

TOWN OF MCBEE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2011 – 5:45 PM

Present: John Campolong Jr., Marilyn Fields, Shilon Green, A. C. McLeod Jr., & Tony Floyd  
(Town Attorney)

Absent: Charlie Sutton

Note to Minutes: Teresa Gardner (filling in for Interim Town Clerk, Latondra Johnson) was present and typed minutes.

Mayor Campolong called meeting to order.

Motion to enter in Executive Session pursuant to SC Code FOIA 30-4-70 (a) (1) (2) to discuss employee matters, and legal matters for contractual matters made by Mayor Campolong; seconded by Councilman McLeod. All were in favor.

Motion to verify that only the items stated in the motion to enter Executive Session were discussed during Executive Session made by Councilman Green; seconded by Councilman McLeod. All were in favor.

Invocation made by Rev. Parnell and pledge immediately followed.

Motion to accept minutes as written from Regular Town Council Meeting on March 1, 2011 made by Councilman Green; seconded by Councilwoman Fields. All were in favor.

Report from Jamie Wayne: Jamie made recommendation for Mr. Wendell Johnson to replace a vacant spot on the Recreation Committee. Mayor Campolong made motion to accept Mr. Johnson; seconded by Councilman McLeod. All were in favor.

Linda Sterling, concerned citizen, asked if the Town of McBee had a leash law in place. Mayor Campolong stated that there would be a first reading of a new Dog Ordinance tonight at the meeting. Mayor Campolong also stated that the Council would do anything they could to eliminate problem.

Ms. Sterling also asked if it would be possible for the Town to print out a synopsis of Town Council meetings to be mailed out with their water bills in hopes of others becoming involved.

Mayor Campolong stated that Councilwoman Marilyn Fields had recently been certified by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. She successfully completed the course and was given a certificate of accomplishment.

Reports from Council:

Councilwoman Fields reported that on April 20, 2011 at 11:00 a.m., the Victim's Advocate Association is having a tree planting ceremony in honor of this organization here at The Town Hall. McBee has donated to this considerably. This is open to the public. Councilwoman Fields asked that everyone spread the word about the ceremony. There will be a speaker at the ceremony, someone who has had need of this organization.

Councilwoman Fields stated that there used to be a war memorial, a WWII Veterans Blue Star memorial located on Hwy 1. This memorial has been missing for some time. The South Carolina State Garden Club and president came and looked for this memorial. They found it located in some rubble at the Medical Clinic. They took the memorial and had it refurbished, and placed on new pole. There will be a re-erection ceremony to replace this memorial at its new location; at the corner of Hwy 1 and Hwy 151 on the Sandhills Bank side. With the help of Mayor Campolong, the SC Highway Department gave us a portion of their easement. This ceremony will take place on May 23, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. Councilwoman Fields is busy trying to locate WWII veterans to attend this event. So far Councilwoman Fields has talked with four veterans that plan on attending. They are: Bobby McLeod, Johnny McLeod, Ernest Sullivan, and Wendell Sowell. She will continue efforts to reach more, but definitely wants to recognize these veterans of WWII as well as all veterans in attendance. Councilwoman Fields also stated that she hopes to have a good turnout for this ceremony. Also on this program, the band will be playing and there will be refreshments.

Councilwoman Fields stated that Latondra Johnson (Interim Town Clerk) has been out a few weeks due to surgery. She will return in a couple of weeks. Teresa Gardner has been filling in for Mrs. Johnson until her return.

Councilman McLeod reported for the Recreation Committee; they have put up Port O Johns in front of the Scout Hut for use at ball games. Councilman McLeod also stated that the new ball field has been sprayed. Also, they have been working on plowing up the field and will sow it, so that it will be ready for next ball season. By next spring these new fields should be ready. Also, some football fields may be ready by fall. There are funds being held back due to the possibility of getting grants. In order to get a grant, you have to have matching funds. Councilman McLeod stated that we would go ahead and get started on these projects at no expense to the Town. The Town already has commitments for donations of fences and Councilman McLeod will get started on the grass and having the infields put in. Councilman McLeod also has documentation for the 10 foot easement, so they can go ahead and put in the press box.

Mayor Campolong made a motion to approve payment of an invoice from Steven Sarkany in the amount of \$500 for the repair of lawn mower deck. Councilman Green seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Councilman Green reported on Dog Ordinance. He stated that he wouldn't read it because of its length, but that it would be available to view on Monday. Councilman Green made a motion to accept the 2011 Dog Ordinance; seconded by Mayor Campolong. All were in favor.

Mayor Campolong stated that he would like to amend the agenda, as Skip Gering should have been placed on it.

Mr. Skip Gering made a recommendation concerning the number of dilapidated properties in McBee. Mr. Gering recommended a process: The owner of the property is notified by letter from the Town of McBee, that the property be cleaned up or demolished and removed. The owner would be given a certain amount of time to get this done. If the time frame is not met, then the Town goes in and does it. The cost to the Town is added to the tax of that property, and if the tax is not paid with cost of the clean up or demolition added to it, then the property will be sold for taxes. Councilman Green stated that he and Mr. Floyd have worked on some language for an ordinance similar to this one a few years back. He will go back and look at it again. Councilman McLeod agreed that properties needed to be cleaned up. He suggested that we could maybe get a group such as the Boy Scouts involved and help owners clean up. Maybe donate money to the Scouts so they could take that on as a project. Councilman McLeod commented that if the Town had a convenience center close by, it would help.

Mayor Campolong stated the he would like to the streets restriped. The Highway Department said they would have the streets in the town limits restriped by the end of this month including the center of town.

Mayor Campolong has received information from FEMA regarding studies that have recently been done. The studies show that there are no areas in Chesterfield County that need to be concerned about flooding.

Budget is being worked on for next year. Mayor Campolong hopes to have this ready by the end of next month. He also stated that he would try to have a work session in the next week or two.

Dawn Volgio reported for the Police Department that they are currently working on a break in that happened at the T & T. Dawn stated that traffic was picking up. She said they were looking at having a road block in May.

Mayor Campolong stated that the Cemetery needs to be updated, and that hopefully work can soon begin on that.

Councilman Green made motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilwoman Fields.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.