

# Village of South Charleston

## Commission Meeting

April 7, 2020

5:00 P.M.

Members Present: President Brad Taylor, Vice President Sam Stucky, Commissioner Larry Durfey, Clerk Jessica Hiser, Village Manager Trecia Waring and Chief Brian Redish

Guest: Lane Taylor

### Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

#### I. Roll Call

#### II. Addition or Corrections to the Minutes

- None
- Vice President Stucky motioned to approve the Minutes and with a second from Commissioner Durfey, and with a vote of 2/0 the motion passes.

#### III. Discussion of the Bills

- Commissioner Durfey asked about the size of the bill list. Jessica explained it is the end of the quarter and it has also been three weeks since the last meeting.
- Vice President Stucky motioned to approve the bills and with a second from Commissioner Durfey, and with a vote of 3/0 the motion passes.

#### IV. Action Items

- None

#### V. Village Manager Report

- The mowers and weed eaters have been serviced and cleaned. They will start the mowing the end of the week or the beginning of the week. They also have been washing up equipment including the salt truck and plow. The street sweeper is all back together and ready to get back out on the road. They have been working at cleaning up the cemetery with picking up sticks, adding and removing dirt on new graves. When the ground dries out some more, they start getting the new graves and

the ruts tilled, raked and seeded. The shed is all cleaned out. They have been working on the backhoe bucket. The vault companies have enlarged the vaults. They widened the grave bucket to accommodate the larger vaults. Brian Stevenson will be cleaning out the catch basin on Jamestown at the end of Sprague Road. We did receive some good and bad news. The cost estimates for the list of street we want to resurface had come in from the County and we were going to discuss them this evening. For the entire list, that was planned for this year the cost was going to be around \$120,000 so we should have the funds to do the entire list. We did get notification from Dean Fenton at the County Engineers Office, that all street projects are postponed until further notice. There will be brush chipping on Monday. Vice President Stucky asked about the lights at John Street. Trecia did not have an update on the lights but she will contact Steve from capital electric. He also asked about the road we had planned on resurfacing. Trecia said those road were. Liberty, Murray, John, Sunset, North Williams, Short and the residential section of Sprague Road. Commissioner Durfey asked why they are the ones who determine the road. Trecia said because that is who we do the bids thru. President Taylor wanted to discuss the hauling of dirt out of the Cemetery. We asked if there was a cost if we had the dirt hauled out and Trecia said yes it would cost the Village to pay someone to haul out the dirt. When he stopped down at the Sewer Plant on Friday and the employee was hauling dirt at his lunch break. The breaks on the dump truck were very hot. President Taylor asks that if he is doing that on his lunch break then he should not be rushing.

## **VI. Clerk's Report**

- The municipal income tax date has been extended until July 15<sup>th</sup>. So the Village can expect to see a decrease in income for a while. This will also be the same for our other income such as gas tax. Jessica asked the Commissioners if they wish to close the meeting from the public and if they are wanting to we would be able to use a live streaming option for the residents to be aware of the proceeding of the Village. They also have the option to reduce to one meeting a month. Vice President Stucky thinks with the social distancing we should be okay since we do not have a lot of attendance at the meetings anyway. Jessica would also like to speak with the Commissioners about the possibility of her working from home for two hours in the morning and being in the office from 10-4:30. She said this will be on a temporary basis until school is either back in session or school is over for the year. She is struggling with the homeschooling of her daughter and it would be easier for the homeschool work in the morning. Commissioner Durfey and Vice President Stucky understand the concerns that Jessica has about getting everything done. Their only concern is that they would like someone to answer the phones. Jessica did explain that she has an emergency cell phone and that she could put that number on her message and they could contact her 8-10 in an emergency if necessary. Vice President Stucky motioned to approve Jessica to

work from home from 8-10 in the morning with a cell phone and with a second from Commissioner Durfey and a vote of 2/0, the motion is approved.

## **VII. Chief's Report**

- He gave his calls of service report. He has spoken with both 120 and 128 Jamestown Street about their houses that have burnt down. The gas was disconnected at 120 East Jamestown so it is hopeful that it will be taken down soon. Trecia and Chief had the county come out at 128 Jamestown Street since there was no insurance on the property. This gets the ball rolling on getting the house to be torn down. He did try to sell the house. Chief is getting a lot of nuisance letters returned. He is not sure if this has to do with COVID-19. He will follow up with them. They have been around town helping with the various businesses. He feels that they are adjusting but he is currently not happy with the Dollar Store. He feels that the Dollar Store Corporation has failed the company. He is considering talking with Mr. Patterson about the situation to help improve their policy. We were able to get some PPE supplies from the EMA. President Taylor asked about our currently double policing and Chief said that part of that is Mike is still being paid by the SRO and he must get his hours. He does not want to double up cars with officers. President Taylor saw two officers sitting at Dollar General and they were there for a while. Chief said that he discusses this with his officers.

## **VIII. New Business**

- Water and Sewer Charges. Jessica would like to discuss what she has found. As the bills were coming in and Jessica was discussing the increase with residents she realized that their water bills had increased more than expected. When she says that she dug deeper and realized that there had been a computer glitch and the sewer charges had not been right for the year of 2019. They were being undercharged for sewer the entire year. When the increase was applied this year the glitch was repaired. This did not affect the residents with the lower bills they seemed to not see much of an increase it was the ones with higher usage. Her recommendation is to forgo the increase this year and just make the original adjustment to where the sewer charge should be. The commissioner does agree to this change and Jessica will start to make the adjustments. She also recommended to not send out bills but to let people call in and she can give them the adjusted bill. We are currently unable to shut off water until the State of Emergency is lifted. In the Newsletter she put a note about the situation we

are in. She wanted residents to know that while we are unable to shut off, their charges are still occurring. She reminded them to continue to pay even if it is a little bit, this will stop them from having a large bill when the State of Emergency is lifted. The Village does accept monthly payments and no payment plans will be accepted after the State of Emergency is lifted. They will be disconnected after they miss the payment following the lifting of the state of emergency.

- Trecia would like to discuss the information that she received from PEP our insurance company. We would be able to continue open meeting via live stream. We would be able to remove the option for questions. This would keep us compliant with the Sunshine law for the time being. She said that PEP also urges the administrative staff to work from home.

**IX. Old Business**

- None

**X. Public Comments**

- None

**XI. Executive Session**

-None

**XII. Motion to Adjourn**

Vice President Stucky motioned to adjourn the meeting and with a second from President Taylor and a vote of 3/0, the meeting is adjourned.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:52 pm

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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Jessica N Hiser/Clerk

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Brad Taylor/President

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY  
OF THE MINUTES AS TAKEN FROM THE FILES OF THE CLERK FOR THE  
VILLAGE OF SOUTH CHARLESTON COMMISSION