

— *South Carolina* —
SPRINGDALE
—

MINUTES

Town Council Work Session

July 16, 2018 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 Bishop, Mayor Pro Tem Ricard, Councilmembers Fecas, Peters, Hallman, Wilkerson, Reeley, and Town Administrator Ashley Watkins.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. A quorum was present.

A. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard provided the invocation.

B. Mayor Bishop led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda. Council approved the agenda without objection.

III. Town Council Reports

A. Town Signs. There wasn't anything to report.

B. Springdale Elementary School. Chief Cornett stated that Administrative staff will be moving in to the Administrative building as of July 30th.

C. The Preserve at Roof Farm. Nothing to report.

D. Parrish Plantation. Mayor Bishop stated that he spoke with Mr. Mark Waller regarding the water line at Watling Rd. and Mr. Waller stated he anticipates 60 days. Councilmember Fecas inquired whether the water was going to continue to run for 60 more days due to concerns from a new resident about the asphalt crumbling where the water has been accumulating for weeks. Mayor Bishop stated that he will ask Mr. Waller regarding this issue.

E. DOT. Councilmember Wilkerson inquired about the dead pine tree. Administrator Watkins stated that DOT has put this particular issue on their list, but are handling more serious issues at the moment. Councilmember Fecas mentioned the Midlands Tech Airport Campus Comet bus route. There is not a pick up at Midlands Tech, however there are three locations within Springdale that are on the route for pick up. Discount Tire is shown, but there are several locations that are not on the map, but have the route number 28 outside those locations. Councilmember Fecas is unsure as to why these locations are not marked on the bus route map. Mayor Bishop inquired if anyone from the Town has been going to the meetings recently, and Administrator Watkins stated no. Mayor Bishop suggested that one member of Council should go to the meetings to stay up

to date. Councilmember Ricard requested to remove the dead tree by Springdale's welcome sign on Wattling Rd.

F. Splash Pad. Administrator Watkins stated that there is water running through the equipment and dirt and sod will be laid down around the concrete until further landscaping can be done. Administrator Watkins did state that the splash pad will be open either Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

G. Elected Officials. Mayor Bishop stated that he did contact President Trump about the interchange on Airport Blvd., and received a response stating that Mayor Bishop needed to contact his State officials. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard inquired about the non-slip flooring for the splash pad, and if left down would this become a tripping hazard. Mayor Bishop mentioned that he spoke with a gentleman earlier that day and he stated that Michelin will donate melting rubber to local communities for projects such as this to avoid putting them in landfills. Councilmember Fecas brought to attention the broken swing out in park, and has requested to have it taken down and repaired.

H. Town Council Special Project Requests.

- i. 800 Rosedale Road. Chief Cornett stated that the resident has 30 days to get everything into compliance. If the resident does not come into compliance after 30 days, a citation will be issued.
- ii. 3100 & 3104 Oweada Drive. 3100 Oweada Drive has come into compliance. 3104 Oweada Drive has not come into compliance and has been cited. The resident has a court date regarding this matter.
- iii. Lot on Lee Circle. Chief Cornett stated that he has contacted DHEC due to the septic and sewer issue. DHEC will then go out and inspect the issue and issue a ticket if they deem necessary. Chief Cornett stated that he has been monitoring their grass, and they have stayed in compliance thus far. Mayor Bishop stated to issue citations every two weeks if the grass is not in compliance with the Town's ordinance.
- iv. 3025 Platt Springs Road, Mobile Homes. Administrator Watkins stated that back in March Chief Cornett did do Code Enforcement on this property. Administrator Watkins also stated that she did speak with the owners of this property in April, and they stated that their business is to build houses, and that they would like more information on building town homes on that property. Administrator Watkins stated she sent over all the zoning information and tried working with property owners, yet never received a response. Administrator Watkins continued stating that she emailed the property owner a few weeks later, and the property owner responded by stating that at the moment they did not have plans to remove the mobile homes from this property. However the property is 3 acres and on the market for \$100,000.00. Mayor Bishop stated that Scott Slatton from MASC said that these mobile homes can be gone in 60 days. Administrator Watkins stated that according to the Town's ordinance the property owners have a year to come into compliance or at the discretion of the Town Administrator if the property causes a hardship. Administrator Watkins stated that it has been over a year. Councilmember Fecas brought to attention the three main factors that the property owners do not have: 8 acres, any screening, and recreational spacing. Councilmember Peters also brought up another valid point that there is not any occupancy in the mobile homes, and if there were residents occupying the mobile homes then the owners could keep them on the property.

Chief Cornett stated that there is another property that they are taking enforcement on at the moment so the town is not impartial. This property has two mobile homes that are out of ordinance. Administrator Watkins stated that the property owner meets the

acreage requirement in the Town Ordinance to come into compliance. Mayor Bishop and all Councilmembers agreed to create a plan to remove the mobile homes in the upcoming month.

- v. 1121 Watling Road (Home behind Corner Pantry). Chief Cornett stated that this property is for sale and has been abandoned for several years, and four years ago was declared unsafe. Mayor Bishop stated this home can be taken off the list.
- vi. Properties town contracted lawn services for cleanup. Administrator Watkins stated that the total cost of cleanup for all four homes was \$3,100.00. Attorney Ward Bradley stated that a municipality can pass an ordinance that gives you authority to go in and clean a private property and put a lien on it. Attorney Bradley continued by stating that a Town has to have an ordinance in order to put a lien on a piece of property that the Town has cleaned. Council requested that Attorney Bradley create an ordinance for this particular issue and either create an ordinance that the Municipal Association recommends or model the ordinance after the City of Columbia. Mayor Bishop requested removing the following properties from the list: 945 Sightler Dr., 410 Preston St., 3017 Glendale Rd., and 1130 West Fairhill Dr. below off of the list and not taking any further legal action towards the properties and creating an ordinance.
 - A. 945 Sightler Drive.
 - B. 410 Preston Street. Chief Cornett stated that this property has been purchased and the owners will be moving in within the next month.
 - C. 3017 Glendale Road
 - D. 1130 West Fairhill Drive. Chief Cornett stated that this property has been purchased and the owner is working to renovate the home and clean up the yard.
- vii. 3400 Platt Springs Road (burned home). Chief Cornett stated that this property has been placed in probate court while they are trying to find out who has ownership of this property. This property has been deemed unsafe by the Town's inspector. Chief Cornett stated that any individual who is found trespassing inside the home on this property will be arrested. Mayor Bishop inquired who the owner is while the property is in probate, and Chief Cornett responded that there isn't anyone at the moment, and the only name on the property is Mr. Henry Caudle, who is now deceased. Chief Cornett stated that probate court is trying to figure out who the property now belongs to, and Mr. Caudle's son is contesting and has laid sovereign citizen rights to the property. Ms. Polly Buff of 1151 W. Fairhill Dr. stated that the property is unsafe due to the mold and mildew, and the residents are very concerned with the increase in snake activity around Mr. Caudle's property, as well as their property. Mayor Bishop questioned whether Attorney Bradley had any advice on this matter. Attorney Bradley stated that if there is an estate associated with this piece of property, there is also a personal representative linked to this estate. Attorney Bradley stated he will contact Judge Eckstrom and pull the probate file regarding this matter.
- viii. Impounded Vehicles on Town Property. Mayor Bishop questioned whether Chief Cornett had any thoughts or plans on this matter. Chief Cornett responded by stating that the only seized vehicle the police department is currently holding is the blue Blazer, because it is being contested at the moment. Chief Cornett continued and stated that the police department has looked into rental units for seized vehicles, but there are not any units available at this time. Chief Cornett mentioned that all seized vehicles are the police department's responsibility, and the vehicles must be kept in a secure location due to individuals trying to gain access to them. Councilmember Wilkerson inquired if there was another location other than next to the backdoor of Town Hall to hold seized

vehicles. Chief Cornett responded stating that it is located behind the backdoor because the individuals are contesting the seizure of the vehicle and have already made one attempt to take the Blazer. Chief Cornett also stated there are very limited parking spaces at the Police Department. Councilmember Fecas mentioned that the property the Town was going to purchase is now for rent, and if that might be an option. Mayor Bishop questioned if this would be a good location for the seized vehicles. Chief Cornett responded stating that this would be a good location if the Police Department had sole access to the property. Councilmember Wilkerson will be contacting the property owner to see if he would allow the Police Department to rent the property. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard made a suggestion of re-doing Town Hall and finding acreage on another piece of property to store equipment and vehicles. Mayor Bishop stated that the Town has approved \$10,000 in the budget to have Town Hall re-engineered this year. Administrator Watkins requested clarification that the Town will be looking for temporary storage for the seized vehicles.

Mayor Bishop questioned the Town's Public Works Supervisor, Mr. Scott Bolser, if he had completed the yearly projects calendar Council had requested at the previous Council Meeting. Mr. Bolser responded that he is still working on the calendar at this time.

Mayor Bishop stated that he was going to go around the table and see if any of the other Council members had anything to add before adjourning. Councilmember Hallman stated that he has received a few calls from residents regarding trash pickup. The residents are requesting that they be notified when their trash has been missed. Administrator Watkins asked Mr. Bolser if Public Works is placing tags for residents to notify them. Mr. Bolser responded by stating that Public Works are posting them for yard waste. Mayor Bishop suggested that if a worker is picking up household garbage, have the other worker picking up loose trash on the other side of the truck. Councilmember Reeley brought to attention the light display at Lexington Nails. Mayor Bishop asked Councilmember Reeley if he had any suggestions on how he could address the owners on this issue. Administrator Watkins stated she will find a proper citation for this business. Mayor Pro Tem Ricard and Councilmembers Wilkerson, Peters, and Fecas did not have anything to report. Administrator Watkins did want to mention that an individual did approach the Town about updating the Town's website, which would run between \$3,000.00 and \$5,000.00 to do the update, as well as between \$100 and \$150 per month to maintain the website. Administrator Watkins questioned if updating the Town's website is an option that Council would want to consider. Councilmember Fecas suggested hiring a USC intern, and using this as internship experience for a student. If the internship is not possible, Mayor Bishop stated that the Town can proceed to look into two or more bids from different companies in regards to updating the Town's website. Chief Cornett stated that he did receive a quote for the sound system for Town Hall. The quote was \$13,000 and the system would go throughout all of Town Hall. Mayor Bishop requested three more quotes before making a final decision. Chief Cornett also wanted to inform Council that Officer Plyler will be leaving the Springdale Police Department for a bigger agency.

IV. Adjournment

Council, on motion of Councilmember Wilkerson, seconded by Councilmember Fecas, voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 P.M.

Michael Bishop
Mayor

Attest:

Tare' Stapp, Municipal Clerk