

Springfield Council Meeting
January 6, 2014
7:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P. M. with the Mayor and all council members present.

The December minutes were read. Council member Lee made a motion to accept the December minutes and Council member Cooper 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands.

The December financials were read. Council member Lee made a motion to accept the December financials and Council member Cooper 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands.

Mayor McCormick welcomed everyone to the meeting. She told all the council members she appreciated them working with her and it was a blessing and pleasure that everyone had gotten along well. The Mayor thanked outgoing Council member Lee for her service. Council member Lee said being on the council was not an easy job, but an educational one. She then challenged anyone who thinks differently to run for the office. Mayor McCormick asked newly elected Council members Josie Williams and Olin Williams to come forward and asked Judge Morrone to administer the Oath of Office to the Mayor and all Council members. Judge Morrone encouraged everyone to make the town shine by helping and working together to resolve problems without mudslinging. He then administered the Oath of Office to Mayor McCormick, Council members Victor Cooper, Bill Temples, Josie Williams and Olin Williams. The Mayor thanked Judge Morrone and said she looks forward to the next two years. She thanked everyone for coming to the meeting even though the weather was bad. Mayor McCormick appointed Council member Victor Cooper to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem as he had received the most votes in the election. Council member Cooper accepted the position. She said Hugh Fort would remain a department head as well as Chief of Police Terry Logan. The Mayor asked Council member Temples to head the maintenance of the town's buildings. She asked that all Council members work as a team. Mayor McCormick asked everyone to remember the families of Reba White and Breanna "Sunshine" Williams for their losses. She also asked to remember Roy Cooper, Joyce Bolin, Burley Huffman and anyone else that is or has been sick. The Mayor requested that everyone check on their neighbors, especially the elderly, due to the severely cold weather. She said if anyone knew of someone needing heat or possibly a place to stay to contact the town hall or Chief Logan. Mayor McCormick announced the first Frog Jump meeting would be held January 21st at 6:30 P. M. She stated she had not gotten a response from Mrs. Hattie Wood's family about holding a dedication ceremony honoring Mrs. Wood by naming the Senior Citizens Center after her. Mayor McCormick concluded saying money should be coming in soon from the county as well as franchise checks.

Chief Terry Logan gave the Yearly Police Department report. He asked to be notified of anyone needing a heater or to be checked on. Chief Logan said Officer White had suggested developing a contact list for senior citizens or anyone needing to be checked on and they are in the process of doing this. He thanked everyone for their donations to the toy drive for the children at the Augusta Burn Center. The Chief said pictures taken at the Burn Center would be posted on the town's website. He said complaints had been received about individuals knocking on doors and asking for money. Chief Logan advised everyone not to answer their door if they did not know the person and to call 911.

He added that in the past there had been some confusion with Orangeburg Dispatch contacting him in an emergency situation. Chief Logan said he has spoken with them and he should be contacted day or night if something is reported in the town. Council member Olin Williams said he had called 911 before and was told no Springfield officer was on duty. Chief Logan said they should have called and did not know why Council member Williams was told that, but if a call is not received from 911 nothing can be done.

Council member Cooper said a decision needed to be made concerning trees in town that needed to be removed or trimmed so bids could be gotten for the work. He said this needed to be done before damage was done to someone or their property. Council member Cooper said SCDOT and SCE&G are working with the town and if the tree is on the right-of-way SCDOT has the final say. He added that SCDOT will cut the tree down but if the tree needs a trim the town will have to cover the cost. Council member Cooper said even though it was not a town issue he encouraged everyone to attend the SC DHEC meeting January 7 at 6:30 P. M. at the Aiken Co-op. on Wagener Road in Aiken. He said the meeting would be concerning the draining of water to be done at the south fork of the Edisto River and additional information could be looked up on facebook under Edisto Concerns. Council member Cooper said Senator Brad Hutto, Bakari Sellers and Lonnie Hosey are very involved in this matter and asked everyone to call, e-mail or write a letter about this. He added that people could also e-mail or write the Governor a letter.

Council member Temples agreed with Council member Cooper about the removal and trimming of the town's trees. He said the town did not need to get someone to look at them who is an over-zealous contractor.

Council member Josie Williams asked Mayor McCormick if she and council had received a letter concerning renting the old town hall. Mayor McCormick said the letter was received and due to black mold being discovered during a termite inspection the building is not rentable now. She added the building will have to be treated.

Council member Olin Williams thanked everyone for their votes and asked Mayor McCormick if the town runs under a strong Mayor. Mayor McCormick said the town has a strong Mayor government.

Mrs. Sylvia Hiers reported the Springfield Garden Club will hold a spaghetti supper and bingo night March 8 at 5 P. M. She also announced the first bluegrass event would be held at the high school January 11. Mrs. Hiers said food would be available beginning at 5 P. M. and music would start at 6 P. M. She named several places tickets could be purchased and added that this event would be dedicated to the late Mrs. Reba White and her husband Francis who had given \$60,000.00 toward the school's restoration. Mrs. Hiers said a country Christmas supper is still being planned and hopes to have the Mennonite Choir perform.

Springfield Branch Librarian, Mrs. Linda Stutts, reported she had attended a meeting in Orangeburg and was told the fax machines have arrived. She said the first one would be installed in the Orangeburg Library but was not sure when Springfield would get theirs. Mrs. Stutts concluded saying people have been using the computers in the library but book circulation is down.

Mayor McCormick stated she would like to have someone from the Springfield Fire Department attend the council meeting monthly or quarterly to give a report. Council member Cooper said he would check on this.

Council member Cooper asked about scheduling an ordinance workshop. Council member Olin Williams said he would need the date to notify his job so he would be able to attend. Mayor McCormick said she would get with the council to decide on a date when everyone would be available.

Mayor McCormick announced the next council meeting would be February 3.

Public Comments:

Several residents said there were holes in roads around town. Mayor McCormick said these holes were there due to water repairs and dirt had been put on them many times in the past but she would see that maintenance put more dirt on them.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 7:59 P. M.