

Town of Honea Path
Council Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2025
6 PM

Mayor Jimmy Smith called the meeting to order. Members present, Ward 1 Council Member, Mr. Earle Ashley, Ward 2 Council Lady, Ms. Sheila Caldwell, Ward 4 Council Lady, Mrs. Marie Jenkins, Ward 5, Council Lady Ms. Dot Evans, and Ward 6, Mayor Pro-Tempore Mr. Jim Taylor. Ward 3 Council Lady, Ms. Jean Perrett was absent due to illness.

Mayor Jimmy Smith asked the group to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Jimmy Smith then asked Rev. Shannon Bullion to pray.

Mayor Jimmy Smith asked the council to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2025, meeting. Mr. Jim Taylor made a motion to accept the minutes stated above, and Ms. Evans seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

In the opening remarks, Mayor Jimmy Smith thanked everyone for showing up for the meeting and made sure they knew about the Public Comments Sign Up at 5:30 before each council meeting, and that Public Comments and questions will start at 5:45.

In new business, Mayor Jimmy Smith asked Mr. Larry Young to give the monthly financial report. Mr. Taylor then made a motion to accept the report as given, and Mr. Ashley seconded the motion, and all were in favor 5-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith then acknowledged Mr. Keith Dunn, the town's engineer. Mr. Dunn was present to ask for the council's approval of the bids for the upcoming Chiquola and Clatworthy project. He made the recommendation for council to accept The Hinterland Group's bid for Phase 1, Division A, in the amount of \$420,494.00. Mr. Ashley made a motion to accept the recommendation given by Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0. Mr. Dunn then recommended for council to accept Portland Utilities Construction Co., LLC's bid for Phase 2, Division B in the amount of \$1,172,473.21. Mrs. Jenkins made a motion to accept this recommendation given by Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0. Mr. Dunn was thanked for the service he has given to the town throughout the past several years to help get funds for projects such as this one. Mr. Dunn then thanked the town in return for cooperation in all the work that has been done and still to come.

Mayor Jimmy Smith reminded everyone of the upcoming election on November 4, 2025. He encouraged the crowd to vote. The town will have 3 ward seats to be filled during this election. Ward 1, with Mr. Earle Ashley running unopposed, Ward 3, with Mr. Jason Peterson running unopposed, and Ward 5, with Mrs. Molly Fisher running unopposed.

The second reading on the annexation of the property on Mitchell Street was held during this meeting. Attorney Daniel Hughes explained to council that everything was in order for the Thompson property to be annexed into the town. Mayor Jimmy Smith then asked for a motion to annex this property. A motion was made by Mr. Taylor with a second made by Mrs. Jenkins. All were in favor of the annexation, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith suggested the first reading on annexing property on Sherwood Avenue and Tribble Street. Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept this as the first reading to annex the property on Sherwood Avenue and Tribble Street, and Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

A lease agreement to lease the parking lot behind Alex Turner's property that joins the town's portion of the lot was brought before council to lease the property for \$1.00 per year. Mr. Ashley made a motion to approve the

lease agreement, and Ms. Caldwell made the second. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0. The same agreement was made for the property behind the Dandi Foundation, owner Demika Schlabach, for \$1.00 a year also. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve this lease agreement and Mrs. Jenkins seconded the motion. Ms. Evans was exempt from this vote since she is the mother of the owner. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

A recommendation to enroll with WIX for gas cards for the town vehicles was brought before council by Mr. Larry Young. He proceeded to explain in detail how these cards would work, and how it would be more convenient for town employees. Mr. Taylor made a motion to enroll with WIX, and Mrs. Jenkins made the second. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith presented the brochures that Empower Honea Path designed and had printed to go into all the welcome centers coming into South Carolina and other buildings of importance in Anderson County and surrounding areas.

Mayor Jimmy Smith announced that Kirby Sanitation has sold the contract for the town to Local Waste of the Upstate. He reassured council and the public that this would not affect the rates that were agreed upon in the previous contract and that everything would remain the same. The new company will be replacing the stickers on the cans soon with their logo.

With the previous administration, there was an agreement made for the town to match money with the Timken Grant for the farmers' market, with the approximate amount of \$67,000. This agreement was not discussed with, nor was the new administration aware of it. Therefore, it has now been agreed that the town would make 2 payments to the Empower Group for \$12,000, the first in September and the second in October. To do this, the Hospitality budget must be amended. Ms. Caldwell made a motion for this to be the first reading to amend the Hospitality Budget, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

There was a need for a vote to match a PARD Grant, in the amount of \$3,125.00. Mr. Taylor made a motion to match this PARD Grant, and Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith made council aware of property on Laurel Street and Sirrine Street that are owned by the town, and both need to be appraised to be sold. Mayor Jimmy Smith asked for a motion to get these lots appraised. Mrs. Jenkins made the motion and Mr. Taylor seconded. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

Chief Chris Miller brought before the council a need for an Alcohol Sales Ordinance. This would be the first reading to approve the ordinance. Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept this as the first reading for the ordinance, and Mrs. Jenkins made the second. All voted in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Matt McCullough brought before the council the need for a transfer switch for the Public Works Department. The price for the transfer switch is \$13,468.75. Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the price for the transfer switch, and Mr. Ashley seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Council was asked to approve getting Duke Energy to install a streetlight at the corner of Marcy Jo Drive and Lincoln Lane. Ms. Evans made a motion to approve the installation, and Mr. Ashley seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 5-0.

Under old business, A recommendation was made that the surplus vehicles that will be up for sale, be sold by taking sealed bids. The bids will be taken up to 4:00pm on September 16, 2025, which is the date of the next council meeting. Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the recommendation, and Mrs. Jenkins made the second. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Jimmy Smith then spoke on the C-fund paving. Council Members had given him the roads that are most needed to be repaired. These roads included:

Ward 3: U Street

Ward 4: Maryland Avenue, Sirrine Street, Carolina Avenue and Chiquola Avenue

Ward 5: Linda Lane, the corner of Susan Avenue, Lincoln Lane and Marcy Jo Drive

Ward 6: Sunset Drive, East McGee Street and West McGee Street

Mayor Jimmy Smith reminded everyone that the council meetings will be moved to the second Monday of every month beginning in October 2025.

Mr. Ashley made a point to thank the Empower Group for the work that is being done in Town.

Ms. Evans wanted to remind the public of the Honea Path Rodeo coming up on September 5 and 6, and of the Town wide yard sale on September 13.

At this time, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion, and all were in favor, passing the motion 5-0, and it was so ordered.

X

Jimmy Smith, Mayor

X

Amanda Porter, Clerk/Treasurer

