

**TOWN OF MEGGETT  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** January 25, 2016      **Time:** 7:00PM      **Location:** SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

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<b>Call to order by:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler
<b>Type of Meeting:</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Facilitator:</b>	Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler
<b>Minutes:</b>	Stephanie Smith

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Mayor Herrington	P	Angela Watts	P
A = Absent	Tommy Butler	P	Andy Gowder	P
P = Present	Tom Hutto	P	Stephanie Smith	P
	Keith McCarty	P		

**Prayer given by:** Resident, David Smoak      **Pledge led by:** Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler

*Approval of Minutes from previous meeting held on: November 23, 2015 Council Meeting.*

**Motion made by:** Council Member Keith McCarty moved to approve minutes.

**Seconded by:** Council Member Tom Hutto seconded the motion.

**In Favor:**

- Mayor Buster Herrington
- Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler
- Council Member Tom Hutto
- Council Member Keith McCarty
- Council Member Angela Watts

**Opposed:**

**Conclusion:** Minutes approved.

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**Gibson Road Variance:**

*Property owner Theresa Sheldon Dowdy addressed the Town Council opposing the active variance request by Dr. David Dalton regarding his home address of 4726 Gibson Road. Ms. Dowdy presented her family's background in Meggett and her own abating of the LZDR. She added, based on her understanding of the LZDR the BZA will not grant a variance if, (1) resulting of own actions, (2) not an unnecessary hardship and (3) OCRM - negative impact of the land, she did not see how Dr. Dalton could be approved.*

*Town Attorney Andy Gowder responded, Charleston County and Andrea Harris-Long one of the planners at Charleston County, who handle the Planning Meetings with the Town of Meggett reported to him earlier in the day that the property owner has submitted an application for 2 variance requests. One is a request to reduce the 50 foot OCRM critical line*

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*setback by 33.8 feet making the setback 16.2 feet. Second is a request to reduce the 20 foot setback by 8 inches to 19.2 feet. This matter will come before the Meggett's BZA Board at a future date (date has not been set at this point).*

**Pump Station:**

*Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler stated, JF Pedersen Plumbing will be doing upgrades on the pump. More updates will follow at the Town Council Meeting in February.*

**Approval of IGA and Disaster Debris Removal Agreements:**

*Town Attorney Andy Gowder explained, there are two agreements with Charleston County. The first is an Intergovernmental Agreement for planning and zoning and the second is a Disaster Debris Removal Agreement in the event of a natural disaster.*

*IGA – explained by Attorney Gowder, provides an understanding and agreement between Charleston County and the Town. Most services, as in the past, will be provided at no additional charge. If there is an extraordinary circumstance, Charleston County reserves the right to charge for the service, but not before contacting the Town of what the charge would be before any work is done or debt is created. Council Member Keith McCarty asked if the IGA will lessen the Town's control and increase the control of Charleston County over the Town. Attorney Gowder responded, no control will be lost by the Town, it is more of a situation of adding "staff" to our Town, Council, Planning Commission and BZA.*

*Disaster Debris Removal Agreement – explained by Attorney Gowder, in the event we have a disaster causing large debris removal, the Town of Meggett, the Charleston County staff and FEMA will work together to provide clean up. The Town will be responsible for reimbursements not covered by FEMA. Council Member Tom Hutto was concerned about the reimbursements, since the Town and Charleston County will not know what is covered by FEMA until after the fact. Attorney Gowder pointed out in Section 3.2a – "County staff and contractors shall use their best efforts to remove only debris that is eligible for reimbursement by FEMA."*

*Motion to approve both agreements made by Council Member Keith McCarty and seconded by Council Member Tom Hutto. Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler called for the vote. All Council voted in favor of both agreements.*

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Zoning Ordinance/Definitions Ordinance 2016-01:**

*Attorney Gowder was requested to clarify the definition of "Kennel" in the Town's ordinance resulting in the draft of ratification 2016-01. The revision adds a clause regarding facilities and fees. Council Member Tom Hutto read the definition:*

*"Kennel – a facility that provides boarding for three or more dogs, cats, or other household pets, whether owned by the operator of the facility or others, and may include grooming, breeding, training, or selling of animals for a fee."*

*Council Member Tom Hutto made the motion to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading and Council Member Keith McCarty seconded the motion. All Council voted in favor. Attorney Gowder stated ratification 2016-01 will next be considered by the Planning Commission and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading at the Public Hearing.*

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**Planning Commission and BZA Member Updates:**

*Town Administrator Stephanie Smith stated the Town now has 5 BZA Board Members, making the board complete. The Town has documented the start year for each member to allow the Town to better ensure terms are being filled as written in the guidelines. BZA training for new members have begun.*

**Code Enforcement:**

*Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler stated at the next BZA meeting the Council would like to see some adjustments made to give the Town's zoning more "teeth". Council Member Tom Hutto added he would suggest when properties annex into the Town, they keep their current zoning. Once the property is in Meggett, then the zoning can change.*

**Grant:**

*Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler and Council Member Angela Watts present a breakdown of a grant the Town is currently working to submit to SCPRT. The grant is a recreation, not transportation grant and if awarded, will be used toward construction of a kayak launch, natural walking trails and water trails at Roxbury Park. The grant is an 80/20 grant with a maximum \$100,000.00 award.*

**Council Member Reports:**

**Building and grounds given by: Mayor Buster Herrington**

*Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler reported for Mayor Herrington that the foundation repairs have been completed on the SCPA Building. All other Building and Grounds information will be tabled until the February meeting.*

**Financial report given by: Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler**

*Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler reported for both November and December (no Council Meeting in December 2015).*

*October – November accounts – General Fund Account dropped \$15,000.00 due to improvements at Roxbury Park, Wasterwater Account increased \$15,000.00 and Meggett 1925 Account increased \$97.00.*

*November – December accounts – General Fund Account dropped \$25,000.00 due to SCPA Building repairs (\$8000.00) and projects at Roxbury, Wasterwater Account increased \$8,000.00 and Meggett 1925 Account increased \$500.00.*

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**Grants and Special Reports given by: Council Member Tom Hutto**

*Council Member Tom Hutto explained the SCPRT Grant covered earlier in the meeting is the only grant we are currently working to obtaining at this time. The docks and pier are completed at Roxbury.*

*Council Member Hutto also mentioned that the roads around the ponds at Roxbury Park need some gravel.*

**Communications given by: Council Member Keith McCarty**

*Council Member Keith McCarty stated there are no complaints and no report at this time. Council Members joined Council Member Keith McCarty in noting the Town's website looks better and is easier to navigate.*

**Roxbury given by: Council Member Angela Watts**

*Council Member Angela Watts stated current work on the SCPRT grants (80/20) which has been discussed already in the meeting.*

*Council Member Tom Hutto also announced the Land Trust Organization will have a picnic at Roxbury on April 9, 2016. He encouraged people to attend, \$40.00/person for non-members and \$30.00/person for members. This is a great opportunity for Roxbury to gain huge exposure. Expecting upward 400 people in attendance and there is talk of the neighboring property helping out with parking.*

**Council and Staff Training:**

*Council Member Angela Watts will attend training in February and Town Administrator Stephanie Smith recently attended a workshop for SCPRT Grant. There will be more training for the council and staff in the near future.*

**Evening in Meggett:**

*Mayor Pro Tem, Tommy Butler announced Evening in Meggett will be May 21<sup>st</sup> beginning around 6:00pm with a Luau theme.*

**Public Comments:**

*Resident and former Town Administrator Ellie Brabham commented that the website improvements have been completed by new Town Administrator Stephanie Smith.*

*Resident Mr. David Smoak stated he was pleased to see attendance has increased at our Town Meetings.*

*Attendee who is a member of the Edisto Beach Land Trust further promoted the event at Roxbury on April 9<sup>th</sup>.*

*Meeting concluded at 7:33 pm.*