

MINUTES

ON NOVEMBER 2, 2020 THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL HELD THE REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING VIA CONFERENCE CALL TO PHONE # 1-978-990-5457 AND USING CODE: 6976820. PRESIDING OVER THE MEETING WAS MAYOR WILLIAM JOHNSON. ALSO PRESENT FOR THE MEETING WERE COUNCILPERSONS LEANNE TROUTMAN (VIA PHONE), CYNTHIA FULLER (VIA PHONE), DAVID BARBER, AND GEORGE SUMMERSON. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR JOHNSON. THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY MAYOR JOHNSON. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN READ THE ITEMS ON THE PROPOSED AGENDA. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON BARBER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS READ. COUNCILPERSON SUMMERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL WERE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. COUNCILPERSON TROUTMAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 MEETING. COUNCILPERSON FULLER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.

MAYOR JOHNSON BEGAN BY STATING THE NUMBER OF NEW COVID-19 CASES ARE CONTINUING TO RISE. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED HE FEELS THE NEED FOR THE TOWN'S MANDATORY FACE COVERING ORDINANCE TO BE EXTENDED. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN REQUESTED A MOTION TO EXTEND THE ORDINANCE ANOTHER 60 DAYS. COUNCILPERSON TROUTMAN MADE A MOTION TO EXTEND THE MANDATORY FACE COVERING ORDINANCE FOR ANOTHER 60 DAYS. COUNCILPERSON FULLER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE ORDINANCE IS NOW

EXTENDED UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2021. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE 2020 CENSUS HAS NOW COME TO AN END. THE COMMITTEE WORKED REALLY HARD TRYING TO ACHIEVE HIGH PERCENTAGE NUMBERS OF COMPLETION FOR HOLLY HILL. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED HOLLY HILL COMPLETION PERCENTAGE WAS ABOUT 55.4%, STANDING 4TH BEHIND CORDOVA, SANTEE AND EUTAWVILLE. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN ANNOUNCED THE TOWN HALL AND TOWN OWNED VENUES ARE STILL NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT THIS TIME. HE STATED THE MOST OF THE SMALL SURROUNDING TOWNS ARE NOT OPEN YET EITHER. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE NUMBER OF NEW CASES AND WILL RE-EVALUATE THE SITUATION ON A REGULAR BASIS. MAYOR JOHNSON ANNOUNCED THE SEWER INFILTRATION PROJECT IS COMPLETE AND THE TOWN IS RECEIVING NUMBERS BACK NOW ON HOW MUCH THE PROJECT AFFECTED THE CAPACITY OF THE TREATMENT PLANT. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED THE TOWN IS STILL TRYING TO MOVE FORWARD WITH ADDITIONAL PROJECTS, GRANTS, ETC. IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF THE TOWN'S SYSTEM. IN REGARDS TO THE NEW TOWN WEBSITE, MAYOR JOHNSON STATED SC.GOV ADMINISTRATORS SAY THAT THE PROPOSED WEBPAGE IS NOW ADA COMPLIANT. THERE ARE STILL A FEW ITEMS LEFT FOR APPROVAL IN ORDER FOR THE WEBPAGE TO GO LIVE. GOING LIVE COULD HAPPEN AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK. MAYOR JOHNSON ADVISED THE GARDNER BOULEVARD PROJECT IS CLOSE TO GOING OUT FOR BIDS. THE

PROJECT IS WAITING FOR FINAL APPROVAL FROM SCDOT. THE START DATE FOR THE WORK AND THE LENGTH OF TIME GARDNER BLVD. WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED. MAYOR JOHNSON CONTINUED BY STATING THE TOWN HAS ORDERED 9 NEW STREET LIGHT ASSEMBLIES TO REPLACE THE MISSING AND/OR DAMAGED LIGHTS DOWNTOWN. AFTER THE ORDER WAS PLACED, AN ACCIDENT TOOK OUT YET ANOTHER ONE. MAYOR JOHNSON ADVISED MR. FRANK BROWN TO GO AHEAD AND ORDER THE 10TH ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED THE LIGHTS ARE BEING PAID FOR FROM THE PENNY TAX FUNDS AND INSTALLATION WILL BEGIN NEXT WEEK. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN ADDED THE TOWN IS LOOKING TO ADD NEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS THIS YEAR THROUGH THE PENNY TAX MONEY AS WELL. COUNCILPERSON TROUTMAN IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON GETTING SOME QUOTES FOR THE NEW DECORATIVE LIGHTS. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN BEGAN DISCUSSING THE ONGOING LITTER CONTROL ISSUES. HE STATED HE HAD A LENGTHY MEETING WITH SGT. POWELL LAST WEEK AND A CONVERSATION WITH CHIEF DETTER EARLIER TODAY AND IT SEEMS THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS HAVING A HARD TIME GETTING ANYTHING DONE WITH THE LITTER CONTROL ISSUES. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED HE PLANS TO SPEND TIME WITH SGT. POWELL ONCE A WEEK BUT IF HE CANNOT GET THE JOB DONE, THE TOWN WILL HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE ELSE THAT CAN. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED TICKETS HAVE GOT TO BEGIN BEING WRITTEN FOR THE ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS OCCURING AROUND TOWN.

COUNCILPERSON BARBER SUGGESTED THE TOWN CREATE A NOTICE OF EXPECTATIONS FOR THE LITTER CONTROL OFFICER. HE STATED IF THE OFFICER KNOWS WHAT IS EXPECTED OF HIM/HER AND FAILS TO DELIVER, IT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT HE/SHE WILL BE REPLACED. IN NEW BUSINESS, MAYOR JOHNSON STATED THE TOWN HAS RECEIVED A FEW ZONING VARIANCE REQUESTS. DUE TO THE LACK OF CURRENT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS, THERE IS A NEED TO APPOINT TWO TEMPORARY BOARD MEMBERS IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE REQUESTS THE TOWN HAS RECEIVED. MAYOR JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT DIANNE BERGEN AND LILLIE ANN HEYWARD AS TEMPORARY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBERS. COUNCILPERSON TROUTMAN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. MAYOR JOHNSON THEN MOVED ON TO STATE THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE IS WORKING HARD TO ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE SOME ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY THIS YEAR EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL BE NO TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL. THE COMMITTEE HAS A FACEBOOK PAGE AND FLYERS THEY ARE UTILIZING TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE PLANNED EVENTS. DUE TO NOT BEING ABLE TO CONTROL LARGE CROWDS AND MAINTAIN COVID-19 DISTANCING GUIDELINES, THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO NOT HAVE A PARADE THIS YEAR.

IN THE ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT, TOWN CLERK HYMAN ADVISED THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL THE AUDITORS WERE HERE MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY OF LAST WEEK CONDUCTING THE 2019-2020 AUDIT.

HYMAN ADVISED THE AUDITORS FOUND AN ISSUE WITH THE COMPUTER PROGRAM NOT ROLLING ALL OF THE NUMBERS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR TO THE CURRENT YEAR. THIS SLOWED THE AUDIT PROCESS A LITTLE BUT HYMAN ADVISED THE ISSUE IS NOW RESOLVED AND SHE HAS HOPES THAT THIS WILL NOT BE A RECURRING PROBLEM NEXT YEAR.

IN PARKS AND RECREATION, MAYOR JOHNSON AGAIN STATED THAT THE TOWN'S PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC YET. COUNCILPERSON FULLER SUGGESTED THE PARKS BE REOPENED AND VOLUNTEERED TO HELP MAINTAIN SAFETY CONDITIONS. MAYOR JOHNSON STATED HE WOULD BE OPEN FOR SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO OPEN AND MAINTAIN SAFETY FIRST BEFORE CONSIDERING. COUNCILPERSON SUMMERSON STATED HE WOULD VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST COUNCILPERSON FULLER AS WELL.

IN THE AIRPORT DEPARTMENT, COUNCILPERSON BARBER REPORTED THERE WILL BE A MEET AND GREET HELD AT THE AIRPORT ON NOVEMBER 7. COUNCILPERSON BARBER WILL BE ATTENDING AND INVITED THE MAYOR AND FELLOW COUNCILPERSONS TO JOIN IF THEY WOULD LIKE. BARBER STATED SOME DISCUSSION IS NEEDED WITH THE HANGAR OWNERS REGARDING THE ANNUAL INVOICES FROM THE TOWN. COUNCILPERSON BARBER CONCLUDED BY STATING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE AIRPORT IS LOOKING GOOD AT THIS TIME AND THE MEMBERS HAVE NO COMPLAINTS.

IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHIEF DETTER SHARED THE MONTHLY STATISTICS REPORT WITH THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE. CHIEF DETTER ADVISED THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL THE DEPARTMENT WAS AWARDED A GRANT FOR \$4,200 TO PURCHASE 4 NEW BODY CAMERAS CHIEF DETTER THEN ADVISED OFFICER BOLEN IS STILL IN THE ACADEMY AND PASSING ALL TESTS SO FAR. BOLEN IS SCHEDULED TO GRADUATE FROM THE ACADEMY ON DECEMBER 11, 2020. CHIEF DETTER THEN ADVISED MAYOR AND COUNCIL THAT HE IS STILL LOOKING TO HIRE ONE NEW OFFICER. COUNCILPERSON FULLER MADE THE SUGGESTION THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY NEED TO HIRE ANOTHER PART TIME OFFICER AS WELL.

IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, FRANK BROWN REPORTED THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO WORK ON NUMEROUS LEAKS AROUND TOWN AND THE AMOUNT OF LEAKS ARE TAKING UP A LOT OF THE WORKERS' TIME AND ARE PROVING TO BE COSTLY AS WELL. MR. BROWN STATED THERE ARE A LOT OF LEAKING VALVES AND EXCESSIVELY OLD PIPES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN'S SYSTEM THAT NEED TO BE REPAIRED AND/OR REPLACED. MR. BROWN WENT ON TO ADVISE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL THE TOWN MAY NEED TO APPLY FOR A GRANT TO ASSIST IN GETTING SOME OF THESE LEAKS UNDER CONTROL. HE CONCLUDED BY ADVISING THE CONTRACTOR INSTALLING THE NEW FENCE AT GILMORE PARK HAS GUARANTEED THE FENCE WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THIS WEEK.

BEING NOTHING FUTHER ON THE AGENDA, THE FLOOR WAS OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS.

THERE WAS NO EXECUTIVE SESSION SCHEDULED FOR THIS MEETING.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, COUNCILPERSON FULLER MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. COUNCILPERSON TROUTMAN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

MAYOR