

TOWN OF MEGGETT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 24, 2014

Time: 7:00PM

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:	

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

Prayer given by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Pledge led by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Minutes from previous meeting held on: January 27, 2014 Council Meeting

Motion made by: Mayor Pro-tem Tom Hutto

Seconded by: Council Member Tommy Butler

In Favor: Mayor Buster Herrington
Mayor Pro-tem Tom Hutto
Council Member Tommy Butler
Council Member Matt Zender

Opposed:

Conclusion: *Minutes were approved as written*

Low Country Leadership Charter School:

Mayor Herrington stated that things are going quite well. At the official ribbon cutting he attended a few weeks ago, the ladies from the State Charter School Association were recognized. He further added that it was a wonderful event. The Mayor also said that he would be happy to take anyone interested on a tour of the school. There are 400 students enrolled from Kindergarten to ninth grade and the Letter of Intent was sent out for the next school year last month. Out of the 400 hundred sent home, 397 have been returned. Mayor Herrington also added that next year the tenth grade will be added, which will consist of two classes of twenty. Students that are already in the school can attend next year without reapplying and special consideration is given to siblings of current students. The ninth graders will be the tenth graders and basically the only openings are the few that are leaving and Kindergarten. He stated that anyone interested or having

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questions about enrollment and the waiting list should contact Melanie Jaeger or Mache Larkin through the school. The maximum capacity of the school next year will be 520.

Mayor Herrington stated that he has talked with Roberts Sign Company in reference to the town sign at the corner of Toogoodoo and Hwy 165. They will do repair on the letter part of the sign, put in four lines of print and taller posts. The cost for this will be around \$700 to \$800. Council all agreed to get this done asap.

*Mayor Herrington said that the only Commissioner that will remain on the **Election Commission** will be Dr. Richard Unger. He will contact Dr. Unger and ask if he is interested in becoming the Chairman. The Mayor stated that we need two Commissioners, if anyone is interested. Resident Jessica Pahl asked what the qualifications and duties of a Commissioner are. Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutto stated that a Commissioner has to be a resident of the Town of Meggett. We would want someone that would not be a partisan person; they may have their opinions, but would keep them to themselves. Otherwise someone may question our election. The Municipal Commissioners are only responsible for the local town elections. He further stated that one of the main duties of all of the Commissioners is to overlook the process to make sure everything is being handled properly, fairly and legally. The Chairman is usually the Commissioner that counts the votes at the end of an election and works closely with Ellie throughout the election process. Ellie Brabham added that each Commissioner spends some time during the day of the election at the Polling place. She also stated that one of the Commissioners goes to the Charleston County Voters Registration office the day of the election and picks up the Absentee Ballots.*

*The Mayor stated that the **April in Meggett Arts and Crafts Festival** is the second Saturday in April, April 12th. He added that an email and letters were sent out a few weeks ago. Mayor Herrington asked Ellie if she wished to elaborate on that. Mrs. Brabham stated that she asked in her email for ideas to make the festival better and for volunteers. Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutto stated that he had a suggestion that we should hold the festival at Roxbury Park to get the Edisto traffic. Ellie did not feel that our older residents would attend due to the long walk from the parking lot to where the event would have to be held. This maybe something we can incorporate with another event to see how it will work.*

Council Member Reports:

Building and grounds given by: Mayor Buster Herrington

The Kiosk for Roxbury Park is here and the contractor should be putting it up any day now. The plumbing supplies came in for the bathrooms at Roxbury so this work should be completed pretty quickly. The wooden file cabinets and the shelf for the closet in Town Hall are here. The tree next to the Church Flats street sign has finally been trimmed. The Mayor stated that he had repaired the fountain in the pond across the street, but it has stopped working again so he will have someone else take a look at it.

For a while we have been talking about putting rubber mulch in the playground area to make it safer for the children. Ellie applied for a grant from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, PARD for short, and they have generously awarded us \$3750.00 toward that project as well as making the current picnic shelter handicap accessible and ADA compliant. Mayor Pro Tem Hutto asked Ellie if Christain had come out to give us an estimate on the rubber matting. He added that it is manufactured in Berkeley County. He stated that gums balls can be swept off of it and ants can't get into it. If it is affordable this may be something we can consider.

Mayor Herrington stated that we had finally gotten the contract for the blue house next door on Friday and he was going to sign it today. The appraisal was \$125,000 and we are purchasing it along with another acre for \$100,000. He has a

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meeting tomorrow morning with the surveyor and Jimmy Golden who is representing the owners to do a boundary and subdivision survey of the house and the extra acre. Forsberg is the surveyors that did the surveying around the Town Hall area. The Mayor is going to talk to them about getting a price on a drainage study survey for the back lot so that once we start the project that was approved a few years ago, we will already have that in place.

Mayor Herrington talked with Susan Stevens last week in reference to the fountain that will be dedicated to Stevens Towing in the park across from Town Hall. She and the Mayor have picked out a spot for the fountain and the town is now waiting on permits to do the bore under the road. That should be done in the next couple of weeks. Mrs. Stevens said that Metal Trades just finished building them the largest barge Stevens Towing has ever owned. Mayor Herrington added that they have a lot going on right now that is very exciting. Susan will get back to the Mayor in reference to the celebration they are having later this year.

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

In reference to the LWCF grant, Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hutto said that we met with an architect earlier this week for a design for the small picnic shelter for Roxbury Park. Once the design is done, interested contractors will be able to put their bids in. The architect is also doing a design for the walkway across the pond to the peninsula at Roxbury. Mayor Pro Tem Hutto stated that there has been a lot of attendance on the weekends at Roxbury. Some have asked if maybe it should be open more often. He stated that will be discussed at the upcoming council retreat.

The town is looking at the possibility of applying for a grant for a strip of land that is very close to the town, but right outside of the town limits. It is an old railroad right-of-way that goes just behind Edisto Packers next to the Toogoodoo Creek Bridge, very close to the park; all the way to the Wildlife Refuge. We have an appraisal on it and it is relatively inexpensive. If the town obtains this, it may be something that down the road we turn over to the Wildlife Refuge.

Communications report given by: Council Member Keith McCarty

In Council Member McCarty's absence, Mayor Herrington stated that the web designers would not make their presentation until a later date. He will let council know when that is set up by Council Member McCarty.

Attorney Andy Gowder stated that the Municode vendor provided us with a draft of the updated codes. He and Council Member McCarty will review the draft and make a report to council at the March meeting.

Financial report given by: Council Member Tommy Butler

There are no out of the ordinary expenses for the month of January. The checking account went up \$34,000 and we received \$600 interest on one of the CDs. The wastewater account went up \$3400. The auditors will have the fiscal year audit for June 2012 done by March and in the future the audits will be completed within six months.

Utilities report given by: Council Member Matt Zender

Gene McCall and I are still trying to get together to go to Mt Pleasant and look at the system they have. He stated that the system is very high maintenance and still thinks he can design something that will work better.

Mayor Pro Tem Hutto asked if Matt had heard anything about Wilson Road. Council Member Zender said the contract had been awarded and they were waiting for the weather to clear up. It will probably be in April. He also added that the work on the bridge will begin sometime in July. Mayor Herrington stated that he has gotten numerous calls and emails in

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reference to where someone can send DOT a bill for damage to their car. He asked Council Member Zender to look into that.

Mayor Herrington also mentioned that a crew came out today and removed the large pole at Rentz's.

Council Member Tommy Butler asked if we were going to do a litter pickup this year. Mayor Herrington stated that he had seen the prisoners picking up litter in Hollywood and would like to get on their schedule. He does however want to have a litter pickup in late April.

Public Comments:

A resident asked why the minutes that were distributed at the meeting were the November minutes. Mayor Herrington stated that we have changed the way we distribute the minutes because we had been distributing unapproved minutes. The November minutes are the last set that has been approved since we did not have a meeting in December. Going forward we will not distribute the minutes until after they have been approved by council. Residents may come by Town Hall the day after the meeting if the minutes are approved as written and pick them up or check the website for updated minutes.

With no other comments, Mayor Herrington adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Ellie Brabham