

**Town of Honea Path
Council Meeting
June 20, 2023
6 PM**

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

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked Chief Smith to pray. Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked the group to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked the council to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2023 meeting. Evans made a motion to accept the minutes stated above, as written. Perrett seconded the motion. All approved the minutes. All in favor, it is so ordered, 4 to 0.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor thanked all citizens who attended the meeting tonight and reminded everyone of the Honea Path's 3rd annual Independence Day celebration.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor stated that the Youth Council Update was unavailable.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked that the Council go into executive session for an important personnel matter. Robinson made a motion to go into executive session for an important personnel matter. Perrett seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Executive session for personnel matter

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for the council to return to regular session. Robinson made a motion to come out of executive. Ashley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Leslie Walker, Clerk/Treasurer effective June 23, 2023. Ashley made a motion to accept the above motion. Perrett seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor stated that in consideration of the unfortunate and critical timing of this resignation, Mayor Chris Burton has asked Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor to request the town council to temporarily appoint Mrs. Amanda Porter, as acting Clerk/Treasurer, effective immediately. Mrs. Porter will be on a 60-day probationary period. After this period of time, the Council will consider a full time appointment. Robinson made a motion to accept the above recommendation. Ashley seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked Mrs. Amanda Porter to come forward to be sworn in as acting Clerk/Treasurer, effective immediately. The oath of office for town clerk/treasurer was officially administrated and properly executed per the town ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked town attorney, Jimmy King to bring forth legal matters regarding signing an agreement with Stantec, which would allow the town of Honea Path to potentially, receive additional \$2 million dollars in grant funds for the clean-up of the Chiquola Mill site.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include the above item. Evans made a motion to accept the above recommendation. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for a motion to sign the above agreement (see attached) with Stantec. Robinson made a motion to accept the above recommendation. Evans seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor reminded the town council of the SCMASC meeting in Greenville, SC, on July 27 – 30, 2023.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for a motion to amend the agenda to approve the first reading by title only, increasing water rates by \$.20/1000 gallon effective August 1, 2023. The B-HP Water Authority increased their water rates effective July 1, 2023. Evans made a motion to accept the above recommendation. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor asked for a motion to amend the agenda to accept information regarding the announcement that the town would receive approximately \$300,000 from the state for substandard housing and \$30,000 for improvements to Watkins Community Center. Evans made a motion to accept the above recommendation. Robinson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Department heads had no new business to inform council.

Evans stated that this year's summer children's theatre would be from July 10th to 13th.

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor announced that the 4 - year election for mayor and wards 2, 4, and 6, will be held this year in November. The exact dates for signs up will be set at a later date. The Anderson County Elections Commission will assist with the election. The fees for filing are as follows: \$100 for mayor and \$50 for council. There is also a refundable fee for campaign signs of \$50.

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

Mayor Pro Tempore Jim Taylor

Amanda Porter, Clerk & Treasurer