

**The Village of Simpson  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
February 27, 2023  
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, Councilwoman  
Dianne Thomas, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Mary Moye, Councilwoman

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas provided prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND JANUARY MINUTES**

Mayor Richard Zeck asked the council if they had anything to add or change to the agenda. Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda and Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried. Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the January minutes and Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

**PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:**

No comments

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for attending mentioned Pitt Community recreation site plan had 3 meetings and there is a survey

requesting information from the public, the special days coming, daylight savings, St Patrick's and spring, wished happy birthday, anniversary and retirement to everyone from February 28<sup>th</sup> to March 23<sup>rd</sup>, check in on seniors, a phone call or stopping by, to make sure they are ok, be aware of a scam involving bank cards, taxes are being done on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings at Housing Authority of Greenville for free, light on Queen St has been repaired, working on getting residents to clean up yards, senior games are taking applications until March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the game will be held April 17 through May 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out, attended the same meeting as Brenda Hawkins, more community involvement is needed.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming to the meeting, with spring coming would like to see the village receive a deep cleaning, it's definitely needed at least once a year.

### **ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Attorney Keen Lassiter stated

- he is working on two legal issues for the village and will be filing lawsuits, has hired a paralegal that will help the office run smoothly.

### **MAYOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke

- adding Keen's statement about the two issues, one being the Blakely property and the other the house on Thompson St.
- Residents that have liens on their properties, if one is fortunate enough to own a property comes with great responsibility, when responsibility is reduced their enabled not to be responsible. Asked Keen to look into ways to enforce the Village ordinances.
- Spring clean up will be March 27<sup>th</sup> week, looking for volunteers to up with pick up.
- Emergency house numbers are required, need a list of homes missing numbers to get this addressed.
- Financially still in good shape even with all the inflation happening.
- Spring project, ditch from Simpson St to a little past the park will be cleaned out.
- Fee cost has not been updated since 2018, permits supplement income to Simpson. Motion required to update the fees.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Park and Recreation – 19 children under the age of 19 in Simpson, the current buildings are not up to code, bathrooms not up to ADA compliance, they leak, there is mold, plumbing has broken, all in need of improvement. Propose we build for the future use; grants will be applied for.

Proposed Phase 1

Step One – demolish all existing structures with funds currently in the budget.

Step Two – rent a port-potty April to September, weekly cleaning, funds currently in the budget.

Step Three – erect small 10 x 10 utility shed for field supplies, funds currently in the budget

Proposed Phase 2

Step One – build an ADA compliant bathroom (\$150,000)

Step Two – Picnic pavilion on 20x20 concrete pad with 3 picnic tables (\$250,000)

Look the Proposed Phase 1 for April’s meeting so it may be something we can move forward with.

**ITEMS FOR MOTION:**


A motion was made by Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas to approve the updates fees.

Councilwoman Mary Moyo seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”, the motion was carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

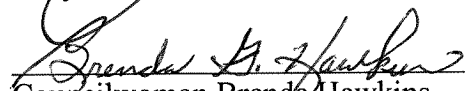
A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to adjourn the meeting; Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted “Aye”, the motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:51pm

Respectfully submitted,

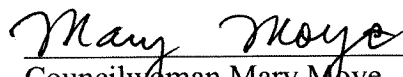
  
Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 3/20/23  
Date

  
Mayor Richard Zeck

  
Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas

  
Councilwoman Mary Moyo