# The Village of Simpson Regular Council Meeting June 17, 2019 7:15 P.M.

The Village of Simpson held a Regular Council Meeting at 7:15 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 and Finance Officer conducted the Roll Call and stated there is a quorum present.

# COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

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

# **OTHERS PRESENT**

Keen Lassiter, Attorney Susan Ellsworth, Finance Officer/Village Clerk Heather Mosesso, ECU Intern Citizens

## **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Mayor Pro-Tem, Brenda Hawkins provided prayer. Mayor Richard Zeck provided pledge.

# APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND APRIL MINUTES

Mayor Richard Zeck asked the council if they had anything to add to the agenda.

Councilwoman Diane Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda.

Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the May minutes.

Councilwoman Diane Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

# **PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:**

• No public comments

## **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins thanked everyone for coming and spoke about Vacation Bible Schools that are coming up around the community.
- Councilwoman Mary Moye stated that she is available if anyone wishes to talk to her about any
  comments or questions they may have about the Village.

• Councilwoman Dianne Thomas thanked everyone for showing up and also said she is available if anyone wants to discuss things concerning the Village.

#### ATTORNEY COMMENTS

• Attorney Keen Lassiter gave an update on the burned house at 748 Simpson St. He said a lawsuit was filed on May 14<sup>th</sup> and Pitt County Sheriff office served them on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The owners have 30 days to respond which is up on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. If they don't respond, he can file for a default document and docket with a judge which will take 2-3 weeks. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the owner called and left a message, and on June 11<sup>th</sup>, the owner and Attorney Keen Lassiter spoke. The owner said he had contacted a company to demolish the house. He faxed a notarized statement between him and the contractor regarding the property and permission to go on to the property and do the work. The owner said it would get demolished within 2-3 weeks. Attorney Keen Lassiter asked the Council if they want him to file once the time is up on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 or give him the 2-3 weeks to get it demolished. The Council asked the Attorney to wait till July 3<sup>rd</sup> before defaulting him and filing with the judge. He also gave an update on the three other properties at 2625 Gatlin Street, 2727 Virginia Street, and 2678 Thompson Street. Pitt County Inspections gave them hearing date for June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and let them know by certified mail. Only the Property at 2727 Virginia Street had picked it up. The owner at 2727 Virginia Street said they are contacting the Simpson fire department to see if they can demolish the building. They have 60 days to demolish it. The other two properties are going to be given a notice in the paper and posted on the property building for a new hearing date.

### **MAYOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Zeck spoke about:

- The May financial report is on course with the budget and the Village is expecting a surplus of \$5,000 this year.
- A company is interested in building small starter homes on empty lots within the Village. This could help attract new families.
- Next meeting he will be giving an update on number of houses and mobile homes within the community
- Meals on Wheels need volunteers let Mayor Zeck know if interested in volunteering for them.
- Community Day planning has begun and it will take place in September.
- Trying to update the website soon and make it more useful for new and current residents.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- July meeting will be canceled and the next one will be in August. Brenda Hawkins motioned for the July meeting to be canceled and Mary Moye seconded it. All voted "Aye" the motion carried.
- FY2019-2020 Budget was discussed between Mayor Zeck and Council members. Mayor Zeck explained certain areas such as ditch renovations, community park updates, new public works vehicle, and a new ordinance book for the Village next year.
- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins brought up only putting the tax rate in the paper this year.

#### **ITEMS FOR MOTION:**

- Motion to approve budget ordinance FY2019-2020 budget.
- Dianne Thomas made a motion to adopt the budget ordinance. Mary Moye seconded it. All voted "Aye". the motion carried.
- A motion was made by Brenda Hawkins to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by councilwomen Diane Thomas. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned.

The next council meeting will be on August 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Mosesso, ECH Intern Susan L Ellsworth, Village Clerk and Finance Officer

Approved On

' Date

Mayor Richard Zock

Brengla Hatter Zhurkur Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda Hawking

Councilwoman Dianne Thomas

Councilwoman Mary Moye