

**The Village of Simpson
Regular Council Meeting
October 21, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

The Village of Simpson held a Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Hall, 2768 Thompson Street, Simpson, NC.

WELCOME

Mayor Richard Zeck welcomed everyone.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Richard Zeck called the meeting to order

ROLL CALL

Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer conducted the Roll Call and stated there is a quorum.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Zeck, Mayor
Brenda Hawkins, Mayor Pro-Tem
Dianne Thomas, Councilwoman
Mary Moye, Councilwoman

OTHERS PRESENT

Susan Ellsworth, Finance Officer
Keen Lassiter, Village of Simpson Attorney
Citizens

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Zeck provided prayer and led the pledge.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MARCH MINUTES

Mayor Richard Zeck asked the council if they had anything to add or change to the agenda. Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the Public Hearing Rezoning minutes and Councilwoman Diane Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

Councilwoman Diane Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda and Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:

Mary Walker inquired about the person running for council, she doesn't know who he is but has seen signs in the village.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for the condolences. The veterans will have a stand down at St James Church on October 25th from 9a to 2p. She mentioned that she spoke with GUC about trees that are tagged, they are a hazard or need to come down.
- Councilwoman Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out. She mentioned the awesome Community Day. Please get out an vote on Nov 5th
- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly thanking everyone for your support and help making Simpson better than it was.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

- Updated the information about the RV being used as a dwelling on Garden Grove, a letter was sent to the homeowners in mid-September informing them of the violation. The RV has now been removed and the issue has been resolved.
- Regarding the condemnation properties, at 2727 Virginia Street, Attorney Keen spoke with a representative of the property owner on September 9th and was told by the end of September they would have the property cleaned up. After driving by it tonight, it appears to be cleaned up. In speaking with the Mayor, we had decided that issue has been resolved and we will move on from that this one. 748 Simpson Street, the structure was demolished some time back. Attorney Keen called the owner several times reminding him that he needed to finish the job by cleaning and leveling the property. After driving by it tonight it appears that the work has been done, after speaking with the Mayor, the issue has been resolved. These properties will be removed from his list.
- The properties at 2625 Gatlin St and 2678 Thompson St, Pitt County Inspection Department has in their condemnation process. The condemnation hearing was held August 27th, orders were sent out about September 4th, letting them know they had sixty days to do something with the property. Sixty days will be Nov 3rd, the owners have until then to demolish it themselves or do something, if not Keith Edwards will go back out there and look at it around the 4th or 5th, if nothing has been done he will contact Attorney Keen and it will be up to the town for legal enforcement. If the owners of the Gatlin and Thompson Streets properties have not demolished the structures by Nov 3rd, then the Council will need to vote at the November meeting to approve filing lawsuits in these cases.
- 432 Wilson St, 3 abandoned mobile homes on the property. Attorney Keen has spoken with the owner a number of times. On October 8th the property owner informed Attorney Keen that by the end of October 2 of the 3 mobile homes will be removed or destroyed. The last one will be gone by mid-November.

MAYOR REPORTS:

- Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly on the financial report. Several property owners are behind on taxes, as well as unpaid grass cutting bills. Overall the financials look good
- Community Day had 56 sponsors, a bigger attendance than last year, tons of gifts, and the councilmembers did a great job of organizing it.
- It's the season for leaf burning, because we have limb and limbs pick up, burning is not allowed.

- There are issues with dogs, we have a contract with Animal Services for \$100 per call. The problem is when Animal Services is called then the dog is gone. A letter will be sent to the dog owner stating that if Animal Services is called, they will be billed the \$100 for the call.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke about the golf cart ordinance that has been reviewed by the Planning Board and the Attorney. There are a few in Simpson and there is a need for them to be regulated for public safety.

ITEMS FOR MOTION:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to approve the golf cart ordinance. Councilwomen Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

NEXT MEETING: November 18, 2019

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 11/18/19
Date


Mayor Richard Zeck


Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda Hawkins


Councilwoman Dianne Thomas


Councilwoman Mary Moye

