

TOWN OF IVA  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, REGULAR  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, IVA TOWN HALL  
204 EAST JACKSON STREET, IVA, SOUTH CAROLINA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2009  
10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

A meeting of the Iva Town Council was held on Monday, February 9, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the council chambers of the Iva Town Hall, located at 204 East Jackson Street in Iva. In compliance with the Freedom of Information Act, proper notification of the meeting was given.

**Officials Present:**

Mr. Bobby E. Gentry, Mayor  
Mr. Elmer Powell, Council Ward One  
Mr. Kenneth Norwood, Council Ward Two  
Ms. Mary Forrester, Council Ward Three, Mayor Pro-tem  
Mr. Tim Taylor, Town Clerk/Treasurer  
Ms. Mary McCormac, Town Attorney

(The council seat for ward four is vacant)

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gentry

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

The invocation was offered by Rev. Paul Young. Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America following the invocation.

**Proclamation Recognizing the Month of February as "African-American History Month"**

Mayor Gentry approved a proclamation that recognizes the month of February as "African-American History Month". The proclamation was read aloud.

Three students from Flat-Rock Elementary School participated in the meeting by reading reports that they had written about famous African-Americans. Ms. Connie Gray, an official with

Anderson School District Three, commented to the Mayor and Council that these students participated in a writing contest in the school and were the top three winners.

**Citizen Comments:**

Ms. Annette Holley commented to the Mayor and Town Council in regards to the following issues:

- Town of Iva \$75,000 Tax Anticipation Note.
- Industry recruitment to Iva.
- A city employee burning after 2 p.m. in Iva. Mayor Gentry commented that the employee had a permit.
- Ordinances need to apply to all residents.
- A mobile home that is owned by Ms. Forrester.
- Lead pipes.
- The condition of the Iva Water Tank.
- Cats are a problem at her rental properties. Mayor Gentry informed Ms. Holley that he would have cat traps placed at each rental property she owned if she requested.

Mr. Wansley Shaw commented to the Mayor and Town Council. He commented that he has not been in attendance at council meetings in the last year. He congratulated the Town Council on progress and being involved in the community. Mr. Shaw expressed his concern with the "Junk Car Ordinance". Mr. Shaw commented that he had to move a car from his property because of the ordinance. Mr. Powell commented to Mr. Shaw that the ordinance did not only apply to cars, but to other items as well. Mr. Powell commented that the town is trying to clean up all areas of the town. Mr. Powell commented that the ordinance applies to houses as well.

Mayor Gentry commented that he has a list of property owners that have been asked to move items from their property that are in violation of the ordinance. Mayor Gentry also commented that seven houses have been taken down that were unsightly.

Mr. Shaw commented that had he not complied with the ordinance, he would have been fined \$1,200.00. Mayor Gentry commented that he wanted to work with property owners to have their items removed and not fine anyone. Mayor Gentry commented that individuals would be fined if they did not comply with the ordinance. Mr. Shaw commented that he would send a list of possible violators to the Town Hall.

Ms. Debbie Witherow reported that Depot Days will be held on October 10, 2009. She commented that a committee has been formed to coordinate Depot Days and changes will be made to make the event better. She commented that changes will be made to the registration form and that no vehicles will be allowed onto the ball field after 8:30 a.m. and no vehicles will be allowed onto the field for early take-downs.

Ms. Dorothy Smith commented to the Mayor and Council. Ms. Smith commented that town vehicles should stay parked to save on cost. She also commented that signs are being destroyed. Ms. Smith commented that she feels Anderson County Sheriff's Office should take over police protection in Iva. Ms. Smith asked if anything could be done about individuals riding horses through Iva. She also asked if it were legal to ride four-wheelers and golf-carts through Iva. Ms. Smith also commented that she felt like she was being racially discriminated against by employees at the Family Dollar Store in Iva. Ms. Smith also commented about a bad smell in Iva.

Mr. John D. Evans commented to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Evans asked if voting could take place in executive session. Mayor Gentry informed Mr. Evans that voting could not take place in executive session. Mr. Evans commented that he felt the Tri-County Technical College Extension Campus should have been located more near Iva. Mr. Evans asked if there were plans to have more traffic lights installed and also addressed his concerns about the need in having more locations to cross Hwy 81. Mr. Evans commented that he is interested in the historical locations in Iva and that Iva Planning Commission will be working to identify these locations in the comprehensive plan.

#### **Discussion of Water/Sewer Utility Rates**

Ms. McCormac addressed the Mayor and Council about the recent increases the town has occurred from Starr-Iva Water Department and Anderson County Sewer. Mr. Powell asked Ms. McCormac if it were legal for Anderson County Sewer to increase its rate without approval from the S.C. Public Service Commission. Ms. McCormac commented that Counties and Municipalities can increase rates without the approval of the S.C. Public Service Commission. Ms. McCormac prepared an ordinance for consideration by the Mayor and Council that increases certain rates for water and sewer for customers of the Town of Iva Water Works. Mayor Gentry and Council discussed the need for the rate increase and the increase occurred by the town from Starr-Iva Water and Anderson County Sewer. Mayor Gentry and Council agreed that any

increase to the water/sewer rates in Iva should be minimal. Mayor Gentry and Council agreed that the rate for minimum use should not change for water consumption. Ms. McCormac commented on the average rates for water and sewer service statewide. Mayor Gentry commented that at this time, the Town of Iva is not trying to make a profit from the sale of water and sewer service, but trying to break even. There was also discussion about needed repairs to both systems.

Mayor Gentry made a motion to add to the agenda Ordinance 2009-001 for first reading. Mr. Norwood seconded the motion. All were in favor.

#### **Ordinance 2009-001 (First Reading)**

Mr. Norwood made a motion to approve Ordinance 2009-001 for first reading. Mr. Powell seconded the motion. All were favor. The vote was 4-0.

#### **Resolution 2009-001 (Approval of Street Lamps to be Installed)**

Mayor Gentry presented Resolution 2009-001 for approval. Mayor Gentry commented that the resolution gives authorization to have a street-lamp installed at 1106 East Front Street in Ward One. Mr. Powell made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Forrester seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.

#### **Updates on Various Projects**

Mayor Gentry updated the council on the following projects:

- Hwy 81 Median Installation Project.  
Mayor Gentry commented that the encroachment permits should be approved soon. Work will begin as soon as the encroachment permits are approved.
- County Paving Account.  
Mayor Gentry commented that the current account balance for the paving account is \$49,724.00.
- East Lake Street Park  
Mayor Gentry commented some of the equipment from the East Lake Street Park is being removed. Mayor Gentry also mentioned that the Eagle Scouts will be assisting in cleaning the park.

### **Council Comments**

Mr. Powell commented that both the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals need active members.

Mr. Norwood commented on the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Norwood asked if the plan was ready for council to review. Mr. Norwood also commented that street signs he had reported being down are being replaced.

Mr. Forrester had no reports.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Powell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Norwood seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tim Taylor  
Town Clerk/Treasurer  
TOWN OF IVA