

**Town of Honea Path
Council Meeting
August 15, 2023
6 PM**

Mayor Christopher Burton called the regular meeting to order. Members present, Earle Ashley Ward 1 council member, Sheila Caldwell, Ward 2 council woman, Jean Perrett, Ward 3 council woman, Rebecca Robinson, Ward 4 council woman, and Dot Evans, Ward 5 council woman and Ward 6 - Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor.

Mayor Christopher Burton asked Chief Smith to pray. Mayor Christopher Burton asked the group to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Christopher Burton asked the council to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2023 meeting. Evans made a motion to accept the minutes stated above, as written. Taylor seconded the motion. All approved the minutes. All in favor, it is so ordered, 6 to 0.

Mayor Christopher Burton thanked all citizens who attended the meeting tonight and reminded everyone of the Honea Path's upcoming November 7, 2023 election for Mayor and council wards 2, 4 and 6.

Mayor Christopher Burton stated that the Youth Council Update was unavailable.

Mayor Christopher Burton asked Ken Jordan to come forward as he was speaking on behalf of his uncle Charles Jordan. Mr. Jordan asked the Town Council to consider changing the ruling from the HP zoning committee regarding his uncle's request to place a mobile home on Green Street. Ken Jordan stated that the Town initially approved the zoning request. Then the zoning committee rejected the same request. Mr. Charles Jordan purchased a mobile home based on the prior approval from the Town. Ken Jordan stated that his uncle, Charles Jordan, was out approximately \$100,000 based on the initial approval from the Town. Ken Jordan asked the Town Council to override the denial of the zoning committee ruling based on a hardship request and the age of his uncle.

Mayor Christopher Burton stated that the Town Council would review the initial recommendation of the zoning committee.

Mayor Christopher Burton discussed the need to increase the rates on Multiple Poly Carts for the Town of Honea Path. See attached proposed rates. Taylor made a motion to adopt the 2nd and final reading on increasing the Multiple Poly Carts rates per attached schedule. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Town Engineer, Keith Dunn, presented the bids on the corner creek rehabilitation project, which is fully funded by the SCIIP. The Town received 3 bids as follows:

Portland Construction Company, LLC	\$3,476,639
Online Construction Company, LLC	\$3,908,811
North America Construction Company, LLC	\$4,646,350

Mayor Christopher Burton discussed the 3 bids in detail after Mr. Dunn reviewed them in depth. See attached copy of bids. Taylor made a motion to accept the lowest bid from Portland Construction Company, LLC, in the amount of \$3,476,639. Ashley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Matt McCullough reported that the estimated cost of the new dump truck would be \$115,575 and would not be delivered until 18 to 24 months. Taylor made a motion to accept the above proposal from SC State Purchasing, in the amount of \$115,575. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Hall stated that the town's cash position in the general fund is approximately \$300,000 less than we had last year at the same time. It is estimated that the general fund will have estimated shortfall of \$300,000 for FY2023-24. Hall discussed the FY2023-24 budget. Cash flow is at a critical point. He projects that the Town will have a deficit for this year based on the below issues. Overtime in the Police Department is exceeding budget by a large amount, the S.C. State Accident Fund informed the Town that our annual premiums are increasing from \$68,316 to \$98,072. We are still experiencing increasing in various repair and maintenance budgets throughout the Town that were not planned or budgeted.

Hall requested that the Town move \$309,000 from the general fund reserve account to the general fund. Taylor made a motion to move \$309,000 from the general fund reserve account to the general fund. Caldwell seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Talyor made a motion to go into executive session. Caldwell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Talyor made a motion to come out of executive session. Caldwell seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Rita Drinkwine was present to discuss relations to disaster from Clemson University. The council took the presentation as information.

Taylor made the motion to adjourn. Perrett seconded, all voted on favor.

Mayor Christopher Burton

Amanda Porter, Clerk & Treasurer