

South Carolina
SPRINGDALE

MINUTES

Town Council Regular Meeting
October 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

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.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Michael Bishop, Mayor Pro-Tem Manos, Councilmembers Wilkerson, Peters, Hallman, and Reeley, Town Attorney Danny Scott, and Town Administrator Jeff Stilwell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilmember Ricard.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. A quorum was present. Mayor Bishop provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Manos, voted unanimously to amend the agenda and the agenda was approved without objection.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. The minutes from the September 2, 2015 meeting were approved without objection.

III. Reading of Proclamation P-15-06 National Night Out 2015

A. Reading of Proclamation P-15-06 for National Night Out 2015. The Council amended the proclamation to correct the date to October 13, 2015 and Mayor Bishop read the proclamation recognizing National Night Out the involvement of the community in preventing crime. Council, on motion of Mayor Pro Tem Manos, seconded by Councilmember Wilkerson, voted unanimously to approve Proclamation P-15-06 recognizing National Night Out.

IV. Reports

A. Chief's Report. Chief Cornett reviewed his monthly report and statistics with the Council. He also described the Police Department's efforts during the flood. Mayor Pro Tem Manos asked Chief Cornett about the recent prostitution sting and the department's ability to patrol the hotels. Chief Cornett answered that most calls to the hotel are calls for response from the hotel itself for suspicious activity occurring in the rooms. Council further inquired about any nuisance the properties create and Chief Cornett responded that he was working with Administrator Stilwell to collect evidence that would support a case for nuisance. Mayor Pro Tem Manos stated his belief that the hotels had made no improvements to reduce the amount of illegal activity occurring on their premises. Chief Cornett agreed. Councilmember Peters asked Chief Cornett if the hotels were implementing the policies agreed on with the Town. Chief Cornett answered that they originally signed onto the agreement to do so but had not signed onto it for this year and the hotels were issued citations for violating the covenants. Councilmember Wilkerson discussed previous efforts to improve the quality of the hotels. Chief Cornett suggested tightening up the

ordinance and Administrator Stilwell suggested codifying the previous covenants in an ordinance. The Council expressed their gratitude to Chief Cornett for everything he and the officers have done.

B. Town Council Reports. Council had no new information to share.

C. Administrative Report. Administrator Stilwell reported on the MS4 Stormwater Permit Audit and the preliminary audit meeting the previous week. The full audit will take place in November. Administrator Stilwell also reported that Springdale was fortunate not to have as much flood damage as other parts of Lexington and Richland counties. He further related some of the damage that occurred to Wilton Road, Durham Drive, Baywater Drive, and Forestbrook Apartments as well as efforts to get repairs made.

D. Public Works Director's Report. Public Works Director Ancik's report was received as information by Council. Administrator Stilwell related that Public Works has been working hard to ensure that all trash is picked up and were a huge help in preparing for the flooding.

V. Old Business

A. Consideration of Ordinance O-15-08; Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Springdale; Section 2 Zoning District Regulations; Amending Section 2.4.2 and adding Section 3.1.3, Permitted Uses to allow for single family dwelling accessory. Mayor Bishop explained that this was the second reading. Councilmember Peters asked for clarification on the ordinance and Administrator Stilwell outlined the regulations as to square footage and applicable businesses. No motion was offered.

VI. New Business

A. Consideration of Ordinance O-15-10; Amending the Code of Ordinances; Section 2; Modifying Section 2-152, Division 2, "Town Administrator", and adding Division 4, "Town Clerk". Administrator Stilwell explained that the Town Administrator cannot hold two offices and the Zoning Administrator and Town Clerk are both considered to be offices by the South Carolina Attorney General. He recommended that the Council appoint Administrative Specialist John Rabon to this position as many of his duties were similar to those of Town Clerk. Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Councilmember Reeley, voted unanimously to amend the ordinance so that the Town Clerk will be appointed by the Town Administrator.

B. Consideration of Ordinance O-15-11; Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Springdale; Adding Section 4.4.4 G, to include signs placed by the municipality for community events and for the purpose of promoting public good. Mayor Bishop explained the purpose of the ordinance to clarify the Town's ability to place signs in public locations for the public good. Council, on motion of Councilmember Reeley, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Manos, voted unanimously to give first reading to Ordinance O-15-11 to cover signs placed by the municipality for community events and for the public good.

C. Consideration of Resolution R-15-07; to reduce building permit fees and one-time business license fees by 50% for all October 2015 flood-related property repairs until March 31, 2016. Mayor Bishop explained that the purpose of this resolution was to help residents whose property was damaged by the flood. Mayor Pro Tem Manos asked if this included the contractors or just the citizens and Administrator Stilwell responded that this affected the one-time license fee for contractors and the permit costs for both contractors and citizens. Councilmember Reeley asked how the Town would determine what was storm-related and Administrator Stilwell responded that it would be up to the building inspector. Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Councilmember Reeley, voted unanimously to pass

Resolution R-15-7, reducing building permit fees and one-time business license fees 50% for flood-related property repairs.

VII. Appearance by Citizens

Mr. Lynn Hutchinson asked about the prostitution sting. Administrator Stilwell responded that these issues with the hotels were not occurring at other locations. Mayor Bishop questioned whether the Town could make the hotel charge more and raise the level of its clientele. Councilmember Peters asked about actions that could be taken on the hotels' business licenses and Administrator Stilwell explained the denial and appeals process, stating that the hotels would be able to continue operating until the appeal was heard and the burden of proof for nuisance would be on the Town. Chief Cornett explained the role of a narcotics detection dog, though it would not be possible to walk the dog in front of every hotel room as there is the same reasonable expectation of privacy as there is in a home, though the presence of the dog will have an effect on drug dealers that will want to distance themselves from an area with a drug detection dog. Mayor Pro Tem Manos asked Chief Cornett if the dog would be able to walk the parking lot and Chief Cornett responded that it would. Chief Cornett also highlighted the results of increased police presence in areas of high crime as a deterrent to said crime. Mayor Bishop stated his desire to see a final push late in the year for code enforcement and cleaner yards. A citizen asked how far back records go on the hotels and Chief Cornett responded that the Police Department has electronic records that go back three years and paper records that go back further. Administrator Stilwell discussed a similar situation in Cayce and the effect similar crimes had on the public. He stated that any future action would be pursued along these routes. Councilmember Peters asked if the nearby gas station had similar problems because of problems at the hotels. Chief Cornett responded that incidents in the gas station lot often originated at the hotels and carried over to that property. Mayor Bishop suggested that Congressman Wilson be approached about the clover leaf project on I-26 to get it moving forward.

VIII. Adjournment

Council, on motion of Mayor Pro Tem Manos, seconded by Councilmember Peters, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Michael Bishop
Mayor

Attest:

Jeff Stilwell
Town Administrator