Baldwin of Ravenel to get an agreeable date for the meeting. He has not been able to get in contact with Mayor Heyward of Hollywood. The Alliance meeting will be hosted by the Town of Meggett. Once a date has been set, council will be informed.

Item # 8: Municode

At the last council meeting council voted to approve adding Municode to the town's website. Mayor Herrington asked Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty where he was with this. Pro-tem McCarty said that he had received a final copy of Municode, which had the exact wording as the copy he had approved previously and asked Mrs. Brabham if she would make sure the signature page was placed in the mail the following day. Councilman Matt Zender asked where we are with our website. Mayor Pro-tem McCarty stated that he wanted to get Municode tied up first since there was some cost involved with both. He further stated that if anyone has something they want to add to the website to please let him know.

Item # 9: Ordinance 2013-01 First Reading: Smoking in Public Places and Places of Employment

Councilman Tom Hutto made a proposal to accept the Ordinance with some changes. He stated that Section 16.170's, requirement that employers conspicuously place no smoking signs everywhere in their buildings is somewhat over reaching. A no smoking sign on the entrance door of the building would be sufficient. Also under Violations and Penalties, Section 16.173 a, and b, the fines should be increased from \$10 and \$25 for item a, to \$50 and \$100 and for item b, to \$200 and \$250. If fines are too low, smokers may be inclined to pay the fines instead of abiding by the no

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

smoking signs. Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty seconded the proposal and all of council agreed. The proposal to make changes to Section 16.170 and Section 16.173 a, and b was passed.

Item # 10: Council Member Reports

Building and grounds given by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Mayor Herrington stated the fountain in the park pond has been repaired. He also had someone come out and take measurements for the rubber mulch to be placed in the playground area. The mulch should be in place soon. The Mayor also stated that he had some information on several fountains for the park and would like councils input on which they feel would be the best choice.

Mayor Herrington recognized Bill Watson for coming by the SCPA Bldg one day and cleaning out the entire back stairwell. Since Bill was not in attendance, Mayor Herrington asked council to please thank him when an opportunity arose.

Communications report given by: Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty

Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty gave his update in the discussion of Municode.

Grants and projects reports given by: Councilman Tom Hutto

We have received three bids for doing maintenance, upgrading the road that goes into Roxbery Park, and putting in a fifty space parking area. They came in between \$58,475 to \$67,000. Councilman Hutto asked permission from council to negotiate with the lowest bidder, which was Meeks Construction, to make sure they are on the same page. He also reminded them that we will be reimbursed 50% of each invoice by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. The upgrade on the road will provide an all weather road that will stand up with very little maintenance. The parking lot will be designed as to not having to cut down a lot of trees. A permit application has been submitted to DHEC's office of OCRM to put a float back on the existing pier head on Toogoodoo Creek. According to DHEC we do not have to get permits to place kayak/canoe launches on the other ponds because they are not an intricate part of the estrian system. A submittal has been made to the Core of Engineers as to their jurisdiction on the ponds and are waiting to find out if we have to have their permits to do the little docks and walkways to complete the trail system. As soon as we get those permits and, or you don't have to have permit decisions back we will be able to put the float out for bid. A new roof has been placed on the old shed and work has been done on the walls so that we will be able to use the existing structure to have a place for storage and equipment storage. Small trees are being taken out of the dykes so as not to cause us trouble later on during Hurricanes etc.

Financial report given by: Councilman Tommy Butler

Councilman Tommy Butler stated that last month the bank balance went down \$81,000; however we purchased a \$75,000 CD giving us a total of two \$75,000 CDs. Once the \$53,000 CD has matured we will convert that to \$75,000 as well. January 2013 we received 35% of our budget in revenues and spent 49% of our expenses. Usually the major part of our revenue comes at the latter part of the fiscal year. The Wastewater CD renewed on January 18th and the interest on that was \$3054.80. The new interest rate is .60%. All expenses are normal and customary. Through January we spent \$15,504 on Roxbery Park which is 26% of the budget for that. Overall everything looks good.

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Utilities report given by: Councilman Matt Zender

Bridge Project: Problems at pump station #1 were caused by an air plug in the force main. Two new air relief valves were installed and a higher pressure pump was temporarily installed to overcome the back pressure caused by the remaining air in the line. Because the water in the line would not force the air bubble out, Councilman Zender suggested to CPW that they temporarily provide extra water if the pump could handle the higher flow rate. He called Greg Hyder with CPW and explained the situation as well as the fact that the water was cloudy east of the bridge. Mr. Hyder said that he would take care of the flush and coordinate with David Boyert with Clearwater next week. The other problem is movement, it takes 20 days to move the water from pump station #1 to pump station #4, during that time it is breaking down the affluent and is producing Hydrogen Sulfate which turns into Sulfuric Acid when exposed to air, which in turn burns out the insides of the tank, pipes and everything down the line to stations 5, 6 & 7. It was suggested that we could flush the line every day with 20,000 gallons of water, this will cost about \$260 a day so that won't work, too expensive. Councilman Hutto mentioned that CPW maintained the Meggett and Hollywood sewer systems until just over two years ago, so there may be some negotiations here.

Gene McCall of Clearwater told Councilman Zender that he would talk with Siemans who supply Chemical Acid Metering Systems and work with Charleston County also. Siemans is not use to working with something that takes 20 days to come from one end to the other, so they have not come up with a solution. We have a bad design that was based on 1000 houses in 1985. Councilman Zender asked Gene McCall how much damage was done to pump station #4, he said about \$60,000. He further stated they had put in \$60,000 worth of repairs on 5 and 6, they have not started on 7 yet, which will cost around \$20,000. Mayor Herrington ask how long does it take affluent to get from Hollywood's system to Charleston. Matt said he did not know that, however Charleston County is having a lot of problems with pump station #77. Mayor Herrington also asked how many other pumping stations are pumping into station #4. Matt said they did not go that way, there is the main line and then a 4 inch pipe comes in. Councilman Hutto stated that we should consider slip lining the pipes with a 4 inch pipe even though it is not an easy or cheap thing to do. Councilman Zender had mentioned this to Gene McCall and he said that could be a solution but you would destroy the eight inch pipe. Councilman Tommy Butler asks if there was any way we could tie into the Petersfield line to get the flow. Matt said that you are talking 100 gallons a day, we need thousands. Council is a little confused as to why this has all of a sudden come up and does not want all of the responsibility to be placed on Meggett. Gene McCall says he does not know how much is Meggetts fault and others fault. Tom Hutto stated Gene McCall needs to be sure about his conclusions before he draws them where fault is concerned. He is aware we have partial responsibility but our system was not completed until 1995, Hollywood's has been around since 1985. We must be cautious in our accusations and the town's acceptance of fault.

In addition to the problems at the pump station, the Isolation Valve must be replaced. The current valve is rusted and cannot be opened, it is below the ground. The new valve will be placed above ground for easy maintenance and replacement. Cost for this project has not been determined at this time by B&C Utilities.

Sewer Taps: Councilman Zender asked Attorney Andy Gowder if we should just give up on the bank or write them a letter letting them know the taps are useless to them. Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty suggested Andy send an email or letter just asking what their position on the sewer taps are. Attorney Gowder said his last contact with the bank is that they have decided not to decide. Also he has not gotten return phone calls on follow up calls at the request of council. Attorney Gowder further stated he would be happy to send another letter if that is what council wants him to do.

Councilman Hutto mentioned that there had been water covering Toogoodoo Rd after the heavy rains and asked Councilman Zender if he would look into getting these ditches cleaned out. This is more of a ditch issue than a drainage issue. Matt stated that he would contact Robert Clark in reference to this.

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Councilman Zender discussed a shelter that could be placed over the water faucets in Hollywood that is relatively inexpensive and would make it easier for residents to get their water. He suggested we discuss this at the St Paul's Alliance meeting.

After Councilman Zenders report, Mayor Herrington recognized Morris Glunth and Elaine King, who recently purchased a piece of property on Ethel Post Office Rd. which was previously owned by Ryan and Denise Smoak.

Item # 11: Mayor's Salary

Mayor Buster Herrington excused himself from this portion of the meeting so that council could talk freely about a possible raise in salary for the Mayor.

Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty stated that he has wanted to bring this before council even before Buster became Mayor. He feels our Mayors salary should be in line with other Mayors that perform these types of duties. In the past there was not a lot going on in Meggett, however now there is and Buster is more like an employee of the town. Keith stated he would like the Mayor's salary to be somewhere between Hollywood's and Ravenel's. He further stated the request for a raise in the Mayor's salary did not come from Mayor Herrington but was his idea. Councilman Hutto agreed with the Mayor Pro-tem and stated that our Mayor takes on a more active role and acts as the CEO of the town. Councilman Hutto went on to explain the three different forms of government and the Mayors role in each as well as some discussion on the Mayors and Administrators around the Charleston area and their salaries. Mayor Pro-tem McCarty said he was thinking of around \$15,000 a year. Councilman Tommy Butler also agreed that we are busier and Mayor Herrington does take a more active role in the day to day operations. Councilman Matt Zender stated he would be in more agreement to a raise if the Mayor would set aside at least one day a week with more convenient office hours. He further stated there were meetings set up in reference to the situation on the bridge that he felt the Mayor should have attended but because they were during his working hours at his business he could not attend. Mayor Pro-tem McCarty made a motion to raise the Mayors salary to \$15,000 a year.

Motion made by: Mayor Pro-tem Keith McCarty

Seconded by: Councilman Tom Hutto

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

Opposed: Councilman Matt Zender

Motion was passed.

After the vote Mayor Herrington rejoined the meeting.

Item # 11 Public Comments

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Mayor Herrington asked if there were any comments from the public.

Resident Robert Shealy stated he is for the Smoking Ordinance but feels it is a hot topic for the people. He feels the only people that know anything about it is the people in the room at present. He further stated the residents of the town should be made aware of it in the form of a letter or newsletter. Councilman Tom Hutto said that is a great statement, and asks Ellie if she would make sure and put the Ordinance in the next newsletter. He also suggested she make phone calls to the businesses in town. Mr. Shealy also stated council should get together and agree on an amount of money that can be spent on any one project without having to notify the residents of the town. Mayor Pro-tem McCarty stated that everything council does is public knowledge. They cannot approve any spending unless it is in the budget and the Budget Workshops are advertised. The budget is available to the public on the webpage and at Town Hall.

Mayor Herrington stated that he feels we go out of our way to inform the residents of what is going on in the town. The last two newsletters we sent out have requested email addresses so that we can keep our residents informed. Some residents do not want to give out their email addresses because they do not want a lot of junk, but the Mayor assured everyone we would only send what we feel is important.

With no other comments, Mayor Herrington adjourned the meeting.

*Town of Meggett
Council Meeting Minutes*

Date: February 25, 2013

Time: 7:00PM

Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165
