

**Town Council Meeting Minutes  
North Town Hall  
December 11, 2017**

Mayor Carson called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council Members Washington, Cook and Jones.

- Mayor Carson declared a quorum and welcomed visitors.
- Mayor Carson then led Council and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Council Meeting. Councilmember Washington seconded the motion and upon vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Lin Shirer (report attached)

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mayor Carson introduced the Mayor's Youth Council, a group of National Honor Society students from North High School interested in improving the town. Present were members Patrick Mack, Zacheaus Edmonds and Daiquel Houser. Patrick gave an update for the group. Patrick stated that the group is planning fundraisers to help beautify and innovate the town. They have contacted several puzzle manufacturers about having a puzzle with the image of the town made. The puzzle would be a limited-edition puzzle sold to raise funds. The Mayor's Youth Council is also working on a "Spring Fling" fundraiser idea. The group would also like to help open a museum in North.
- Mayor Carson also introduced Al Jenkins, a representative from Senator Tim Scott's office. Mr. Jenkins had previously met with Mayor Carson and the Mayors Youth Council. Mr. Jenkins thanked the Mayor and Council and brought greetings from Senator Tim Scott. Mr. Jenkins stated that he is our contact for many issues, especially veterans' issues.
- Mayor Carson presented the Account Statement for November 2017 before Council. She stated that the balance has grown since the statement was printed thanks to penny sales tax money that has been received.
- Ms. Suzanne Reed gave an update on the 2017 Christmas at the North Pole, held Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>. She thanked the Mayor and Council for approving the idea. There were 50 parade entries and 41 food and craft vendors. First Citizens and several area churches provided free games for the children. There was entertainment for part of the day, but around 1pm the crowd cleared out due to the cold and rainy weather. The Christmas committee is asking for volunteers for next year. The committee will start planning in January and start fundraising in the spring. Councilmember Cook applied for tourism money from the County for the town and received \$2000 from the County. The Council and visitors gave Ms. Reed a round of applause to thank her for her hard work and the success of the 2017 Christmas at the North Pole event. She thanked Mr. Chuck Darby for coming all the way from Florida to be the grand marshal of the parade and for signing autographs during the event. Ms. Reed stated that the raffle was a success. She also stated that pictures and video from this year's event are on the 2017 Christmas at the North Pole Facebook page.
- Mayor Carson presented two bids for replacing a section of flooring in the Town Hall. A plumbing issue caused a portion of the flooring to need replacing. Mayor Carson stated since the flooring replacement was not budgeted for the funds needed would come from the Town's savings account. The Council considered both bids. Councilmember Washington inquired if either of the companies were local. Mayor Carson stated that one company was local and the other was not. The Mayor also stated that the local company was willing to work after regular business hours and on weekends, in order not to disrupt business as usual. Councilmember Washington made a motion to accept the proposal for \$4976. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion and upon vote the bid was approved unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT (attached)

- Mayor Carson stated that an Ordinance workshop needed to be scheduled for a Saturday in January from 9am-12pm. Several Councilmembers stated they would need to look their calendars to see which Saturday would work best. The Mayor then decided to email the Council about scheduling the workshop at a later date.
- Mayor Carson then told Councilmember Jones that the application period for hazard mitigation grants is now open. Mayor Carson and Councilmember Jones have been talking with Billy Staley, who works with hazard mitigation for the county.
- Mayor Carson also announced that she had met with CSX last week and got to ride the rails from one end of town to the other. She was able to see areas of larger growth that would need to be removed from along the tracks within the town limits. CSX agreed to provide track protection during this removal. Mayor Carson asked Councilmember Jones, as our County liaison, to contact Orangeburg County and request that they help the town by providing labor and equipment.
- Mayor Carson also stated that the 2018 schedule of Town Council meetings have been posted on the bulletin board in front of the Town Hall and on the Town of North's website.

#### COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Councilmember Washington announced that the tennis shoe giveaway at Dover Elementary was a success. His company Golden State Foods sponsored the event and gave away around 50 pairs of shoes to children in need. Councilmember Washington also inquired about the progress on the new flag pole installation. Mayor Carson answered that the lights still needed to be installed. Once the flag pole is ready a ceremony would be held and the fire department would present a granite plaque in memory of Fire Chief Greg Gambrell.
- Councilmember Cook stated that the "Empty Buildings Tour" of North will be postponed until spring and that she is still working on it. Mayor Carson and Councilmember Cook plan to talk with the Municipal Association of South Carolina to learn the proper way to fill out grant applications.
- Councilmember Jones stated that he talked with his contact for replacing street signs. His contact is working alone and planning to contract to another company to replace some of the street signs in the County. Councilmember Jones also commented that he has had several people asking if the Eartha Kitt Gala would be an annual event. He stated that many people from the St. Peter AME area, near where Mrs. Kitt's mother is buried, are interested. Mayor Carson responded that the event is biennial.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- At 7:42 pm Councilmember Jones made a motion to move into executive session. Councilmember Cook seconded the motion and upon vote it was unanimous. Council returned from executive session at 8:42pm. No votes were taken and no decisions were made during executive session. Upon returning to public session, as advised by the Municipal Association, Council was able to take action on matters discussed during executive session. Councilmember Jones made a motion to accept the proposal from Southern Corrosion for our annual tank maintenance program. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Washington and upon vote it was approved unanimously.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS (written request)

- There were no written requests for public comments.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS per sign-in sheet (3 minutes)

- When Council returned from executive session, those that had signed the list to speak had left the meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business Councilmember Cook made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Washington and upon vote was unanimously approved.

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday January 8th, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne B. Culler  
Town Clerk

Mayor Patty Carson: \_\_\_\_\_

Council Members:

Jeff Washington: \_\_\_\_\_

Julius Jones: \_\_\_\_\_

Daniel Jackson: \_\_\_\_\_

Deborah Cook: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT