

**Town Council Meeting Minutes**  
**North Town Hall**  
**April 8, 2019**

Mayor Carson called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Councilmembers Cook, Jackson, Jones and Williams.

- Mayor Carson declared a quorum and welcomed visitors.
- Mayor Carson then led Council and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Councilmember Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2019, Council meeting. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion and upon vote the minutes were approved unanimously.

**POLICE REPORT:**

- Chief Shirer was unable to attend the Council meeting, but Officer Anita Chestnut joined the meeting in progress.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Council reviewed the account statement for February, 2019. Councilmember Cook asked if the increase in the checking account was due to the receipt of Penny Sales Tax Funds. Mayor Carson answered that it was. Mayor Carson also stated that the accounts were only FDIC insured up to \$250,000, in total, at First Citizens. She made a suggestion that the Town open up accounts at other financial institutions.
- Council held the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2019-01, an ordinance amending the Business License Ordinance adopted by North Town Council in June, 2018. Ordinance 2019-01 would amend the business license ordinance to remove the doubling for out of town customers. Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the amendment to the Business License Ordinance 2019-01. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and upon vote the amendment to the Ordinance was approved unanimously.
- Council discussed Resolution 2019-02, a resolution committing the Town of North to providing a local match for a PARD grant. Mayor Carson explained that she had applied for and received a PARD grant for \$40,000 that required a 20% match of \$10,000. Mayor Carson announced that the grant would be used to build a Veteran's Memorial Park. Mayor Carson stated that she had written the grant in October 2018 and had received a call recently that it was approved. Councilmember Jones asked if Mayor Carson had any drawings. Mayor Carson stated that she did and planned to present them during the Mayor's report. Councilmember Cook asked where the remaining \$3,700 would come from. Mayor Carson stated that it would come from the savings account. Councilmember Jackson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-02, a resolution committing the Town of North to providing a local match for a PARD grant. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion and upon vote the Resolution was approved unanimously.
- Council discussed a contract for turnkey pond management at the waste water treatment plant. Mayor Carson explained that the duck weed at the sewer plant is going to require someone with pond management expertise. She said that the contract would cost \$350 per month and that the Town did not have the expertise in house for pond management. Councilmember Cook asked if the company would come twice a month during the warmer months. Mayor Carson answered that they would and she added that a turnkey contract would include all necessary chemicals. Councilmember Williams asked if that was the only contract the Town has received. Mayor Carson answered that another company she had approached was not interested in bidding. Councilmember Cook asked if the company was insured and meet DHEC standards. Mayor Carson answered that it was insured and that she did not know if the company was required to report to DHEC. Councilmember Cook made a motion to accept the contract from Estate Management Services for turnkey pond management at the waste water treatment plant. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion. Mayor Carson voted in favor of the motion and Councilmember Jones and Councilmember Williams refrained from voting.

- Council discussed the appointment of Cynthia Drew and the removal of Cecil Knotts from the planning commission. Mrs. Drew had volunteered to serve on the planning commission. Mr. Knotts did not complete the required training and therefore was not eligible to remain on the commission. Mayor Carson made a motion to appoint Cynthia Drew and remove Cecil Knotts from the Planning Commission. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion and upon vote the motion was approved unanimously.

#### MAYOR'S REPORT (attached)

- Mayor Carson asked Council if they had turned in their street signs list to Councilmember Jones. No one had done so. Mayor Carson reminded the public that Orangeburg County is having a community cleanup on April 27, 2019 and that Councilmembers Cook and Jones were coordinating a cleanup in North.
- Mayor Carson announced that she was honored to present plans for a Veteran's Memorial Park in North. She stated that the park was a joint venture between County Councilmember Heyward Livingston and the Town of North. The Mayor showed a group of veterans present at the Council meeting an architect's rendering of the plans for the park and passed the rendering along amongst Council. Mayor Carson explained that the land behind Town Hall was shown on GIS mapping as owned by the railroad, but after she contacted the railroad, she discovered that the Town owned the land. Mayor Carson located the deed for the land that was never properly recorded. Mayor Carson said that Veteran's Memorial Park would include all branches of service and be in honor and memory of the men and women that served in our armed forces. Mr. Wallace Gleaton, a resident of North and Commander of the North Veteran's group, spoke on behalf of the Veteran's group present at the Council meeting. Mr. Gleaton stated that it was wonderful to see the Town of North representing the veterans with the memorial. He said the he did not have the words to express how thankful the veterans were to the Mayor and that he looked forward to taking his grandchildren to the memorial. Mayor Carson stated that the landscape architect and project manager, Mr. Patrick Livingston, was a native of North. Mayor Carson said there would be trees, pavers and benches available for purchase that could be engraved with a veteran's name on them. She said that the pavers would have 3 lines of text and would be sold for \$100 each. She said that the park benches could be purchased in a veteran's name for \$1000 each. She also said that trees for the park would range from \$75-\$100.

#### COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Councilmember Jones stated that he would have to look into other options for purchasing a generator since going through the LSCOG was not going to work out. Mayor Carson also mentioned that as Council was gathering names for street sign replacement to send the same list to Jones to have the storm drains cleaned. Carson gave Jones the name and email address for DOT.
- Councilmember Jackson stated that he had no new updates.
- Councilmember Cook stated that she is looking into a grant for the farmers market that has an application deadline in May.
- Councilmember Williams stated that she was still working on the Opportunity Zone project.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- At 7:50 pm Councilmember Jones made a motion to move into executive session to discuss contractual matters with Silver Springs water district and Bull Swamp Rural Water. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and upon vote it was approved unanimously. Russell Ott interrupted Council by asking to speak before they entered into Executive Session. His request was denied by Carson. At 8:19pm Council returned from executive session. No decisions were made and no votes were taken. Councilmember Cook made a motion to have the well on Highway 321 repaired to optimal operating performance as soon as possible. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion and upon vote the motion was approved unanimously.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS (written request)

- There were no written requests for public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS per sign-in sheet (3 minutes)

- Four people had requested to speak per the sign in sheet, but topics were not listed.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mayor Carson asked for a motion to adjourn. Russell Ott asked if he could address Council. Mayor Carson reminded him that he had not listed a topic on the sign in sheet. Councilmember Williams made a motion to let Mr. Ott speak. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion, Councilmember Cook and Councilmember Jackson voted in favor of letting Mr. Ott speak. Mayor Carson voted in opposition. Mr. Ott stated that he wanted to speak in front of the veterans. Mr. Ott also said that he wanted Council to reconsider the paperless billing of water bills. Mayor Carson stated that Mr. Ott was only allowed to speak on one topic but he continued. Ott told Carson: "What's your problem – this is not your town!"
- There being no further business Councilmember Cook made a motion to adjourn the Council meeting. Mayor Carson seconded the motion and upon vote was unanimously approved.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 13, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Culler  
Town Clerk

Mayor Patty Carson:

Patty Carson

Council Members:

Julius Jones:

ABSENT

Daniel Jackson:

ABSENT

Deborah Cook:

Deborah Cook

Jennifer Williams:

Jennifer Williams