

Town Council Meeting Minutes
North Town Hall
January 13, 2020

Mayor Jones called the regular meeting of Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Councilmembers Williams and Washington.

- Mayor Jones announced prior to beginning, he would like to amend the Agenda under New Business to elect a Mayor pro tem.
- Mayor Jones led Council and visitors in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Mayor Jones thanked everyone for coming out and declared a quorum. Mayor Jones welcomed visitors in attendance.
- Mayor Jones briefed that Council had a chance to review the December Meeting Minutes. Mayor Jones and asked Council for a motion to approve the December 9th, 2019 meeting minutes. Councilmember Washington motioned to approve; Councilmember Williams seconded the motion.
- Mayor Jones briefed a correction was made to the November 2019 Meeting Minutes which will be posted to the website.
- Mayor Jones briefed there would be no Police Report tonight.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Jones announced The Regional Medical Center (TRMC) located at 4631 Savannah Highway (by the drug store) is closing as of January 17, 2020.
- Mayor Jones announced the only medical care in town is offered at St. Mark United Methodist Church on the 1st and 3rd Monday from 4-7PM. It's free of charge, they accept walk-ins, and do everything that a regular doctor's office does. For more information, contact St. Marc United Methodist Church, Shirley Golden at 747-3203.
- Mayor Jones announced an upcoming Special Election will be held to fill two (2) North Council Seats on Tuesday, February 4th, 2020. Open Poll locations are Town Hall and Aiken Electric Cooperative.
- Mayor Jones stated that Councilmembers Statement of Economic Interest is due and must be filed by March 30th online to the South Carolina Ethics Commission.
- Mayor Jones provided information that Business License Renewals will be mailed out in February.
- Mayor Jones provided information that the microphone has been installed in the front window, making it better for both the citizens and office staff.
- Mayor Jones stated the paper bills should be coming back out in January.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mayor Jones announced it was time for the Mayor pro tem election. Mayor Jones inquired if someone would like to nominate anyone for Mayor pro tem to fill Mayor Jones's absence, if he is absent? No members of the audience or Councilmembers motion. Mayor Jones makes a motion to nominate Jeff Washington, then asks for a second. Councilmember Washington seconds the motion. Mayor Jones asks if all are in favor or oppose? Councilmember Washington is in favor, Councilmember Williams opposed, Mayor Jones stated that Jeff Washington is the Mayor pro tem.
- Mayor Jones addressed Council that they have the account statement through December in their Council packet, which will be posted to the website. Mayor Jones asks if there are any questions from Council on the financial statement? Council members have no questions. Mayor Jones informs if no questions, we have a presentation from EA Services, Ms. Christie.
- Ms. Christie Weidenhof, EA Services, thanks Mayor and Council for inviting her. Ms. Weidenhof, owner of EA Services for about four (4) years, has been in the waste water business for about 30 years. The Town of North (TON) has one (1) wastewater plant and one (1) treatment water well. It's EA

Services's job to make sure the TON stays in compliance with EPA and DHEC regulations. EA Services checks our wastewater plant and well every day, orders chemicals for the water well (ash and chlorine) to keep the water disinfected. They provide our sampling twice per month, prepare all of our reports, and work with office staff to make sure books are all up to date. EA Services does not do underground work, David (TON Water Department), works with the line repairs and sewer backups and EA Services helps him as needed. This month, the Annual Water Use Report is being done, which is due by January 31st. EA Services just completed the Sanitary Survey in October 2019, which everybody passed. EA Services says expect to see the Sewer Inspection done sometime in May, 2020. EA Services does not do water meters. Ms. Weidenhof asks if there are any questions?

- Mayor Jones mentioned that he contacted EA Services a few days ago regarding folks talking about water being green in bathtubs. Ms. Weidenhof states that when it comes to discolored water complaints, to forward them to her on a daily basis, with an address, name, and a contact phone number. It's very unlikely to have a green water complaint in the town unless it's in combination with someone else on either side of that residence. Generally, discolored water like that is from a hot water tank. If we can provide contact information, EA Services can arrange to stop by and take a water sample of both the resident's outside spigots and on either side to verify if it's isolated to that one (1) customer or if it's a street wide problem. Ms. Weidenhof provided her contact number and advised to let her know.
- Ms. Weidenhof mentioned that the Town takes care of the water meters and water line repairs, EA Services takes care of things like Policy/Procedure Manuals. The Town is responsible for things like hydrant flushing, which is once per year, hydrant fire flows, which are once every three (3) years. EA Services brought their staff in to do these for us in 2017. They are due again in 2020/2021. EA Services can provide that. David does a good job keeping things straight for them. Basically, everything above ground, compliance reporting, laboratory work, or operations is what EA Services takes care of. Mayor Jones inquires on where the reports go? EA Services stated reports go to DHEC on the 28th day of every month. Drinking water reports go in by the 10th of each month. EA Services has contracted with another company to do the water samples for them in the Town. Access Analytical does the water sampling for EA Services for the Town and they do their reports as well. EA Services is not involved in those samples which provides another layer of protection for the town as far as making sure the fox is not guarding the hen house.
- Mayor Jones asks if anyone has any questions for Ms. Christie? If not, Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Weidenhof.

2018 COUNCIL PROJECTS:

- Mayor Jones asked for updates on Council's Projects.
- Mayor Jones asked Councilmember Williams about her project. Councilmember Williams has been working on a few projects for the City of North. She is meeting with a grant writer on the 23rd of this month. At that time, Councilmember Williams will have more updates to report on what the project is concerning.
- Councilmember Washington does not have any updates.

PUBLIC COMMENTS per sign-in sheet (3 minutes)

- There were no written requests.
- Mayor Jones asks if there are any public comments. A member of the audience asks Councilmember Williams how long she has been working on that. Councilmember Williams inquires of the individual if its regarding the grant writing? The individual mentions that it seems like the last 4, 5, 6 times he has been here, that's what she's working on. Councilmember Williams explains that was for the Opportunity Zoning and at that time, they said that North unfortunately was not one of the cities that was eligible for the Opportunity Zoning. When the man came on the last Town Hall Meeting, he gave us some valuable information about different grants and loans. She has gotten a positive response. The member asks if she is still working on basically the same thing. Mayor Jones states No. Councilmember Williams states that it's not the Opportunity Zone, but this is a grant for another project. Member thanks Councilmember Williams.

ADJOURNMENT

- Mayor Jones inquires if there is anything else? If there is no other business, Mayor Jones motions for the meeting to be adjourned. All in favor, raise your hand, meeting is adjourned at 7:15PM.


The next Council meeting will be held on **Monday, February 10, 2020.**

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly McCormick

Beverly McCormick
Town Clerk

Mayor Julius Jones: 

Council Members:
Jeff Washington: 

Jennifer Williams: 