

Springfield Council Meeting  
January 5, 2015  
7:00 PM

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

Mayor McCormick amended the agenda stating she had been contacted by the president of the Springfield Garden Club requesting the garden club be removed from the agenda. She said a spokesperson would notify the town in writing in the future if the garden club needs to be on the agenda.

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

The December financials were read. Council member Cooper made a motion to accept the December financials. Council member Temples 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All agreed with a show of hands except Council members Lackey and Williams. Mayor McCormick said the financials are as they stand. Council member Lackey said she had a question about the financials. Mayor McCormick told her she was following the agenda. The Mayor told Council member Lackey she had made a phone call to her that same day and asked her if she had any questions explaining to her the meeting would be kept in a business- like manner. Mayor McCormick said Council member Lackey told her she did not care to speak to her about anything which the Mayor said she has in writing and signed by all council. The Mayor asked the rest of the council members if they had any problem with the financials. They said they did not. Council member Olin Williams said he had come to the town hall that afternoon and talked to Mayor McCormick and had his questions answered.

Mayor McCormick asked for thoughts and prayers for Mr. Robert Kitchens, Mrs. Joyce Bolin and Mrs. Diane Still. She asked everyone to check on the senior citizens during the upcoming cold weather as well as any animals or anyone that may need help. The Mayor said to notify the town hall concerning this. Mayor McCormick thanked the maintenance department for doing a great job making the town look wonderful. She said Serv-Pro called and would be contacting the town in the next week to schedule the mold clean up at the old town hall.

Officer Robert White gave the Police Department report.

Council member Cooper said he and Council member Temples had talked about the roof repairs needed at the Senior Citizens Center and hopes the repairs can be done by the town.

Council member Lackey said she had printed information out to distribute about the coring of the tree in the middle of town and determining if it is dead. Officer White passed out the information to residents. Council member Cooper asked her if she talked to an arborist. Council member Lackey said yes she had and she had also gotten information on line from several different states and their opinions were basically the same. She said she felt the tree should not be cut down.

Council member Williams said the repairs on the pot hole on Louisiana Street looked good.

Mrs. Sylvia Hiers said the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue Grass event would be January 17 and all the information would be on the town's website. She said the proceeds would go to the Springfield High School restoration project and the money would be ear marked to make repairs to the auditorium wall. Mrs. Hiers also thanked the bluegrass musicians who donated their time to work on the acoustics problems in the auditorium. Council member Williams asked if tickets were available. Mrs. Hiers said hopefully they would be ready Tuesday, January 6. She also read out the places the tickets could be purchased. Mrs. Hiers said she wanted to make the town aware of damage found in the auditorium if there may be upcoming rentals scheduled by the town.

Council member Temples read aloud a section from the Municipal Association book concerning criticizing employees. He said all council members should remember this. He said at the last meeting a discussion was held about doing work on a building for victim's rights and he wanted to say it was the Mayor's idea to do this and he would be helping her. Council member Temples said he thinks the police officers are doing a fantastic job and everyone should try to support and help them. He added that they deserve a lot of recognition for what they do. Council member Temples said he and Council member Cooper are going to take a closer look at the tree in the middle of town. He said he did not want to see it take out the town drug store or fall on a car with people or children in it. He said he and Council member Cooper are looking into getting an expert opinion about the tree needing to come down or not and hope to have an answer at the next council meeting.

Council member Cooper recognized Colby Hosey who is working for the town's maintenance department. He said Colby has been a tremendous asset to the town. Mayor McCormick told him he is appreciated and thanked him for his work.

Frog Jump Chairman Lloyd Morgan said a Frog Jump meeting would be held Tuesday, January 13 beginning at 6:30 P. M. at the town hall.

#### Public Comments:

A resident had several questions about some expenses on the financials. Mayor McCormick told the resident she would have an answer for them at the next council meeting. The same resident asked about the penny money for the town. Mayor McCormick told the resident she had announced in prior council meetings that she has been in contact with County Administrator Harold Young about when the funds would hopefully be released. She told the resident she would be glad to show them a breakdown of what the money could be used for.

A resident asked about the big difference in the money on the bids to clean the mold from the old town hall and if the bids had been looked at in detail. Mayor McCormick said they were looked at in detail and it was voted on to go with Serv-Pro. Council member Cooper said the big difference in the bids was the charge for a vapor barrier and this could be done by the town.

A resident wanted to know if the question about the tree in the middle of town is if it's dead or not or safe or not. The resident said they did not want to see the tree taken down either but doesn't want to see anyone get hurt. Council member Cooper said the question is whether the tree is safe or not.

A resident said there are buildings in town that they were afraid would fall on someone before the tree. Council member Cooper and Mayor McCormick explained that the buildings were privately owned and Orangeburg County has been notified concerning them. Mayor McCormick added that the resident was welcome to contact the county as well.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 7:39 P. M.