

Springfield Council Meeting
November 2, 2015
7:00 PM

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

The October Public Hearing minutes were read. Council member Cooper made a motion to accept the minutes and Council member Temples 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands.

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

Mayor McCormick asked if any council members had any questions or comments about the October financials. Council member Lackey asked if the SCE&G franchise fee money received was remitted to SCE&G. Mayor McCormick said it was. Council member Lackey asked if the insurance claim money received was for the fire hydrant that was damaged. Mayor McCormick said it was. There being no other questions or comments Council member Temples made a motion to accept the financials and Council member Cooper 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands with the exception of Council member Williams and Council member Lackey.

Mayor McCormick said she appreciated everyone coming out to the council meeting. She asked for thoughts and prayers for the Burtell Corbitt family and J. D. Bledsoe who has suffered a stroke. She asked everyone to continue to remember the flood victims and added that assistance from the town for the victims is continuing. The Mayor said if anyone had any questions concerning this to contact the town hall. She read aloud a letter from the Town of Norway inviting the Town of Springfield to participate in their Christmas parade and tree lighting December 13. Mayor McCormick gave an update concerning questions and talk about Springfield's SCE&G bill. She said the balance on the bill is not \$60,000.00 but the correct amount is \$30,478.26. The Mayor also gave a breakdown of the victims rights money owed which was \$8,423.78. She said thus far \$3,983.94 has been paid leaving a balance of \$4,439.84 which is to be paid by July 2016. Mayor McCormick said to answer a question from the last council meeting \$15,960.70 were the funds received last fiscal year not \$12,000.00 and the town has already received \$3,324.03 this year. She said work is still being done on the budget and only a few people have stopped by to go over it. The Mayor said budget workshops have been planned but could not be done when only one or two people show up. She read aloud a letter received from SOVA informing her that the ninety day follow up victims assistance review would be scheduled at a later date. She encouraged everyone to vote in the November 3rd election.

Chief Logan gave the Police Department report. He said collection boxes are all over town for toys to go to the Augusta Burn Center children and asked everyone to participate in this project. The Chief said a trip to the Riverbanks Zoo is scheduled for the Our Town Our Kids program. He asked everyone to keep J. D. Bledsoe from Salley in their prayers who recently suffered a stroke. Chief Logan said he plans to have a fundraiser for town employee Colby Hosey who also suffered a stroke several months ago. Mayor McCormick said a softball tournament was also planned for him but due to scheduling, illnesses and other things it has not happened yet.

The Chief said Officer Denise Williams was sworn in as a Springfield police officer but was not able to report to work after having a stroke. He said all equipment issued to her has been returned to the department. Chief Logan said he cooked food for the senior citizens and it went well. He said the Police Department would be assisting the Town of Norway with traffic control at their Christmas parade as well as the December 6 tree lighting in Springfield. Council member Williams asked if anything can be done about people going in abandoned houses. Chief Logan said they have received reports concerning this and they will be checking. Council member Cooper asked when Chief Logan would be doing the fundraiser for Colby Hosey. The Chief said he was not sure but it would be soon. Council member Cooper said he would be glad to help. Mayor McCormick suggested checking with local businesses and grocery stores for help also.

Mrs. Sylvia Hiers said Springfield Defends Fruitcake would be held November 14 and asked Chief Logan not to schedule the fundraiser for Colby Hosey near the fruitcake event because it raises money to repair the school. She said the Country Christmas Supper will be December 12. Mrs. Hiers said letters have been sent to all the Orangeburg county mayors about the fruitcake event and some of them submit a fruitcake. She asked that Springfield be represented by submitting a bought or baked fruitcake. Mrs. Hiers said there is damage to the tile wall in the boy's bathroom at the school and the money raised from events will go toward such repairs. Council member Lackey asked if a property check is being done at the school by Chief Logan. Mrs. Hiers said he is doing this. Mayor McCormick asked Mrs. Hiers if she had gotten the things for the museum at the school donated by Mr. Varn with Enterprise Bank. Mrs. Hiers said Mrs. Joyce Bolin told her there were some boxes of books on the floor at the school and she got one of the town employees to take them upstairs but she did not know anything about it. She said she would like to thank him when she finds out what was given.

Public Comments:

A citizen asked where the three benches are that were in the memorial park. Chief Logan said they had been stolen. The citizen said things like that need to be put inside the livery stable. Council member Cooper said the maintenance department was instructed to put them in the livery stable and right after that is when Colby Hosey had his stroke making one less maintenance worker.

A resident questioned payments to the victims rights fund. Mayor McCormick said there is a break down list and she would be glad to get that for them with the exact amount for them to pick up. The same resident said Mrs. Hiers had said she wanted to do a grant for the gym in the last council meeting but it was not discussed. Mayor McCormick asked Mrs. Hiers if she had paperwork on this. Mrs. Hiers said she does have paperwork to present to the mayor and council. Mayor McCormick asked if there was a take on this. Council member Williams said he felt they should move forward on the grant. Mrs. Hiers asked if there is penny money to match the grant. Mayor McCormick said the county holds the penny money and it has to be requested with the proper paperwork. Mrs. Hiers said when she did the first grant on this she gave a copy to the town. Council member Lackey made a motion that Mrs. Hiers be allowed to go forward getting the grant for the gym. Council member Williams 2nd the motion. All agreed with a show of hands. Mayor McCormick asked Mrs. Hiers to get the paperwork to her and council.

Mrs. Hiers said they already have the paperwork. Council member Cooper said it probably needs to be updated and current. Council member Lackey asked Mrs. Hiers to resubmit the copy of the grant. Mrs. Hiers said the deadline to do the grant is November 20. She said she needed to know how much money she needed to ask for. Mayor McCormick said a request would be sent to the county to find out an exact figure that is available. Mayor McCormick said she would let her know how much is available when the information is received. Mrs. Hiers said she received an e-mail from the state about the grant. Mayor McCormick asked Mrs. Hiers if she would forward it to the town hall. Mrs. Hiers said she would give the address to the town and a copy could be requested.

A resident asked if the franchise fee check received from SCE&G was sent back to them as a payment. Mayor McCormick said this is self-explanatory. The same resident questioned the monthly amount being paid to AT&T. The resident said the amount is ludicrous and a better rate can be gotten. The resident asked several back to back questions concerning the 2013-2014 audit. Mayor McCormick said she did not have the figures being thrown at her in front of her at that time but would be glad to sit down and go over it with them. The Mayor thanked the resident for their concern and added that the meeting is a public meeting and not an attack or downgrade on the Town of Springfield. Mayor McCormick said on numerous occasions in the past she had sat down with the resident and been able to go over figures.

With no other business the meeting adjourned at 7:45 P. M.