



**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:30 P.M., Tuesday, July 19, 2022
Bennettsville Public Safety Complex**

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Prince
2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Tyrone Davis
3. ROLL CALL
Mayor stated all are in attendance with the exception of Jean Quick. Shortly after, Ms. Quick entered the meeting.
4. APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES
 - A. Regular Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 21, 2022-Mr. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes for Regular Council Meeting; Tuesday, June 21, 2022. Mr. Abraham seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
*A motion was made by Mr. Taylor to add an Executive Session to receive legal advice after number 12. Mr. Davis seconded. Mayor Prince voted no, 5 carries.
5. PUBLIC REQUESTS/ PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS
 - A. Employee Anniversaries-None
 - B. Annual Employee Anniversaries-Brantley Douglas, Gas, 7 years; Chester Polson, Planning & Zoning, 9 years; Johnny Roscoe, Water & Sewer, 8 years; William Parrish, Fire, 4 years; Charmonique Breeden, Utility Billing, 3 years; Robert Hale, Police, 3 years; William Lackey, Electric Distribution, 1 year
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS
Deacon Willie Bright- stated that the grass needed to be cut in his area. He resides on Amelia Street, and it has been a lot of shooting going on near his property. A bullet went through his “man cave” last year and the year before last a bullet went through his house. He spoke with the Chief about all of the bad things that are happening in his area. He went on saying that the area needs better lighting. The bullets are coming from Riley Street, where it is said a gang by the name of “Ground Zero” is hanging around. Lastly, he stated, “if some of the houses can be torn down and replaced with better lighting and security cameras the neighborhood would probably little safer. He thanked Council Jean Quick & Tyron Abraham for all their help.
Pamela Best- Stated she feel as if areas are being ignored. She then went on showing Mayor & Council current photos of animals that are not properly taken care of. Lastly, she read an ordinance stating that, “running at large all dogs that are upon any of the public streets, highways, or public places, or upon private property owned by persons other than the owner or custodian of dogs shall be deemed to be running loose or to be at large within the meaning of this subchapter. Nuisances: female dogs in heat that attracts males because they become aggressive, and they fight each other. She went on stating that barking dogs; nuisance can’t have a dog that habitually barks. Restraint, Disposal of Fecal Material Required- every person owing or having charge, care, custody or control of any dog shall keep the dog exclusively upon his own premises secured by a fence no smaller than ten feet by ten feet for one dog, and an increase of 25 square feet for each additional dog giving the dog adequate space for exercise and without at any time being fasted, chained or tied while such dog is on the owner’s own property. It’s dangerous!”
Crystal Huntley-stated she was just reiterating on what Pamela Best was speaking on. Went on saying that she’s asking for accountability. People all over the town has different issues and she feels as if nothing is being done. She just wants accountability. Lastly, she wanted to use the remainder of her time for silence.
Nan Fleming & Pearlie Lawson -Presented Jaharra Graves and Chief Miller with a certificate because each county government was asking for help just to send people, give some kind of donations, anything to make the task easier for citizens to come and be vaccinated. The Community Center was made available every time they asked for a place to set up. They both

were very thankful.

Pearlie Lawson-stated she want to work together and share ideas, so that the County and City can come together and get things done. She is very concerned about Marlboro County and what is going on.

7. SECOND READING AND PASSAGE IN FULL OF ORDINANCES
No Business

8. FIRST READING AND ADVERTISEMENT OF ORDINANCES
No Business

9. PASSAGE OF RESOLUTIONS
No Business

10. GENERAL BUSINESS DISPENSED BY MOTION

A. 5 -Year Capital Plan- City Administrator Max Alderman discussed the updated 5 -Year Capital Plan for General and Enterprise Funds, which included possible projects from every department in the city. He gave examples such as, upgrades for Recreation Department, a drone for Police Department; improvements to the Northside Fire Department; a leaf machine & side mower for Public Works Department. Funding sources included ARPA Funds, Community Facilities Grants from USDA, and lease purchases. Alderman stated that once approved, City Officials could start applying for grants and putting projects together. Mayor Prince stated none of the projects will happen without being approved by Council. “We call it a working document,” she said. “It is not yet etched in stone.”

Mayor Prince entertained a motion to approve updated 5- Year Capital Plan for FY 2022-2023. Moved by Taylor. Seconded by Abraham. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Lot Cleaning Contract-Holly Swann- stated that the grass cutting was caught up, but about 20 lots needed extra attention. Those lots have severely overgrown. Swann mentioned bidding out the lots for several different estimates. For example, a lot on Jennings Steet has gotten to the point that Public Works can't cut it because they do not have the equipment. That's when the bidders come in. After some discussion, and motions being resend. Council agreed to have a Special Call Meeting at 6:30 PM on August 9, 2022. This will allow Holly Swann time to get some quotes and to have a review of ordinances for lot clearing.

11. REPORTS AND INFORMATION PRESENTATION

A. GPS Public Works Department- Bill Parrish-updated Council on the cost of getting GPS trackers on some of the department vehicles. Parrish gave a quote for a basic GPS tracker service through Verizon at a \$20 cost per vehicle. Additional features could increase up to \$40 per vehicle. He suggested that 4-5 vehicles for starting. Council Abraham felt as if he should stick with the basic level. Council Taylor asked how many vehicles did Public Works have? Parrish replied, 15-20 in his department.

12. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CITY COUNCIL AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR
August 9, 2022, Special Meeting

*Executive Session to discuss legal matter. Moved by Davis. Seconded by Taylor. Council came back from Executive Session. Moved by Mr. Davis. Seconded by Mr. Scott. No decisions were made. No votes were taken.

13. NON-AGENDA ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

Mr. Davis thanked all Employees & Department Heads.

Mr. Scott thanked the city for sending Council to the Annual Meeting. It was a great event. He met different people and received ideas from others, which will try to help our city grow.

Mayor Prince stated that she'll have Mr. Alderman try and setup something with the City, County, Marlboro County School District and SCDOT, so that we can have a forum.

14. ADJOURN
Mayor Prince

Public Comment Policy:

Citizens desiring to speak at any regular meeting must provide a written request to notify the City Clerk prior to the agenda deadline. Citizens interested in commenting at a regular meeting, shall sign in to speak and limit comments to no more than 3 minutes.

Mission Statement:

To utilize all available resources for the development of plans, programs, and projects to improve services to the citizens of Bennettsville and establish and maintain an active role in economic and community development.