

— South Carolina —  
***SPRINGDALE***

**MINUTES**

Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, September 3rd, 2019 at 6:00 pm  
Council Chambers – Springdale Town Hall, 2915 Platt Springs Road

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

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Mayor Michael Bishop, Mayor Pro Tem Ricard, Councilmembers Fecas, Hallman, Reeley, Peters and Wilkerson

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Administrator Ashley Watkins, Chief of Police Andrew “Bear” Richbourg, Public Works Supervisor Scott Bolser, Attorney Ward Bradley, Municipal Clerk Leeann Eden.

**I. Call to Order**

Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was present. Councilmember Hallman provided the invocation. Mayor Bishop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes
  - i. August 6, 2019 Regular Meeting
  - ii. August 19, 2019 Work Session

Council voted unanimously to approve the September 3, 2019 Regular Meeting Agenda, the minutes for the August 6, 2019 Regular Meeting and the August 19, 2019 Work Session.

**III. New Employee Introduction**

- A. Ed DeVore, Code Enforcement. Chief Richbourg stated that Mr. DeVore was unable to attend this meeting and gave a brief introduction to Council in his absence, stating that he has done a great job since starting in the code enforcement position. Mayor Bishop stated that he has noticed properties that have been mentioned previously are being addressed.

**IV. Employee Recognitions**

- A. Officer of the Month, August 2019
  - i. SRO Sandy Harrelson. Chief Richbourg recognized SRO Harrelson as Officer of the Month, stating that she was nominated by a co-worker and a citizen. She was nominated for her diligence with the children of Springdale Elementary and completion of the D.A.R.E. Program. The citizen expressed gratitude for SRO Harrelson’s dedication to the children and families of Springdale and her willingness to go above and beyond in her service of others. Administrator Watkins described compliments on the SRO vehicle from Don Icenhower, Chief Operations Officer for Lexington School District Two. Mayor Bishop stated that he has heard many compliments about SRO Harrelson from individuals in the community.

## **V. Presentations**

- A. Mrs. Cheche Goldman, Columbia Area League of Women Voters, Vote411.org. Mrs. Goldman presented information on the mission of her organization and the services of Vote411.org and encouraged voters and candidates to utilize the website.

## **VI. New Business**

- A. Council Appointment of a member to the Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors, The COMET (Advisory Position).
- B. Request to Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority Board of Directors, The COMET for Town of Springdale Voting Board Representation.

Mayor Bishop stated that Councilmember Reeley has served on the Board but is unable to do so any longer as he does not have the time to devote which is further complicated by the meeting times being very inconsistent. Councilmember Reeley stated that he has enjoyed being on the Board but feels that since there are no current voting privileges, it is hard to justify the time commitment. After a brief discussion, Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Councilmember Hallman voted unanimously to table item VI. (A,B) until the next Town Council Regular Meeting. Mayor Bishop thanked Councilmember Reeley for the time that he served on the board.

## **VII. Reports**

- A. Town Council Report. Councilmember Reeley announced his resignation from the CMRTA Board of Directors. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard stated that the Kitty Hawk Drive sidewalk project is projected to be completed March 31, 2020. Councilmember Wilkerson asked Administrator Watkins if progress has been made in regards to shade sails for playground equipment at the parks in Town. Administrator Watkins stated that Ed Gruetzner with Carolina Parks and Play is scheduled to come out and take measurements and will get back to her with some information. Councilmember Fecas complimented the improved landscaping at Corner Pantry and Worldwide Equipment and proposed a "You Make Springdale Special" award to recognize businesses and organizations that go out of their way to demonstrate the care and concern of being vested in the community. Council agreed that this would be a great idea. Mayor Bishop requested that the administrative staff work on this effort. Mayor Bishop stated that DOT has been cleaning up underneath the I-26 overpass and Worldwide Equipment will be laying sod along the Cherokee Lane since the daylighting project is complete. Mayor Bishop shared a list of problematic properties in Town that the Town could possibly invest in, repair and resale in order to improve property values and reduce crime. Mayor Bishop described a meeting with individuals who flip houses and stated that he may be bringing that up for discussion soon.
- B. Police Report. Chief Richbourg reviewed his monthly report and statistics with Council. He described major crime investigations, most of which were automobile break-ins. He stated that a bicycle that was stolen was recovered by a Springdale officer. The number of citations for August was the same as July however the number of warnings increased tremendously for August. He stated that the department is moving in the right direction for traffic control. Chief Richbourg reviewed code enforcement statistics with Council. Mayor Bishop requested that Code Enforcement check into the signs being posted on telephone poles in Town.
- C. Public Works Report. Public Works Supervisor Bolser reviewed his monthly report with Council. He stated that the old Jewelry Warehouse sign was removed and described efforts to partner with the police department in the routine inspection and cleanup of sites frequented by vagrants in Town. Public Works Supervisor Bolser attended the quarterly Lexington County Stormwater Consortium

meeting on August 15<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the Lexington County Stormwater Consortium will be testing Storm Water in Springdale at no cost to the Town. He concluded by announcing the recipient of September's Yard of the Month award. Mayor Bishop asked Supervisor Bolser if there has been any further discussion of a tax for stormwater improvements. Supervisor Bolser stated that it is still being considered by the Lexington County Stormwater Consortium. Councilmember Peters inquired of the locations of the vagrant sites. Chief Richbourg stated that there was a site at the end of Jupiter Street that bordered with West Columbia and there have been issues on Cherokee Lane around the abandoned properties. He continued by stating the aim of the joint effort is to combat the issue before it becomes an ongoing problem. Mayor Bishop asked Supervisor Bolser if the Public Works Department has been working on the property the Town leases on Cherokee Lane. Supervisor Bolser stated that they have been cutting around the property and will continue to do so once the grapple truck is out of the shop.

D. Town Administrator Report. Administrator Watkins reviewed her monthly report with Council, she described a meeting with Lexington County Recreation Commission in regards to the Meals on Wheels program and possibly a food drive. She stated that about seven staff members attended the meeting and were interested in volunteering to deliver meals to senior citizens in the surrounding community to include Springdale, Cayce and West Columbia. Administrator Watkins extended an invitation to Town Council to volunteer as well. She stated that the general election filing closed last week for the three open spots on Town Council and that Councilmember Peters did not file for re-election. She continued by stating she is waiting to hear back from the election commission to see if an election will be required. She stated that the Municipal Association of South Carolina's Regional Advocacy Meeting will be on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM and the Lexington School District Two Innovation Center Tour will be on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 4:00 PM. Administrator Watkins stated that the weather in regards to Hurricane Dorian is being monitored and that she would be in touch with Council with any important updates and would post updates to social media as needed.

E. Attorney Report. No Report.

**VIII. Appearance by Residents.** An email correspondence from John Huffman was read by Mayor Bishop. Mr. Huffman was unable to attend the meeting but requested that his correspondence be read during public comment. Mr. Huffman's email correspondence is attached to these minutes.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Council, on motion of Councilmember Reeley, seconded by Councilmember Wilkerson, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 PM

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Michael Bishop, Mayor

Attest:

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Leeann Eden, Municipal Clerk

