**Minutes of the**

**Pelzer Town Council**

**Monthly Meeting**

**June 6, 2016**

**Pelzer Community Building**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Steve McGregor, Councilmembers Kimberly Wilson, Will Ragland, Olene Bear, & Roger Scott, Sr.

**Employees;**

Heather Holcombe, Brad West, John Roache, and Skip Watkins

**INVOCATION/PRAYER;**  Mayor Steve McGregor

**RESIDENT INPUT:**

1. Mike Matthews – Ask if the town could bush hog the property behind the lower mill. Also, said the town needs some type of alarm system similar to the one the mill used.
2. Jimmy Harrison – Said someone had already shot out the newly lit streetlight on Parker St.

**APPROVE MINUTES FROM**

May 10, 2016 – Roger Scott, Sr. made a motion to accept. Kimberly Wilson seconded. All approved.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET FOR 2016/2017**

Jimmy Harrison asked for the budget to be explained. Skip Watkins passed out budget information. Stan Welch, The Journal, asked Mayor McGregor about recreation, whether it was a gain or loss. Mayor McGregor responded that it was a wash.

Gilbert Garrett asked about trash charges. He realized the budget lists $7 per resident for trash. He asked if the water rate will decrease due to the added line item. Skip Watkins said the water will not decrease.

Jimmy Harrison asked if the ballfields, gym, and community building were cut completely out of the budget. Mayor McGregor said no. The properties will continue to be maintained. Mayor McGregor said he would like to see the gym refurbished. Jimmy also asked if the ballfields will be used for athletics. Mayor McGregor said Pelzer is looking into options. Jimmy also asked if the town can get grants to fix up the ballfields and other recreation areas. Mayor McGregor shared an email from someone regarding recreation. Mayor McGregor also referred to the closing of the swimming pool 2 years earlier.

Duane Wilson asked Mayor McGregor to explain to those who were not present at the May council meeting what actually took place regarding deleting athletics for this fiscal year. Mayor McGregor explained that BJ Tompkins resigned as athletic director but continues to work for Williamston. Pelzer decided not to replace BJ in order to avoid competition between the towns.

Will Ragland said hospitality tax funds may be used renovate the gym.

Eve Holiday asked about prior fiscal year budgets. She wanted to know which items have increased from last year. Skip Watkins explained the council is planning to reclassify expenses such as redistributing payroll in specific accounts. Skip noted an increase in sewer utility expenses is due to the repayment of the Phase II Sewer Project loan. Eve commented on legal and audit fees. Eve also asked for an example of “other” expenses. Eve also asked with Skip’s retirement, who will be responsible for the budget questions? Mayor McGregor explained that Municipal Clerk, Heather Holcombe will assume Skip’s duties.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Phase II Sewer Project Update-Brad West, Maintenance Supervisor –

Crews are still working on the upper village. There are still a lot of complaints coming in. August should be the end for putting pipe in the ground. J&M are planning on filing an extension. Residents are to continue filing complaints at town hall. Brad added that the town replaced a 1940’s fire hydrant the week prior and the cost was nearly $10,000.

1. Final reading on Budget Ordinance #2016-001 for fiscal year 2016/2017 – Kimberly Wilson made a motion to accept. Roger Scott, Sr. seconded. All agreed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Mayor McGregor told residents Mayor Mack Durham from Williamston asked Pelzer and West Pelzer to fund $2500 per year to Williamston’s recreation program. Mayor McGregor said Pelzer had funded the program for years without help from any other town.

**INFORMATION**

1. Larry Coker – Pelzer Heritage Commission – Not Present
2. Beth Rostron – Pelzer Historical Society-Not Present

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Kimberly Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Olene Bear seconded. All agreed. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.