

**The Village of Simpson
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2021
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, 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

Mayor Rich Zeck provided prayer and pledge.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND DECEMBER MINUTES

Mayor Richard Zeck added to the agenda, Black History Month Proclamation and the Rezoning request, tabled from December meeting, of Parcel 41152 0 Highway 33 East from Agricultural Residential to General Business.

Councilwoman Dianne Thomas made the motion to approve the agenda with changes and Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion was automatically passed as there were two council members in attendance.

Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins made the motion to approve the December minutes and Councilwoman Dianne Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was automatically passed as there were two council members in attendance.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES TO THE COUNCIL:

No public comment

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins spoke briefly wishing Happy New Year and happy birthday for January and February birthdays. Concerned about the increase Simpson Post Box rent and what can be done. Mentioned that two people over 80 may have been missed at Christmas, suggested we send a card for Valentine. Several signs need to be straightened or replaced. There are some potholes that need repair.
- Councilwoman Mary Moye spoke briefly about a new strain of virus that has arrived in NC, asking everyone to be very careful.
- Councilwoman Dianne Thomas spoke briefly on Vidant Medical Center and Pitt County Health Department on how to set up an appointment for the COVID test or shot.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Attorney Keen Lassiter

- Spoke on the complaint at 417, 421 and 423 Wilson Street. A draft of the complaint was completed around Thanksgiving, worked on the second draft, and will have a final draft ready this week. Each mobile home fall under different statutes requiring filing three claims to the District Court. There should not be a problem getting them served by the Pitt County Sheriff because we know where they live. Once served they have thirty days to respond.

MAYOR REPORTS:

Mayor Richard Zeck

- Spoke about reporting any light poles that are out as soon as possible to the office, waiting to report at the meetings may slow down repairs.
- The four new Welcome to Simpson signs had been on order for two years, are now installed.
- Will be starting preliminary conversation with Metro Net next week about tagging on with Greenville and may possibly get a senior based deal for internet, cable, and regular phone service.
- Spoke with the Regional person in Raleigh about the increase in Post Office box rental, it is based on supply and demand. This is a Federal program and citizens need to contact the local legislators to express concern of the price increase.
- As mentioned in the past, the encroachment of Greenville is going to happen, Highway 33 is a gold mine. Hwy 33 is going to be a main corridor going back and forth from the area to Greenville. Big developers will ask Greenville to annex a parcel so sewer can be put in. This will result in a loss of good income to Simpson. As elected officials the number one priority is to Simpson and to be good stewards to the surrounding area.
- Black History Month Proclamation was signed by the Mayor Zeck.

ITEMS FOR MOTION:

A motion for rezoning Parcel 41152, 0 NC Highway 33 East from Agricultural Residential to General Business was made by Councilwoman Dianne Thomas. Councilwoman Mary Moye seconded the motion. All voted "Aye", the motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brenda Hawkins to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Mary Moye. All voted "Aye", the motion carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Ellsworth, Village Clerk/Finance Officer

Approved On 2/22/2021
Date



Mayor Richard Zeck



Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda Hawkins



Councilwoman Dianne Thomas



Councilwoman Mary Moye