

# TOWN OF MEGGETT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

*Date: March 24, 2014*

*Time: 7:00PM*

*Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165*

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

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Mayor Herrington	P	Matt Zender	A
A = Absent	Tom Hutto	A	Andy Gowder	P
P = Present	Tommy Butler	P	Ellie Brabham	P
	Keith McCarty	P		

**Prayer given by:** Mayor Buster Herrington

**Pledge led by:** Mayor Buster Herrington

*Minutes from previous meeting held on: February 24, 2014 Council Meeting*

**Motion made by:** Council Member Keith McCarty

**Seconded by:** Council Member Tommy Butler

**In Favor:** Mayor Buster Herrington  
Council Member Tommy Butler  
Council Member Keith McCarty

**Opposed:**

**Conclusion:** *Minutes were approved as written*

*Mayor Herrington introduced Jerry Rose and stated that he was going to give council a presentation on developing a new website.*

### **Jerry Rose: Website**

*Jerry introduced himself and stated that he is a Web Developer. He said he had visited the Town of Meggett's website and has a lot of ideas to make it more appealing and people friendly. His proposal includes making the site easier to navigate and improving communications with residents and town officials. Mayor Herrington said that he wants to have easier access to information with tabs. Now it is a little confusing because you have to click several times to get what you want. He also asked if we could have common sense tabs like frequently asked questions so you do not have to keep searching*

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for what you need. Jerry stated that he could add as many tabs as council needed. He added that he could make the website accessible with iphones and smart phones. Mayor Herrington asked how he would secure the website. Mr. Rose stated that he does this through antivirus programs. He would step up to SSL and have firewall come from a service provider. He also suggested a page with email for council members and a general questions page. This would benefit the municipal employees by decreasing the amount of daily phone calls. Mayor Herrington stated that he would like to be able to open forms and type into them and asked if that was something he could do for our website. Jerry stated that he can add a software program that would give the capability to fill in forms. He suggested that council consider adding Charleston County forms as well and a link to the Roxbury Park website. He also suggested a form be placed on the website for residents to sign up to receive the newsletter. Mayor Herrington asked how Municode could be added to the website. Attorney Andy Gowder stated that there would just be a link to it. Jerry agreed and stated he could add whatever links the town needed. He stated that he would update the website every year but he would train the staff to post updates and edit parts of the website. Council Member McCarthy asked what the cost would be with what he had in mind. Jerry said that he would send a cost proposal to the town, but that the town could use the current hosting to save money or he could explore other options that would be less costly. He added that he wants to help the town he lives in, so he will give us a very good rate. With no other comments or questions, Mayor Herrington thanked Jerry Rose for his presentation.

## **Low Country Leadership Charter School:**

Mayor Herrington stated that things are going exceptionally well. They are having a fund raiser they call the Gator Gala on April 5<sup>th</sup> in Charleston at St Josephs Church. The Mayor added that if anyone would like to make any type of donation or would like to go to please contact him or the school. You must RSVP to attend.

## **Council Member Reports:**

### **Building and grounds given by: Mayor Buster Herrington**

Repairs began on Wilson Road on March 11<sup>th</sup>, they have had problems with the weather but the asphalt repairs began today. He further stated that they should be finished in a couple of weeks with the weather permitting.

He asked Robert Clark if there was any news on the Meggett Creek Bridge. Robert stated that this project has been pushed closer to the end of the year. There are some issues with funding and clearing up debris. He added that estimates are being put together now.

April in Meggett festival will be on the second Saturday in April, April 12th from 10am – 3pm. The Mayor added that we are looking for a volunteer to be our Easter Bunny. He asked Ellie Brabham if she wished to add anything. Ellie stated that she was in need of volunteers.

The survey has been completed on the little blue house across the street. The Environmental Survey should be done in the next week or two and they hoped to close before the next meeting.

Mayor Herrington said that we will need to buy another fountain for the pond since he has not been able to get the one we have working or repaired. He added that fountains range in price from \$600 to one like we have for \$1600. He also said that since our aerator was stolen from the pond, he is afraid to get one that is too nice.

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Ellie Brabham stated that there is a lot of algae in the pond and would like to have something done to clean this up before the festival. The Mayor stated that they had discussed the algae and weed growth in the pond at the retreat. Council Member McCarty said that he had the name of the products to use in the pond and for Ellie to email him for the info.

The bathrooms at the cottage have been repaired, the faucets and everything have been replaced, and the hot water heater has been repaired. The Mayor stated that they have discussed some tentative rental rates for the cottage for a weekly rate and an event rate but they have not finalized any numbers yet. They are going to do a comparison on other places in the area and will do some final numbers on that.

### **Grants and projects reports given by: Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutto**

Mayor Herrington stated that Tom is not here to update us on the Grants. He added they have been working with Jody on plans for the walkway at the park which they discussed at the retreat. She submitted the final plans to the Mayor today and he will review tonight. Jody is also working on the design of the picnic shelter and has submitted two or three drawing to them. They have quotes on the price of the roof materials; stick built two by material verses post and beam style. The post and beam was too expensive so Jody is researching some other possibilities and we should have an answer on that in the next day or two.

### **Communications: Council Member Ketih McCarty**

Jerry Rose will send him a proposal for the website design he explained tonight later this week. When he gets that quote, he will have two quotes and will need one more before making that decision. Also another Web Designer will make a presentation at the next council meeting. He has had people calling wanting more information and wanting us to put a live webcam at the park so they can see what the weather conditions are and tides etc.

### **Financial report given by: Council Member Tommy Butler**

Our bank balance went down \$11,000 last month but normally our expenses exceed our revenues in the early part of the fiscal year. On the Wastewater CD we received \$1700 in interest. The CD was at .6% interest and renewed at .7%. All of the expenses were ordinary except the \$2500 land appraisal on the parcel we are considering purchasing and \$2000 earnest money on the blue house across from Town Hall. Tommy added that on the Financial Report, line 15, Infrastructure, we need to move the \$2000 earnest money down to line 31, Property Improvements.

### **Utilities report given by: Council Member Matt Zender**

Mayor Herrington stated that Council Member Zender is not in attendance to give his report, however we covered utilities under the earlier report about Wilson Rd and the Meggett Creek Bridge.

### **Public Comments:**

A resident asked where the Comcast lines are and if they were going to expand in the area. Mayor Herrington stated that the problem we have is density, we do not have enough people per square mile to make it worth Comcast's while to run it. It is very limited; it goes a bit down Toogoodoo Rd, a little ways up Wilson, and around the Town Hall area. Frontier and one of the Satellite companies are going to be the only choices right now for some residents. Mayor Herrington said that we would contact Comcast and get a map outlining where their lines run.

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*David Smoak stated that the American Legion will have a Flag Retirement ceremony at the April in Meggett Festival as well as a POW/MIA table. If anyone has flags they wish to retire to please drop them off at Town Hall or bring them the day of the festival.*

*Resident Ed Amerman asked if there was any word on the new Fire Station in Meggett. Mayor Herrington stated that he heard today that contracts had been awarded on two stations. He is assuming that is one of them and construction should begin in the next few months.*

*With no other comments, Mayor Herrington adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm .*

*Submitted by Ellie Brabham*