The Summerton Town Council conducted a Meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at Town Hall, 10 Main Street, Summerton, South Carolina 29148. The Honorable Mayor Donald M. Bagnal called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and the following members of Town Council were present: The Honorable Mayor Pro-Tem Ellen Ardis, The Honorable Loretta Pollard, The Honorable Chalmers Stukes, and The Honorable Walker Wells. Also present were Mrs. Amanda Salka, Town Clerk, and Chief Ray Perdue.

1. **Invocation**

The Honorable Walker Wells offered the invocation.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge of allegiance was recited in unison.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda**

Mayor Bagnal asked Council to approve the agenda. Upon a motion made by Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Stukes, Council voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

1. **Public Input Related to Agenda Items**

No one had any input related to the Agenda at this time.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Mayor Bagnal made a motion to approve the February 11, 2020 Town Council Meeting Minutes. Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Ardis and seconded by Mr. Wells, Council voted unanimously to approve the February 11, 2020 Town Council Meeting Minutes.

1. **New Business**

* Presentation for Census – Vickie Williams

Due to an unexpected emergency Mrs. Williams was unable to attend the meeting.

1. **Old Business**

* Consider Ordinance providing for a two (2) percent Local Hospitality Tax on the sale of prepared meals and beverages in establishments – 2nd Reading.

Council tabled the 2nd reading until the Town’s attorney could review the ordinance.

* Consider Amending Article I. In General, Section 2.102 Compensation of Mayor and Council – 2nd Reading

Council tabled the 2nd reading until the Town’s attorney could review the amendment.

1. **Mayor’s Report**

* Mayor Bagnal updated the Council that the Goat Island project was extended 30 days due to the weather.
* The mayor will meet with DHEC March 11 regarding the Villas at Goat Island. The Villas do not have a sewer system, and would like the Town of Summerton to provide that service to them. Hopefully DHEC can help them and take the pressure off the Town of Summerton, being that it would be a costly project.
* The Mayor also spoke about the Town Hall building needing updates and how it is not in compliance. There may or may not be some mold in the building. One thing that Amanda and I are looking into is the Dr Dubose Center out by I-95. Amanda and I met with the gentleman that works with Mcleods. They want $600,00 for the building and we know we can’t afford that, but we could possibly get help from the county and other sources. We would like to have a library, internet access for the public, extra rooms for meetings, and a welcome center at this new building if we were to get it.
* The Parks Recreation Funds has already started. They have already done some work at Wassau Park and will be starting to build the new park on the corner lot by the Post Office. We are going to try and use as much money as delegated to us as possible for these resources if we run out, we will find money elsewhere, if needed.
* Duckfest is October 10, 2020 the Fishing Tournament will be the weekend before.

1. **Police Chief’s Report**

* Police Chief, Ray Perdue, submitted his monthly report to Council.
* Mrs. Beth Phillips gave us a brief update on the USDA grant. They are waiting on a final letter. She met with Mr. Hicks and he said everything looked great, but they cannot write us a check until we provide the match.

1. **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Stukes gave an update on the Public Works Department stating there are two pumps at the Golf course in Sigfield area at the Lake. One pump works, and the other one does not. We need to get a quote to replace the one that does not work. We are having an issue with one of the tires at the Spray field, but the company is going to come fix the tire under warranty.

1. **Public Participation Related to the Agenda**

One citizen asked how long after the Town passed the Hospitality Tax will it take effect. The Mayor replied it should be about a month or two.

The same citizen went on to say that we should use that money and put it in the building we were talking about purchasing for the tourist attraction. The Mayor responded that it may be a little inconvenient for some folks but as this community and town progresses it is a new, modern building and it is nice and very spacious. The people of the town and community can see that we are working to try and update as much stuff as we can with their money and resources, and that’s what we are obligated to do.

Another citizen spoke saying this is her first time at the council meeting and wanted to know if there would be any changes for Highway 15. As of right now, there are no changes coming that we know.

1. **Executive Session**

Mayor Bagnal asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss:

a. Police Department: Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee in the Police Department. SC Code 30-4-70 (a) (1)

b. Public Works Department: Discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee in the Police Department. SC Code 30-4-70 (a) (1)

On motion by Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Stukes, council voted unanimous approval to go into executive session.

Council went into executive session to discuss the above items at 6:23 pm.

1. **Open Session**

Mayor Bagnal asked for motion to come out of executive session and back into open session.

On motion by Mr. Wells and seconded by Mr. Stukes, council voted unanimous approval to come out of executive session and back into open session at 7:08 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Ardis and seconded by Mr. Stukes, council voted unanimous approval of sending $25,000 of the Victims Advocate Funds to Clarendon County Sheriffs Department.

On motion by Ms. Ardis and seconded by Mr. Wells, council voted unanimous approval to let Blackmans Laboratories take over all water systems and illuminate Rubin Harveys part time position effective soon as the Town’s attorney reviews the contract between the Town of Summerton and Blackman Laboratories.

1. **Adjournment**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wells and seconded by Ms. Ardis, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amanda Salka

Town Clerk