

**The Village of Simpson
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2023
6:00 P.M.**

The Village of Simpson held a Regular Council Meeting at 6:00 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 was 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/Clerk
James Vincent, newly elected councilman
Citizens

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Councilwoman Mary Moye provided prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND NOVEMBER 2023 COUNCIL 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 November 13, 2023 council minutes and Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

Mayor Zeck presented Mary Moye with a plaque and gift, thanking her for your service to the community.

COMMENT BY OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER

Mary Moye stated it was a pleasure to serve the community, will be available in the future if a needed, thanked everyone for all of their support.

SWEARING IN CEMEMONY OF THE MAYOR:

Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Foster sworn in Rich Zeck as Mayor of the Village of Simpson.

SWEARING IN CEMEMONY OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Foster sworn in Brenda Hawkins, James Vincent and Dianne Thomas as Village of Simpson Council Members.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:

No comments

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for voting for her, mentioned Holidays, birthdays, and concerns about the opening and closing of the park.
- Councilman James Vincent spoke briefly thanking everyone for giving him the opportunity to keep the community moving forward.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for their support and have a Merry and Blessed Christmas

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Attorney Keen Lassiter was not in attendance due to another commitment

MAYOR REPORTS:

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly, Christmas cards for over 75 residents will go out this week, attended nice celebration at Phillippi Church last week, some of goals for Simpon are the same as in the past, have a board of unity, Simpson is on the cusp of change with new development in the area, document things with email, reviewing email on regular bases, round about for Simpson is continues to be a priority, working on the legal process of the issues on Edwards Street, dog ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2024, waiting for Pitt County to finalize the agreement between Simpson and the county. Last home appraisal was done in 2020, in January 2024 Pitt County will start a new appraisal process.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- A municipal accounting services, cybersecurity and technical assistance memorandum of agreement between Village of Simpson and North Carolina League of Municipalities
- Village of Simpson Planning Board recommendation of approval of the request by Andy Knopic, for a restaurant, lounge and entertainment business located at 4999 NC HWY 33 East

ITEMS FOR MOTION:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins for Mary Moyer to continue as Simpson representative for the Pitt County Human Relations Committee until December 31, 2024. Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas to approve the Village of Simpson Planning Board recommendation of approval of the request by Andy Knopic, for a restaurant, lounge and entertainment business located at 4999 NC HWY 33 East. Councilman James Vincent seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas to approve the municipal accounting services, cybersecurity and technical assistance memorandum of agreement between Village of Simpson and North Carolina League of Municipalities. Councilman James Vincent seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to approve Dianne Thomas as Mayor ProTem as per the Simpson policy being the highest vote getter. Councilman James Vincent seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

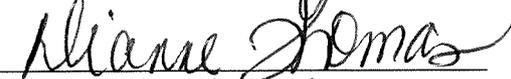
Approved On 1/22/24
Date



Mayor Richard Zeck



Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins



Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas



Councilman James Vincent