

TOWN OF McBEE
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 25, 2018

Present: Mayor John Campolong, Charlie Sutton, Beulah Bolton, A C McLeod, Jr., Marion Stephens, Martin Driggers – Town Attorney and Terri King (Administrator)

Absent:

Note to Minutes: Terri King, Administrator, typed minutes.

Meeting Called to Order: Mayor John Campolong called meeting to order.

Invocation: Marion Stephens

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to Approve Minutes: Motion to approve minutes, as written, from the June 5, 2018, Regular Council Meeting and the June 11, 2018 Special Council Meeting, made by Mayor John Campolong, seconded by Council Person Marion Stephens. All were in favor.

Motion to Accept Second Reading of the Amendment to Ordinance 2018-2 “16.107 Campaign / Election Sign Regulations made by Council Person A C McLeod, Jr., seconded by Council Person Charlie Sutton. All in favor.

Concerned Citizen: Susan Price – Mobile Home Ordinance

I’m Susan Price, I own and reside at 447 N. 9th Street, McBee. I asked the Council to let me speak today in regards to the Mobile Home Ordinance. I’m pretty passionate about the mobile home ordinance, not that I’m against mobile homes; I’ve lived in a mobile home, my sister has a mobile home across from the Boy Scout Hut; I’m not opposed to mobile homes.

I feel like the town needs to work together to have a standard put in place. We need some standards for safety issues, if for no other reason. Cosmetic appeal – yes / homeowner value – yes; but it is a lot about safety too. We need a standard for that.

I want to work together with the town to come up with the best solution, so that everyone in town gets a voice and gets to be heard on what their concerns are. If I sit quietly and let the Town enforce the old ordinance, it’s a win-win for me.

But I don't personally feel that's fair for many of my long-time family – my McBee family who live in mobile homes. Some of the guidance in that old ordinance makes them feel vulnerable, that they don't have the security they need.

Still we need standards. I recently had two mobile homes pulled onto the street that I live on. They're old mobile homes, I believe they're being rented for profit – I believe one is probably being rented; the other I feel will eventually be rented. I don't know who will live in those mobile homes. I don't know if they will be vested in our community. If they didn't grow up here, they don't have the same standards, same values. I don't if the turnover in those mobile homes will have the same standards as I do or as one of you who live in a mobile home do. Our kids go to school here, we're vested in this community.

So, what I propose for the Town Council, is for them to invoke their right permitted by Section 2.214, to appoint a special committee – as task force – to look at the issue of mobile homes, have a public hearing where everyone gets to speak, everyone gets to be heard. I've talked to a handful of residents already who have said, "I'll help with that". We have a public hearing, we all come, we all get heard. We put it on paper, we draft a revision, an amendment, a new ordinance, whatever it takes for us to come together as a town. A healthy viable compromise that we can all live with and give it to the Town Council and say, "this is what we feel is important, this is what we want, this is what would be a good standard for the town.

Council Person Beulah Bolton

I do recommend that as we work on the mobile home ordinance, we get people from the community to work with us on it. This would give the community a voice in working on this ordinance.

Council Person Charlie Sutton: What would the committee do?

Council Person Beulah Bolton: The committee would help us determine how we want to revise the ordinance for mobile homes. We have our ideas, but they have their ideas too.

Mayor John Campolong: I agree with you on that and we'll proceed to that with your help.

Reports:

Administrator Terri King – No Report

Council Person Beulah Bolton – No Report

Council Person Marion Stephens – No Report

Council Person A C McLeod

I think we ought to go ahead and get a committee, the sooner the better, and I think we should give them a time table of 4 weeks. I wouldn't mind serving on it and Bea wants to serve on it. That would give the committee 2 Council members and 3 citizens of the town would be a good number.

Susie, would you like to be on that committee?

Susan Price: Yes, and my vision was not for stick-built homeowners to have a task force or committee. My vision was for every member of this Town, every citizen in this Town, be in a forum that we all had a voice and that we all have a platform. We may have to join into small groups so that everyone can be heard. We come together and take what the group said and there will be a task force to put that together. But every member of the Town, including every member of the Town Council. Everyone can be present and be heard.

Mayor John Campolong: I recommend that we make Susie the chair of the committee.

Citizen Sim Tyner: I do have one thing about the mobile home. Since the Town is going the route with the Mobile Homes about updating the codes and all, the Town also needs to look at the stick-built homes that are condemned, are unsafe, we need to take care of that also along with this.

Council Person Beulah Bolton: I think the committee should have a co-chair, one who lives in a mobile home, and I would like to recommend that Jerry Sullivan co-chair with Ms. Price on that committee.

Mayor John Campolong: We're doing this to protect the mobile home ordinance that is in existence and if we were to enforce it, it would be detrimental to everyone.

Council Person A C McLeod: We need to meet as soon as possible.

Susan Price: We can meet on July 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Person A C McLeod: We have two and two on the committee. We need a third person from the town.

Council Person Beulah Bolton: I nominate this gentleman – Eddie Kirkley.

Citizen Eddie Kirkly: Yes, I'll serve on the committee.

Motion to form a Mobile Home Ordinance Committee with 5 members: Council Person A C McLeod, Jr., Council Person Beulah Bolton, Citizen Susan Price, Citizen Jerry Sullivan, and Citizen Eddie Kirkley made by Council Person A C McLeod, Jr., seconded by Council Person Marion Stephens. All were in favor.

Council Person Charlie Sutton - No Report

Motion to adjourn was made by Mayor John Campolong and seconded by Council Person Charlie Sutton. All were in favor.