

**The Village of Simpson
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2021
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
Boy Scout Troop #785

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins provided prayer.
Pledge by Boy Scout Troop # 785

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

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:

- Scott Hopwood from GFL spoke on the importance of putting trash, recycle and yard waste in the correct containers. Trash added to recycle or yard waste contaminates the load, which is an Environmental Hazard. Pitt County Transfer Station will not accept recyclables and yard waste without the driver getting out and removing the garbage. If it continues Simpson will receive fines from GFL.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for attending, wished May happy birthdays, Philippi is giving out free Covid test kits, a vaccine is was given on April 17, 2021, second vaccine will be May 16, 2021 from 1pm to 5pm, mentioned that two stores will laminate the vaccine card for free, Staples and Office Depot, tax deadline has been extended to May 15, 2021, transportation survey extended to April 30, 2021, box rent is ongoing, question if park can be used in May, railroad repair should be in ten days
- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out mentioned, the hole on Wilson Street, status on trailer park, hand sanitizers giving to the schools went well.
- Councilwoman Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming to the meeting, heard good information on the road repaving, asked about community cleanup day., can say she is proud to be a Simpson resident.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Attorney Keen Lassiter

- Condemnation lawsuit was filed on February 23, 2021, Pitt County Sheriff Department served the lawsuit on both defendants on April 14, 2021. They have thirty (30) days to respond, Mr. Blakely called Susan, Village Clerk, on April 19th, stating that he will have a backhoe and container for cleaning up this weekend or the following May 1st weekend, but it will definitely be done. With the added pressure of the lawsuit if something is going to be done, it will be done now. At the next Council meeting Attorney Keen will get guidance from Council on how to move forward.

MAYOR REPORTS:

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly

- Next month we will present a budget to the council for 2021-2022. Some 2020-2021 items didn't get done due to COVID; monies will be transferred to the street repair. March financials show a good balance but we just started the roads, once we start paying those bills the balance will change, but still be in great shape. Kent and Virginia have been repaved, looking for pricing to see if Telfaire and Mill can be done before end of June 2021. We have received two (2) grants, one from Pitt County and the other from ENC Alliance, to help with the costs. Wilson Street is part of village maintenance, the hole has been looked at and work will start once quote is turned in and approved.
- ECU intern will be working this summer and is a paid position through ECU.
- Working on a grant for paving the walking trail.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Clean up Trash day will be held on May 8, 2021.
- Mowing of private properties is unfair to taxpayers to use tax dollars to cut the grass for someone that doesn't take care of their property. Landowners need to cut it, if we cut it, the village needs to be reimbursed. The Village needs Council help getting the landowner to take care of their properties or request help from the Village.
- A couple of months ago the Village received from Mid-East Commission the final draft of the NCGS 160D of the Simpson Zoning Ordinance for adoption by the Council to comply with North Carolina Statutes. It is to create unity of zoning within the state villages, towns and counties.
- Mayor Zeck recommends the Council approve the adoption of the NCGS 160D

ITEMS FOR MOTION:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas, Councilwoman, to adopt the proposed Simpson Zoning Ordinance amendment to comply with the NCGS 106D. Mary Moyer seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On May 17, 2021
Date


Mayor Richard Zeck


Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda Hawkins


Councilwoman Dianne Thomas


Councilwoman Mary Moyer

Next meeting is May 17, 2021

