

**The Village of Simpson  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 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 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 Mary Moye provided prayer.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND JUNE 19, 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. Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the June 19, 2023 council minutes and Mayor ProTem Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

**PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:**

James Dixon asked why Coach Keyes needed to reserve the park/baseball field and an area by the basketball court needing mowing  
Oscar Telfaire asked if Coach Keyes is compensated for the work he does at the park

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly thanking everyone for attending, mentioned events happening soon, wishing happy birthdays, has a list of items that need attention in the village to give to the clerk.
- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming out, mentioned early voting will start in October and ID is required this year, Pitt County Human Relations would like to tour the village and listen to residents' concerns, mentioned the Blakely property is in need of attention.
- Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas spoke briefly thanking everyone for coming to the meeting, need for grass in empty lots in need of mowing.

### **ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Attorney Keen Lassiter spoke briefly

- Thompson Street property complaint is completed, it will be wrapped up soon and filed at the district court
- Newbold property a letter has been prepared to send to Mr. Newbold, if he doesn't response to the letter the next course of action will be to start enforcement proceedings.

### **MAYOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Richard Zeck spoke briefly

- Abandoned properties and spending village money to keep properties up to code
- July and August financials are waiting for revenues that will happen after the state approves the budget
- Park has bleachers and cleanup is complete, prepared for what the future plans will include
- Road by the fire department has been repaired, Mill and Kent had a collapsed tile that was repaired.
- Erosion issue at the end of Telfaire and Moore has been addressed
- Dog ordinance needs to be reviewed and ready for discussion at the October council meeting. Suggestions for review, commercial vs. resident, lot size, number of dogs, and language that needs to be removed.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

FY 2023-2024 Budget Amendment

Water hook up fee to include Simpson ETJ

Community Clean Up Day

Council selected October 21-28, 2023 for Community Clean Up Day and will work on the possibility of pickup service

**ITEMS FOR MOTION:**

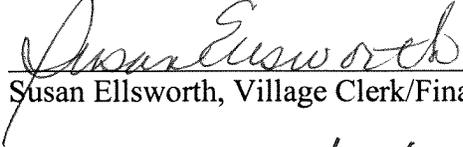
A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dianne Thomas to approve FY 2023-2024 budget amendment. Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dianne Thomas to approve the water hook up fee to include Simpson ETJ. Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

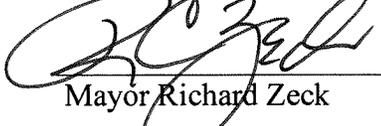
**ADJOURNMENT**

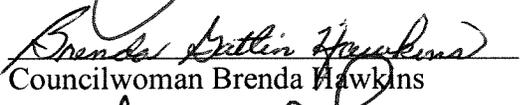
A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dianne Thomas to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

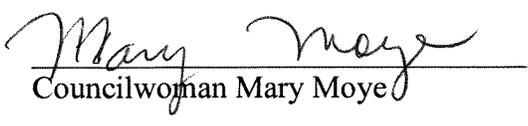
  
Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 10/16/23  
Date

  
Mayor Richard Zeck

  
Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins

  
Mayor Pro-Tem Dianne Thomas

  
Councilwoman Mary Moye