

TOWN OF MEGGETT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 23, 2015 Time: 7:00PM Location: SCPA Building 4770 Highway 165

Call to order by:	Mayor Buster Herrington
Type of Meeting:	Council Meeting
Facilitator:	Mayor Buster Herrington
Minutes:	Ellie Brabham

Roll Call:	Mayor Herrington	<input type="checkbox"/> P	Angela Watts	<input type="checkbox"/> P
A = Absent	Tommy Butler	<input type="checkbox"/> P	Andy Gowder	<input type="checkbox"/> P
P = Present	Tom Hutto	<input type="checkbox"/> P	Ellie Brabham	<input type="checkbox"/> P
	Keith McCarty	<input type="checkbox"/> P		<input type="checkbox"/>

Prayer given by: Resident, David Smoak **Pledge led by:** Mayor Buster Herrington

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting held on: October 26, 2015 Council Meeting.

Motion made by: *Council Member Tom Hutto moved to approve minutes.*

Seconded by: *Council Member Keith McCarty 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.*

Sewer Taps:

Mayor Herrington stated it was discussed at the last meeting that we now have sewer taps available to purchase. All of the people on the list who have requested taps have been notified and several have paid the fee for their tap. He added that there was one error in the discussion at the last meeting; council decided to allow 30 days from the date of the notification for a property owner to decide to purchase the tap or not. The town's Sewer Ordinance allows 90 days, which council will abide by. There are 18 taps spoken for, with 22 more available.

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Charleston County:

A few months ago the town received a letter from Charleston County requesting that the town sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with them. There has been concern about the possible cost for their services. Council Member Keith McCarty asked if the town has a choice. Mayor Herrington said that we do have a choice in how it is worded and how much we pay. There seems to be some discrepancy on the limit of their duty to the town. The Mayor asked Attorney Andy Gowder to set up a meeting between council and Charleston County before the next council meeting to get more information on what they are expecting.

Church Flats Road:

The repaving has been completed but there is still a little touch up work to be done on the shoulders in a couple of areas. The crew will also have to come back and do some repairs to the yard at Town Hall where they had to turn the trucks around. The Mayor stated that Sanders Brothers Construction Company has done a nice job on the repaving.

SCPA Building:

Mayor Herrington said that the Cantey Foundation Company has the best price to repair the structure on the back of the building. They were going to start a couple of weeks ago, but due to the extra rains they were unable to. The new start date is now December 30th but they will probably begin before then if the weather allows.

The pavilion area is scheduled to be pressured washed this coming week so that it will look nice for the Christmas Tree Lighting service.

Roxbury Park Sign:

We have had several emails and questions in reference to the name of the park. With it just being Roxbury Park many people have stated that the public thinks it is just a place to bring children to play on swings. The suggestion is that we add "Nature Preserve" or "Wildlife Sanctuary" to the name. It would then be Roxbury Park Nature Preserve for instance. Council Member Angela Watts asked if we would have to get new signs and is this something we have to do. The Mayor answered that we would just add the addition to the sign we have and no, we do not have to add anything to the name. He did ask council to think about it and they would discuss in a future meeting.

Open Application for Lowcountry Leadership Charter School:

This is the time of year when the school is planning for the next school year. The application process is open and anyone interested should apply. Council Member Watts asked what grades. Mayor Herrington stated that it is for all grades next year, first through twelfth. He added that there are very few openings and it is on a first come first serve basis.

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Council Member Reports:

Building and grounds given by: Mayor Buster Herrington

Mayor Herrington announced that the Christmas Tree Lighting will be on December 5th and the Christmas tree will be put up under the Pavilion this coming Sunday. Decorating will begin this coming weekend in the SCPA Bldg.

The Mayor stated that there was a problem with the sewer system over the weekend. The monitor at Metal Trades notified us that the pumps were running abnormally long. He called Gary Dent, the maintenance technician for the sewer system, but Gary was already aware of the problem. During the flood tides salt water got into the system through one of the man holes which made one of the air relief valves stick and cause the system to vapor lock. A pump truck came in and pumped out the wet well and the relief valves were repaired. He added that the salt water came in only on the lowest man hole.

Financial report given by: Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler

Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler reported that last month the Meggett Bank Account went down \$4,000.00. However, we have \$110,000 more this year than this time last year. There were no out of the ordinary expenses and the CDs remain the same. The Wastewater checking account went up \$4,300.00 and the Meggett 1925 account went down \$3.00. The Mayor Pro Tem asked Ellie if that was the service fee, possibly for paper invoices. Ellie stated that the bank added the charge to the October statement and she felt it may be for paper invoices, but could be an inactivity fee since we do not use that account very often. The Mayor asked Ellie to look into this and get it removed if possible.

Mayor Herrington said that the gentleman that stole the town's air conditioners was apprehended, found guilty and now is paying restitution to the town for that. Over the last two years we have received four checks which includes two checks received today of \$46.67 and \$258.34. Council Member Keith McCarty said that he has been practicing law for 30 years and this is the first time he has actually seen someone pay the restitution. He added that it is something that is not actively enforced.

Grants and Special Reports given by: Council Member Tom Hutto

Council Member Tom Hutto asked Ellie if we had heard from Amy Blinson with the LWCF grant in reference to our extension request letter. Ellie answered that she had not, and actually had that on her to do list for tomorrow. Council Member Hutto said to make sure to tell her that the contractor who won the bid on the two kayak launches and a fixed dock has hit the ground running; he has almost completed the project. The only thing we have left to do is the picnic shelter. He encouraged everyone to go down and take a look at them.

A letter for intent was sent from the town to the SCPRT Grant; it is an 80/20 Grant. We will use the funds for kayak holders and things like that.

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

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Communications given by: Council Member Keith McCarty

Council Member Keith McCarty asked if anyone had complaints about the website or any suggestions. Mayor Herrington stated that a few small mistakes have been corrected and the format for Municode has been changed so you can actually read it. The link has been changed to directly connect to Municode.

Council Member McCarty has also had complaints from residents in reference to Frontier. They are complaining that the service is bad and the bills are wrong and asked if the town could look into this.

Mayor Pro Tem Tommy Butler stated that we should add pictures of the board members (BZA and Planning) to the website. Ellie will email all members this week and request a photo; once all are received, they will be placed on the website.

Roxbury given by: Council Member Angela Watts

Roxbury Cottage Updates: The dehumidifiers and ceiling fan for the front porch have been installed and the bathroom has been completed to make it ADA compliant. The cottage was booked several times in November and is booked Dec 1st and 2nd.

Work has begun on the docks; bids have been advertised for the new pavilion and must be turned in by December 4th.

The sixth grade from the Lowcountry Leadership Charter School took a field trip last week to Roxbury. Naturalist, Ken Carmen took them on a guided tour.

Council Member Watts added that the lights at the town sign are out. Mayor Herrington stated that Hugh Allston was going to get that handled this week. She is also concerned about the opening at the Meggett Creek Bridge. Mayor Herrington stated that the latest on the bridge is that they are re-engineering it and will start on it in the spring.

Public Comments:

Resident Gale Smith asked why the flags are along the road by the bridge. Council Member Tom Hutto speculated that it may be an indication where the marsh is since they are re-designing the bridge and need to avoid SCE&G power lines etc. Mrs. Smith stated that none of the power poles are marked. Mayor Herrington added that he did not know exactly what they are currently doing there.

She also asked if salt water infiltrated the man holes, does that mean sewage was coming out. Mayor Herrington said that it did not, that no sewage had come out because there was no sign of it. He added that the engineer checks for that when repairs are done. Mrs. Smith stated that it is not unusual for sewage to come up when it floods and they were concerned because they could smell it.

Meeting concluded at 7:30 pm.