

**The Village of Simpson  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2020  
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 at 7pm.

**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**

Councilwoman Dianne Thomas provided prayer and led the pledge.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND OCTOBER 2020 MINUTES**

Mayor Richard Zeck asked the council if they had anything to add or change to the agenda. Councilwoman Dianne Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda, with the addition of close session requested by Attorney Keen Lassiter, and Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.  
Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the October minutes and Councilwoman 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. She expressed COVID 19 concerns and everyone to follow the 3 W's, mentioned school changes for students in January, residents asked her if the Pitt County Senior Center will be offering income tax assistance. Mayor Zeck replied yes but it will be done differently. A low-income energy program for senior citizens starting December 1 through March 31, or until funds are spent.
- Councilwoman Mary Moyer spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.
- Councilwoman Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming to the meeting. Supported Brenda's comments on the COVID 19, it's out there and hopes everyone will be safe. Wished everyone a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

### **ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Attorney Keen Lassiter stated he would reserve his comments for items for discussion.

### **MAYOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly on

- Financials, paid the Fire Contract, setting up new computer protection service and replaced a laptop, has got the P/L a little out of whack until next month, expenses are right where they need to be.
- Update on Wilson and Philippi Church drainage – work has been started in the last couple of weeks – it was found to be a bigger project than expected due to the original placement of drainage pipes.
  1. Attorney Keen updated the Council on the Wilson property with abandoned mobile homes. A draft will be created to file with the court regarding the three (3) mobile homes. The property is in violation of Simpson Ordinance of Weeding and Tidying. A motion was requested for the Wilson location being in violation.
- Received emails and calls about how nice the new flags look. The wreaths will be going up at the end of the week.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

- Adoption of solicitation ordinance was tabled until the December meeting.
- Postpone Christmas celebration will be cancelled due to Governor Covid 19 orders.
- Rezoning request from A&D Group Holdings LLC for Parcel 41152, corner of Tucker and HWY 33, from Agricultural Residential to General Business will be addressed before the December Council meeting.
- 2021 calendar/holiday schedule was reviewed and approved.

### **ITEMS FOR MOTION:**

- A motion was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas for the Wilson Street property being in violation of Simpson Ordinance for Garbage, Refuse and Vegetation. Councilwoman Mary Moyer seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to gift over age eighty (80) residents with a gift certificate. Councilwoman Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

- A motion was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas to approve the dates for Council meetings and holiday schedule. Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

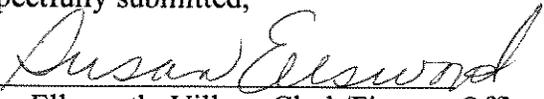
**CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION**

- Discussion on the need to go into Closed Session to approve Closed Session minutes from February 24, 2020.
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2020 closed session. Councilwoman Mary Moyer seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

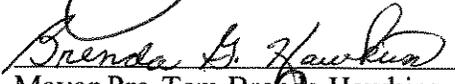
A motion was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Moyer. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

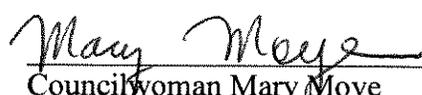
  
Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 12/14/2020  
Date

  
Mayor Richard Zeck

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda Hawkins

  
Councilwoman Dianne Thomas

  
Councilwoman Mary Moyer

Next meeting: December 14, 2020

