

**The Village of Simpson  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
March 20, 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**

Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins provided prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND February 2023 COUNCIL 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 Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas made the motion to approve the February 2023 council minutes and Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

**PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:**

James Dixon – nice to see the baseball field back in business, any projects coming up for the town?

Mary Walker requested the ditches on Hardee Street be cleaned out.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for attending, wishing happy birthday, anniversary, Good Friday, Palm Sunday and Easter to all, reminder to file taxes, senior games registration at the Alice Keene Center is scheduled from Feb 7<sup>th</sup> to March 23<sup>th</sup>, games will held April 17<sup>th</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>, please check on seniors, meals on wheels still taking applications, the games will be played April 17<sup>th</sup> -May 7<sup>th</sup>, volunteers are needed, Red Cross delivered gift bags to veterans and thanking them for their past service.
- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out, Kandie Smith stated there are surplus funds from the budget, she will conduct a district wide listening tour.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming to the meeting, happy first day of spring, longtime resident Toby Hamilton passed away.

### **ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Attorney Keen Lassiter spoke about the 8 properties with tax liens sent to him by the clerk, spoke with the mayor what can be done for collection, prepared a certified letter that will be sent out to the property owners, stating they need to pay, if properties are sold the liens would be collected at the time of the sale of the property, or a lawsuit could be filed. Lawsuit will be filed shortly for the house on Thompson Street.

### **MAYOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly:

- Coach Keyes has done a great job at cleaning up the ballfield, it is nice to have children back playing, they are not Simpson children, most ballfields charge for the use of the field, Simpson is doing an exchange of services instead of charging for the ballfield.
- Meals on Wheels routes require at least 10 people on a route, Simpson is short people and at the possible loss of the service, if you know anyone that may qualify, please have them apply.
- Clean up week starts next week, March 27<sup>th</sup>
- Lot behind the post office will be breaking ground any day on new homes. It has been 25 years since a new home has been built in our community. It will help increase our tax base and improve our position for getting grants.
- Good on collecting taxes, sales & use, beverage, and other state income.
- Metronet has been pushed back until May.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Park facility, we are non-compliant with the bathrooms and building regulations, roofing and plumbing issues. Looking for ideas with what we need to do there. A couple of pictures included in council packet on some idea of what would work. The cost is very high and continue to increase.

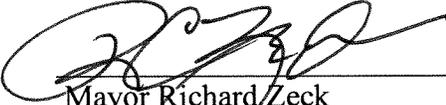
**ADJOURNMENT**

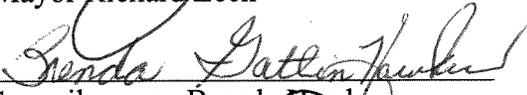
A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

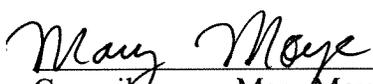
  
Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 4/17/23  
Date

  
Mayor Richard Zeck

  
Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas

  
Councilwoman Mary Moyer