



# TOWN OF SUMMERTON

## SOUTH CAROLINA

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## MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

### December 13, 2022 at 6:00PM

<p><b>Council Members:</b> Mr. Tony Junious, Mayor; Mr. Darion Canty, Mayor Pro-Tem; Mrs. Regina Brown and Mr. James Lloyd. <b>Staff/Other:</b> Mrs. Mary Adger, Town Administrator; Police Chief Donell Dixon; Mrs. Frances Feagin, Town Clerk; Attorney Kambrell Garvin; Mr. Anthony Smith, Public Works Director; and Mr. Joey Oliver, Water/Sewer Operator.</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Councilwoman LeAnn Berry and Councilman Ritchie Way.</p>	<p><b>PRESENT</b></p>
<p>Mayor Tony Junious called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.</p>	<p><b>CALL TO ORDER</b></p>
<p>Mayor Tony Junious</p>	<p><b>INVOCATION</b></p>
<p>Media was notified.</p>	<p><b>NOTIFICATION TO MEDIA</b></p>
<p>Mrs. Elaine Wood</p>	<p><b>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b></p>
<p><b>Councilwoman Brown</b> made a <b>motion</b> to approve the agenda as outlined. <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman Canty. All favored the motion.</p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b></p>
<p><b>Councilwoman Brown</b> made a <b>motion</b> to approve the Minutes of the regular scheduled council meeting of November 7, 2022, as written with any necessary corrections. <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman Lloyd. All favored the motion.</p>	<p><b>APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b></p>
<p>Councilman Elect Keith Bowman was sworn in by Prophetess Sabrina Johnson. Holding the Bible was Mr. Bowman's wife, Mrs. Lyndra Bowman, with his daughter, Miss Jada Bowman, at his side.</p>	<p><b>SWEARING IN</b></p>
<p>Mayor Junious presented <b>Team Culture Awards</b> to well deserved staff members. They were as follows: Police Department, Capt. Joseph Blanding; Street Department, Mr. Clarence Georgia; Water/Sewer Department, Mrs. Shaquona White and Street Department, Mr. Anthony Smith. A <b>Service Award</b> was given to former officer Casey Barrineau for seven years of service with the Town of Summerton.</p> <p>Mayor Junious also presented <b>Inspiration Awards</b> to several outstanding community servants. The Community Champion Award was awarded to Mrs. Elaine Woods. The Outstanding Downtown Alliance was awarded to the Pink Dogwood Club. The Community Ambassador Award was awarded to Park Lyfe Ministry, Summerton Baptist Church and Open House of Prayer.</p>	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p>

<p><b>Mayor Junious</b> announced that a special Christmas meal was planned for the citizens of the Town of Summerton for December 21st at 3:00pm. The meal will be served in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall. Members of Council will serve meals. Mr. Anthony Smith will be grill master of the day. Mayor Junious informed the citizens of where parking is available for the event. Mayor Junious asked Council if there would be any issues if the event took place. With nothing being said, he stated again that the meal was planned for December 21st at 3:00pm. Mayor Junious also informed Council that the Chamber was having their retreat from January 13th-15th if anyone would like to attend.</p>	<p><b>MAYOR'S REPORT</b></p>
<p><b>Administrator Adger</b> informed Council that the departmental reports were provided in Council's packets. She informed Council of the days the Town Hall would be closed for the Holidays: 12:00pm on Thursday, December 22nd, and all day on December 23rd, 26th and 27th in observance of the Christmas Holidays. The office will resume normal business hours on December 28th. The office will also be closed on January 2nd in observance of the New Year. Mrs. Adger invited Council and their spouses to the Annual Christmas Dinner on December 22nd at Red's located across from Love's Travel Stop at 12:30pm. Mrs. Adger reminded Council of the submittal of the Statement of Economic Interest beginning on January 1st through March 30th.</p> <p><b>Police Chief Dixon</b> read his report that was submitted to Council. He also mentioned to Council that the officers are issuing tickets to people parking beside the fire hydrant in front of the Chinese restaurant.</p> <p><b>Water/Sewer Operator</b> Mr. Oliver didn't have a report for Council at the present time.</p>	<p><b>DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS</b></p>
<p><b>Administrator Adger</b> went over the balances of each account on the financial report with Council.</p>	<p><b>FINANCE REPORT</b></p>
<p><b>A. First Reading—An Ordinance to rezone Tax Map #078-10-06-005-00 and a portion of Tax Map #078-10-06-006-00 from Residential (R10) to General Commercial (GC)</b>— Mr. Howard King, attorney representative of Dollar General, introduced himself to Council. Mr. King went over the brochure that was discussed at the previous Planning Commission meeting. Mr. King said that the documents clearly showed that Dollar General has met all requirements for the rezoning of the property in question. He informed Council of what would be offered for purchase at the proposed location. He stated that the property in question would bring in revenue. Currently it's exempt from being taxed. Mr. Bowman asked about the parking area and if the property was already sold to Dollar General. Mr. King replied that the property in question is under contract and said that the church was looking at putting in extra parking along Briggs Street. <b>Councilman Bowman</b> asked if the church decided not to sell the property will the Town of Summerton still get a Dollar General Market? Mr. King responded, "No." During public participation, Mr. Briggs welcomed Dollar General to Summerton. Mrs. Woods stated that she had several concerns about the current Dollar General. She also asked about the selling of the alcoholic items being sold near a school and church. <b>Councilman Canty</b> spoke about not having a grocery store for the past seven years.</p> <p><b>Councilman Canty</b> made a <b>motion</b> to approve 1st Reading of an ordinance to rezone Tax Map #078-10-06-005-00 and a portion of Tax Map #078-10-06-006-00 from Residential (R10) to General Commercial (GC). <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman</p>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p>

Lloyd. Council members Lloyd, Canty and Brown were in favor of the motion. Councilman Bowman abstained from voting at this time.

**Councilman Lloyd** reiterated that there are citizens that are without vehicles and are unable to travel to the closest grocery store miles away from Summerton.

**B. First Reading—Discussion of FOIA Policy** — Mr. Kambrell Garvin spoke of the Town of Summerton receiving several FOIA requests in the past and that the town doesn't have a current policy in place. He said that the Town of Summerton needs to have a policy in place and it needs to be posted for public viewing.

**Councilman Lloyd** made a **motion** to approve the drafted FOIA policy. **Seconded** by Councilwoman Brown. All favored the motion.

**C. Discussion of a Moratorium at North Shore.** Administrator Adger stated that Mr. Joey Oliver, Water/Sewer Operator, Mr. Anthony Smith, Public Works Director, and herself spoke with South Carolina Rural Water Association and it was said that North Shore Water System was at full capacity. Meaning that the water system cannot take on any new customers until the system is expanded. Mayor Junious said based on the conversation with Mr. Chris Waddell about the SCIIP grant, it will help with the expansion of North Shore.

**Councilwoman Brown** made a **motion** to adopt the moratorium ordinance and review it in six months. **Seconded** by Councilman Canty. All in favored the motion.

Two business owners asked for an opportunity to discuss the matter because they were not aware of the moratorium that affects their future endeavors.



**Councilman Canty** made a **motion** to rescind the approval for adopting the moratorium ordinance of North Shore. **Seconded** by Councilman Lloyd. All in favored the motion.

**D. During public participation,** Mrs. Hofford informed Council of the lots that were getting ready to have homes built on them. They received "will serve" letters a couple of months prior for the water services. They were very discouraged of the water system being at capacity after receiving the "will serve" letters. She said that they are wanting to work together on the expansion of the water system. Mr. Roquemore spoke of some issues that they were experiencing with the water system. He asked if there really is a shortage and can the community discuss this with Council on a solution. He informed Council that 24 homes were already approved by DHEC in the area. Council agreed to a meeting to discuss the matter.

**E. Discussion of a Resolution to Amend Employee Handbook.** Administrator Adger informed Council that the Administrative Committee met a few weeks ago to discuss amending the employee handbook so that the town could be more competitive in selecting employees. Annual leave time was discussed at that time. Mrs. Adger recommended to take away five days and replace with fifteen days to the maximum accrual of up to twenty-four days.

**Councilman Bowman** made a **motion** to take away five days and replace with fifteen days to accrue up to twenty-four days. **Seconded** by Councilman Canty. All favored the motion.

**F. Discussion of Zoning for Businesses and Residential Properties.** Mayor Junious asked Mrs. Feagin to provide Council with the information on the matter for discussion in the next couple of months.

<p><b>G. Discussion of Clarendon County Animal Control.</b> Lieutenant Linda Martin-Smith briefly discussed with Council the process and procedures of the Animal Control Division. She informed Council that there are two Certified Class 1 officers with arresting powers. Dogs can be collected; however, cats cannot. There isn't a location set up for cats. She explained the repercussions of the owners, and said that citations are issued.</p>	<p><b>NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED</b></p>
<p><b>Mrs. Andrea Lewis</b> spoke with Council that she has dealt with DHEC for the past six years. She stated that she was told by DHEC that grant money is coming to Summerton. She asked about the sewer lines going into Golf Villa holding tank. Mayor Junious said DHEC is working with the Town of Summerton to come up with a plan to address the problem that they are having with their sewer issues.</p> <p><b>Mr. Briggs</b> asked Animal Control about the pick up of the dogs. How long are they kept until they are euthanized. Lieutenant Martin-Smith said that they are euthanized after 15 days if they are aggressive/vicious dogs. She said the officers are certified to euthanize and tranquilize. Also, Mr. Briggs asked about people who are naturally scared of dogs. Lieutenant Martin-Smith said that the cases are handled case by case.</p> <p><b>Mayor Junious</b> wanted to thank everyone for attending the meeting. He let citizens know that the Christmas Dinner on December 21st is not being paid for by the Town of Summerton, but by himself and other members of Council. And, he asked citizens to please be mindful of the traffic during the event.</p>	<p><b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION / COMMENTS</b></p>
<p>No comments at this time.</p>	<p><b>COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS</b></p>
<p><b>Councilwoman Brown</b> made a <b>motion</b> to enter into executive sessions. <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman Lloyd. All favored the motion</p> <p><b>Councilwoman Brown</b> made a <b>motion</b> to return to open session. <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman Lloyd. All in favored the motion</p>	<p><b>EXECUTIVE SESSION</b></p>
<p><b>Councilwoman Berry</b> made a <b>motion</b> to adjourn. <b>Seconded</b> by Councilman Canty. All favored the motion.</p> <p>Meeting ended at 8:19pm.</p> <p><b>Respectfully Submitted,</b></p>  <p><b>Frances Feagin</b> Clerk to Council</p> 	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p>