

**TOWN OF McBEE
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2018**

Present: Mayor John Campolong, Charlie Sutton, Beulah Bolton, A C McLeod, Jr., Martin , Marion Stephens, 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: Shilon Green

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to Approve Minutes: Motion to approve minutes, as written, from the February 6, 2018, Regular Council Meeting, made by Mayor John Campolong, seconded by Council Person Beulah Bolton. All were in favor.

Reports:

Administrator Terri King

It is time to begin budget preparation for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. These worksheets reflect our current revenue and expenses and our current operating budget for both the general fund and the utility fund. We'll need to schedule our first work session in order to have our first reading ready for the May Council meeting and our Public Hearing and Vote for the June Council Meeting.

After discussion Council scheduled the first budget work session for April 3, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Council Person Beulah Bolton

I would like to start with “KUDOS” to Shilon Green for the work he is doing for the exercise class and bingo. We still need more advertising for both and I would like to see it added to our monthly water bill.

Council Person A C McLeod

We've missed applying for a grant that the county offers for the past two years. I would like County Councilman Ben Teal to tell us about the grant.

County Councilman Ben Teal:

Darrin Kirkley is our County Tourism Coordinator and he indicated to me that McBee had not applied for the extended grant that the County offered a few months ago.

Administrator Terri King responded:

McBee did try to apply for the extended grant and were denied due to not having any invoices showing expenditures for a project prior to June 2017. We also applied and was awarded \$5,000 for the year before to start the picnic shelter at the Recreation Complex. Due to not starting the project prior to the end of that term, we did not receive the \$5,000. This is a reimbursable grant and the Town is required to have expended funds in order to receive the grant.

County Councilman Ben Teal:

I hate that the Town has not benefited from the grant, but I would like to encourage you to jump on it the next time and not miss getting the funds. This is a yearly grant, so there should be something in the works all the time in order to qualify for the grant.

Council Person AC McLeod to Ben Teal

Please ask Darrin Kirkley to attend our next council meeting to discuss this grant with us.

Ben agreed that he would ask Darrin to come and talk about the grant to the Council.

Council Person Marion Stephens

No Report

Council Person Charlie Sutton

No Report

Mayor John Campolong

I want to mention that the shelter at the Recreation Complex is done and painted. Now the picnic tables are being built by the high school. Bob Sambor contributed his time, of about 36 hours, to paint the shelter for us. He put about 4 coats of paint on the shelter and it looks great.

Incidentally, we did get a grant for the shelter. We were awarded a grant of \$14,000 with the requirement to spend \$17,000 in order to receive the \$14,000. We've already spent about \$22,000 for the seeding of the baseball fields and building the shelter. Hopefully, if our invoices fit into the County's time schedule, we may be able to apply for funds from the grant that Ben was talking about.

The Town Hall will be closed on Good Friday – March 30th.

Each meeting I want to briefly discuss our water project. You may have seen an article recently in the State Paper discussing DHEC's proposal to begin monitoring water usage within the state. This is something that we, the Council, encouraged when Nestle announced building their plant in McBee; that the aquifers be monitored as water is distributed to Nestle for their manufacturing of water. Monitoring water is beneficial to the state to ensure that we continue to have water in the future.

McBee's destiny is their water and we are working toward getting our water back for the Town and we don't understand any industry blocking our desire to get our water back.

Council Person A C McLeod, Jr.

I have one more question. The letter that was circulated for us to sign for the Medical Center, has anything been done with it?

Mayor Campolung: No, we are reviewing the letter and are in the process of revising the letter to request some options for the Town in securing a grocery store to come to the area. The Medical Center has been working to bring a grocery store to McBee and they wanted to know if the Town is interested in bringing one to the Town. We are, so the letter is from the Council indicating that we are also interested in bringing a grocery store to the Town. I feel that we should have some stipulations to go along with our agreement that "yes, we are interested in bringing a store to McBee."

Council Person McLeod: I feel that there needs to be discussion with the Council before anything is done with the letter. If it is the Medical Center that is doing it, then they need to come and talk to the Council about their plans, before the Council signs anything. If they are searching

for a grocery store to come to McBee, then the store should be located within the Town limits; so that the Town would benefit economically from the store.

Motion to request a representative from the Medical Center to come and discuss bringing a grocery store to McBee made by Council Person A C McLeod, Jr, seconded by Council Person Beulah Bolton. All in favor.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session Pursuant to SC Code FOIA 30-4-70(a)(b)(1)(2) to Discuss Employee and Legal Matters made by Mayor John Campolong, seconded by Council Person A C McLeod, Jr. All in favor.

Motion to Verify that only the Items Stated in the Motion to Enter Executive Session were Discussed During the Executive Session made by Mayor John Campolong, seconded by Council Person Charlie Sutton. All in favor.

The discussion during Executive Session was to table the hiring of an employee for the Maintenance department until further review.

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