

**Town of Honea Path
Council Meeting Minutes
October 13, 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. James Davis 111 to pray.

Mayor Jimmy Smith asked the council to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025, meeting. Ms. Caldwell made a motion to approve the minutes stated above, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0, with all in favor.

In the opening remarks, Mayor Jimmy Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Empower Honea Path for the hard work they put into the Fall Festival to make it a success. Jodie Fleming, President of Empower, stated that there were over 2,000 people that attended the festival. She also gave notice of the upcoming events for the town for the rest of 2025. No one signed up for Public Comments at this meeting.

In new business, Mayor Jimmy Smith started out by reminding the public of the impact Hurricane Helene had on our community. He then recognized and presented 2 plaques to Mr. Chris Roach, the manager of Food Lion, one in appreciation to him and one to Food Lion, for all the food and water that they so generously donated to the town for the citizens of our community and surrounding areas during this disastrous time for everyone. Food Lion completely absorbed the cost of everything that was given out, and Mr. Roach made sure things went as smoothly as possible and went above and beyond to try and ensure no one went without food or water. Mayor Jimmy Smith then asked Ms. Jean Perret's son, Bernard, to come forward and accept a plaque for his mother. This plaque was in observance and appreciation for her service to the Town of Honea Path for the last 12 years. Her dedication and love for our town does not go unnoticed. He then brought forward Ms. Dot Evans to receive a plaque for her 17 years of service to the Town of Honea Path. She has done many things to help the town, and it is because she "loves her town and will always be ready to help it grow and make it better"; and she made it clear she is not going anywhere, just taking a different seat. These 2 ladies have been a wonderful asset to the town council and will truly be missed when their terms are complete.

Mayor Jimmy Smith then asked Mr. Larry Young to give the monthly financial report. Mayor Jimmy Smith asked Ms. Caldwell to speak on the property on Laurel St. and Serrine St. She said her committee had decided it is in the best interest of the town to sell these 2 lots that are owned by the town. Ms. Caldwell made a motion to accept this decision to sell, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith then informed the council of a rental agreement for 102 Laurel St. This agreement stated that the property would be rented to Mr. Cedric Moss for \$100 a month. This will be due on the 15th of each month, and with 45 days' notice, this agreement can be canceled by either party. Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept this agreement, and Mrs. Jenkins made the second. All were in favor, and the motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Gaye Sprague, from Anderson County, was at this meeting to speak on Capital Project Sales Tax. This tax will be used for roads only, according to Ms. Sprague, and all roads that have been sent to the county are on the list for repair.

The Annexation for the Tri-City Shrine Club and Dollar General was tabled by Mayor Jimmy Smith until November.

The developers that purchased the property at 8 North Shirley Avenue have requested a resolution for mill tax credit. Mayor Jimmy Smith reviewed the request in detail with the council and after discussion, Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept this request. Mr. Ashley seconded the motion, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mr. George Keech was asked to give an update on the improvements to the water system that have been taking place throughout the town. Mr. Keech stated that the work should be finished by the end of October, and the roads should be repaired by the end of November.

Chief Paul McGaha then came forth to request a vote to repair the concrete back pad at the Fire Department. He had gotten 2 quotes for this work to be done. The lowest quote was from M & D for \$28,500.00. They also agreed to allow for this to be paid for in 2 payments. Ms. Jenkins made a motion to accept this quote from M & D and Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Jimmy Smith then asked the town Grant Writer, Mrs. Jan Bratcher to come forward and notify the community about the Land Water Conservation Fund Grant that she has been working on. The application for this grant is due by the end of November and is to be used for outdoor recreation. In this case, the goal for the town is pickle ball courts. This project should be completed by October 2026 if granted.

Under old business, Mayor Jimmy Smith asked Mr. Ashley, Chair of the Public Works Committee, to give an update on the C-fund paving. Mr. Ashley named the roads that had already been repaired. This list consists of George St., Black St., Graham St., U St., Yield St. and Serrine St. There will be a new list submitted to the county for repairs. The new list will consist of Lincoln Ln., Marcy Jo Dr., Shirmadon Dr., Chiquola Ave., Maryland Ave., East McGee St., West McGee St., Carolina Ave. and Linda Ln.; Sunset Dr. will be patched.

Mayor Jimmy Smith called for the second reading on the Business License Ordinance. This is to update the class schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020. The changes to the ordinance will be to raise the rates from the first \$1000 base rate of \$30 to \$35, and for each additional \$1000 from \$1.10 to \$1.50. Ms. Caldwell made a motion to accept the request stated above, and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Taylor made a motion for the second reading of the property at 311 Bagwell Drive to be annexed to the Town Limits. Mrs. Jenkins made the second and it passed with all in favor 6-0. This property is zoned as RA.

Mr. Taylor made a motion to have a second reading of the new Open Container Ordinance; Mrs. Jenkins seconded the motion; all were in favor, and the motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Jimmy Smith asked for a vote to sell the Peterbilt Garbage Truck that had no bid in the September council meeting under sealed bids. D&S Sanitation was interested in purchasing it for \$42,500. Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the given price, and Mr. Ashley made the second. All were in favor, and the motion passed 6-0.

Under other business, Mrs. Jenkins bragged on how good Serrine St. looks. Mr. Ashley told Ms. Evans how much she would be missed by council, along with Ms. Perrett. Chief McGaha informed the council that the Fire Department had been awarded a FEMA Grant.

At this time, Mr. Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Jenkins seconded the motion, all were in favor, passing the motion 6-0, and it was so ordered.

X

Jimmy Smith, Mayor

X

Amanda Porter, Clerk/Treasurer