



# MINUTES

Town Council Work Session  
Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm  
2915 Platt Springs Road, Springdale, SC 29170

The media and public were duly notified of the date, time, and place of this meeting. A quorum was present.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Juston Ricard, Councilmembers Fecas, Hallman, Reeley, Wilbourne, and Hook.

COUNCIL ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Jacob Wilkerson.

STAFF PRESENT: Town Administrator Ashley Watkins, Municipal Clerk Leeann Eden, Chief of Police Andrew “Bear” Richbourg, Police Captain Chris Manuel, and Attorney Sierra Carini.

## 1. Call to Order

Mayor Ricard called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Councilmember Hallman provided the invocation, and Mayor Ricard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 2. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda

Council unanimously approved the agenda for the August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Work Session.

## 3. Items for Discussion

A. Informative Code Enforcement Document for Residents. Informative Code Enforcement Document for Residents. Council discussed the pamphlet created from the work of Councilmembers Fecas and Hallman, and Administrator Watkins to inform residents of Code Enforcement issues.

Councilmember Fecas complimented the finished product, stating that she was impressed with the professional appearance of the document. She expressed hope that the pamphlet will improve how Code Enforcement is received by residents. Mayor Ricard stated that the document looked great. Administrator Watkins informed Council that staff would soon begin the work of printing, folding, and mailing the pamphlets.

B. Vacant and Abandoned Properties. Mayor Ricard reviewed an article in the Municipal Association’s Uptown publication concerning vacant and abandoned properties. Council discussed ways to address concerns with these properties, including drafting an ordinance that regulates a timeframe and processes an owner must comply with to ensure the property meets the property maintenance code after notice has been posted. Councilmember Wilbourne stated that while he understands the need for the property maintenance code, he disagrees with telling people exactly what they can do with their property.

C. Police Reform. Councilmember Fecas discussed sessions at the recent MASC Annual Meeting concerning police reform. At the last Council meeting, she requested Chief Richbourg provide an update on the Department’s response to new legislation, and a general update on the department. Chief Richbourg discussed police reform with Council. He stated that new legislation, and minimum standards and policies have been implemented, and the Department met most of the standards before the legislation was passed. He gave examples of current policies and procedures, including academy attendance and training. He presented Council with a copy of the Department’s policies and procedures. He stated that the Department passed a Municipal Association law enforcement audit on

the same day as the Work Session, and the Department exceeds what is required. The South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy uses the Department's body-worn camera policy as an example for other agencies. Chief Richbourg stated that the current policies and procedures meet standards for State accreditation, which he is currently working on. He stated that the Department is also working on CALEA National Accreditation, and a grant in conjunction with CALEA. He stated that once accreditation is achieved, the Department will be audited more than what the current legislation requires. Councilmember Fecas asked how accreditation would affect retention of officers. Chief Richbourg stated accreditation would not likely affect retention, and the biggest issue for retention is pay, incentives, and the size of the Department. Chief Richbourg completed his presentation by informing Council of PowerDMS, a software the Department uses to track compliance with procedural changes. Councilmember Fecas thanked Chief Richbourg for his exemplary dedication and leadership, and stated that she was proud of the Police Department.

#### **4. Town Council Reports**

- A. Parrish Plantation - Mayor Ricard stated that he has discussed pond management meetings with DHEC and Lexington County, and he is still working on identifying representatives for the ponds in Town.
- B. DOT. Council decided to remove DOT from the Town Council Report list
- C. Elected Officials. Mayor Ricard urged Council to take advantage of online classes offered by the Municipal Association and to get their picture taken for the website.
- D. Kitty Hawk Lights - Ricard. Mayor Ricard stated that a meeting was scheduled later in the week with Dominion, Thompson Turner, and DOT to discuss the project.
- E. Kitty Hawk Sidewalk – Ricard. Mayor Ricard stated that HPG began surveying activities this week, and they are preparing the project for bid.
- F. Sewer Expansion – Wilbourne & Hook. Administrator Watkins stated that she is waiting to hear back from Cayce City Manager Tracy Hegler, and discussed an upcoming Zoom meeting.
- G. Cottages at Roof's Pond – Wilkerson. Mayor Ricard stated that Mayor Pro Tem Wilkerson asked him to mention the meeting held with Lexington County Stormwater to address stormwater issues in the development. Mayor Ricard stated he felt the meeting was productive and that the County is really making an effort to address the issues.
- H. Platt Springs Road Corridor – Reeley. Councilmember Reeley marveled at the rate of progress on the Lexington Two District Office and Performing Arts Center project, and informed Council there may be lane closures later in the week due to utility work related to the project. He reported that Lanier Clifton passed away.
- I. Durham Drive Dam – Hook. Councilmember Hook stated that he is working to schedule a meeting with Representative Micah Caskey concerning the Dam.
- J. Property Values – Fecas. Councilmember Fecas requested that the Property Values report be absorbed by Community Relations, which she also reports on.
- K. Town Events – Ricard. Mayor Ricard stated that National Night Out will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- L. Murphy Express – Hallman. Administrator Watkins stated that she is waiting to hear back from West Columbia concerning the utility review for water.

- M. Town Parks – Wilkerson. Council discussed obtaining an update from Mayor Pro Tem Wilkerson on his communications with Lexington County Recreation and Aging Commission. There was a discussion of a list of needs and wants from Public Works Supervisor White, and installing bike racks at the Town parks.
- N. Springdale Municipal Complex – Administrator Watkins stated Public Works is working on clearing the building.
- O. Community Relations – Fecas. Councilmember Fecas discussed a meeting she had with Springdale Elementary School Principal Annette Ariail. She stated that Principal Ariail is interested in addressing issues at Cindy’s Place, and reported that the school would be brainstorming ideas for projects to cover the unsightly utility boxes.

**5. Adjourn**

Council, on motion of Councilmember Fecas, seconded by Councilmember Wilbourne, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Juston Ricard, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leeann Eden, Municipal Clerk