

— South Carolina —
SPRINGDALE

MINUTES

Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 9th, 2021 at 6:00 pm

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

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Juston Ricard, Councilmembers Wilkerson, Fecas, Reeley, Hook and Hallman.

COUNCIL ABSENT: Mayor Michael Bishop

STAFF PRESENT: Administrator Ashley Watkins, Municipal Clerk Leeann Eden, Chief of Police Andrew “Bear” Richbourg, Attorney Ward Bradley, Attorney Sierra Carini, Public Works Supervisor Kevin White, Police Department Administrative Assistant Sheri Jonas, Patrolman Matthew Hagins, and Patrolman Matthew Young.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Ricard called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present. Councilmember Hallman provided the invocation and Mayor Pro Tem Ricard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Agenda.
- B. Approval of Minutes.

Council unanimously approved the agenda for the November 9th, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, the minutes for the October 5th, 2021 Regular Meeting, and the minutes for the October 18th, 2021 Work Session.

III. Employee Recognitions

- A. Springdale Police Department Employee of the Month, Administrative Assistant Sheri Jonas. Chief Richbourg recognized Administrative Assistant Jonas for her efforts in organizing National Night Out. He stated that she has also successfully applied for and has been awarded multiple grants and funding opportunities for the department.

IV. Discussion

- A. Use of Intern from the University of South Carolina. Councilmember Fecas proposed utilizing an intern from the University of South Carolina’s Master of Public Administration program. She stated that these students are required to complete a 300 hour internship relevant to their course work and she believes it would be a mutual benefit to the Town and the Intern. Administrator Watkins asked if the intern could work virtually due to the limited office space in Town Hall. Councilmember Fecas stated that she did not see where that would be a problem. She concluded by stating compensation is not required but it would be a good incentive. Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Councilmember Reeley, voted unanimously to approve the use of an intern. Council agreed that Administrator Watkins will determine a salary for the intern. Councilmember Fecas stated that she would let the Masters of Public Administration Faculty know Council’s decision and they would forward some intern applications for review.

V. Old Business

- A. **ORDINANCE O-21-07**; AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SPRINGDALE ZONING ORDINANCE ARTICLE 4: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS; SECTION 2: LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS (2nd Reading). Council, on motion of Councilmember Fecas, seconded by Councilmember Wilkerson, voted unanimously to approve the Ordinance at its second reading.

VI. New Business

- A. 2022 Town Calendar. Councilmember Wilkerson made a motion to approve the Town Calendar, seconded by Councilmember Reeley. There was a discussion concerning switching the days of Council's Work Session and the Planning Commission's Regular Meeting. As a result of discussion, Councilmember Wilkerson rescinded his previous motion and made a new motion to postpone discussion of the Town Calendar to the next Work Session. Councilmember Reeley seconded this motion and Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Administrator Watkins said she would reach out to the Planning Commission to determine if they are amenable to switch meeting days.

VII. Reports

- A. Town Council Report. Councilmember Wilkerson stated that he was late to the meeting due to the funeral of a family member.
- B. Police Chief Report. Chief Richbourg reviewed his report with Council, highlighting major crimes, traffic enforcement and code enforcement statistics. He stated that the speed trailers are currently out but he is unable to pull data from them. The new speed trailers awarded to the Department by a grant have been ordered. Chief Richbourg stated that the Department has begun the process of becoming a State accredited agency. Councilmember Hallman asked for an update on the three officer candidates' progress at the South Carolina Criminal justice Academy. Chief Richbourg stated that they are all currently doing well and have passed their weekly tests.
- C. Public Works Report. Public Works Supervisor Kevin White reviewed his report with Council, highlighting current and upcoming projects. He stated that the bathroom renovation is coming along, there are just a few punch list items left to complete. He shared that mulch will soon be added to the park under the swing sets and along the bushes. He stated that he is still working with the graphic design company on the design for the garbage trucks. He stated that the abatement at 945 Sightler has been completed. Councilmember Fecas asked if the bathrooms and the park get locked at night. Supervisor White said the park is locked at night and unlocked in the morning, and the bathroom does not have a key lock to be locked from the outside.
- D. Town Administrator Report. Administrator Watkins stated Pam Shepard has filled the Administrative Specialist position in the Administrative Department. She stated that Ms. Shepard has previous municipal experience as the Clerk of Court for the Towns of Swansea and South Congaree. She stated that she feels Ms. Shepard will be a good fit for the position. Administrator Watkins stated that she received a quote for a sound system for the court room and felt like it was too expensive. She asked Council for alternate ideas on a sound system. Councilmember Fecas asked if the proposed sound system would be portable. Administrator Watkins stated that it would utilize the speakers in the ceiling of Council Chambers. She stated there is an opening on the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Board would be meeting on Wednesday, November 10th concerning a variance. She concluded her report by stating the tree lighting would be held on Wednesday, December 8th, 2021.

E. Attorney Report. Attorney Bradley stated that Memorial Design was served with the lawsuit for the Town Sign that was not received as promised. He stated that no answer has been received from the company. He stated that the next step would be to file a motion for default. Councilmember Fecas asked how soon it would be before money is recouped. Attorney Bradley stated that a judgement should be issued in the next few weeks. Once the judgement is issued, Council will need to decide how to proceed with collecting the money.

VIII. Adjourn to Executive Session

A. Discussion of Personnel Matters

Council, on motion of Councilmember Reeley, seconded by Councilmember Hook, voted unanimously to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:28 pm.

IX. Return to Open Session – Action may be taken regarding matters discussed in Executive Session.

Council, on motion of Councilmember Reeley, seconded by Councilmember Wilkerson, voted unanimously to return to open session at 6:33 pm. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

X. Public Comment

Public Comment was given by Springdale Resident Mike Terrell.

XI. Adjourn

Council, on motion of Councilmember Fecas, seconded by Councilmember Hook, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm.

Juston Ricard, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:

Leeann Eden, Municipal Clerk