**MINUTES**

**TURBEVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 9, 2021**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Mayor Kathryn Turbeville, Councilmembers Herbert Mims, Tammy Hicks,

Judy Coker, and Doyl Gray

**Others Present:** Town Clerk Kaitlin Alexander, Town Administrator Bill Taylor, Public Works Director Ellis Evans, Clarendon County Councilman Benton Blakely, Town Inspector Curt Whaley, Juanita Welch, Ginnie Turbeville, Terry Dickey, Councilmember-elect Albert Mobley, Teresa Mickens, Jenna Windham, William Barnes, Crystal Barnes, Renea Carter, and Luther Faulk

1. Mayor Turbeville called the town council meeting to order at 6:30 pm and declared that a quorum was present. **Councilmember Mims** offered the invocation.
2. Mayor Turbeville called for the newly elected councilmembers to come forward. Town Administrator Bill Taylor administered the oath of office to Mr. Albert Mobley and Mr. Herbert Mims who won their seats on the town council in the November 2, 2021, general election. They will serve four-year terms through November 2025.
3. Mayor Turbeville requested consideration of the meeting agenda. **Councilmember Mims** made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by **Councilmember** **Gray** and passed by unanimous vote.
4. Mayor Turbeville asked if anyone was present who wished to address council. **Jenna Windham** stated the Town has always decorated the lamp posts around town. She asked if this could be a tradition and if the Town could have a tree lighting and have Santa visit. Mayor Turbeville told her the ministerial association is having a Christmas celebration on the first Sunday of December and that Santa and a tree lighting would be included.
5. County Councilman **Benton Blakely** stated that Turbeville will have an equal part in the county when it comes to taxes. He also said a 1% sales tax may be added in the future.
6. **William Barnes** asked why his water bill is so high and that he is not using 18,000 gallons of water. He requested that the town look into his situation. Mayor Turbeville informed him that Public Works Director Evans would check on the matter.
7. Mayor Turbeville introduced for council’s consideration the minutes from the October 12, 2021, regular council meeting. A motion was made by **Councilmember Gray** to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by **Councilmember Coker** and passed by unanimous vote.
8. Mayor Turbeville introduced **Curt Whaley**, the Town of Turbeville’s Building Inspector, to give an update on his activities in Turbeville. He stated there is one house under construction on Diles Bay Road, two houses that are installing solar panels, and one code violation. **Councilmember Hicks** asked if there is anything that the town can do for the silos owned by Gamble Family Farms. He stated that if the concrete was placed in a different location, it may have been easier for him to get the permits he needs. He stated there are certain setbacks that are required in every zoning district. **Councilmember Gray** asked if Inspector Whaley had spoken to Mr. Gamble and Mr. Whaley replied that he had attempted to in the past but found no one present. Inspector Whaley said the best option would be for him to request a variance from the Board of Zoning Appeals, consider relocating the proposed silo somewhere else on his property and to consider installing some type of buffer zone.
9. Mayor Turbeville introduced for council’s consideration the election of mayor pro-tem. The mayor pro-tem is selected after every general election. That individual would serve in the absence of the mayor. Councilman Mims has served in this capacity for the past two years. **Councilmember Gray** made the motion to elect **Councilmember Mims** as mayor pro-tem. The motion was seconded by **Councilmember Hicks** and passed by a unanimous vote.
10. Mayor Turbeville introduced the second Reading of **Ordinance 2021-05 - An Ordinance to Adopt a Revised Business License Ordinance in Accordance with the Business License Standardization Act (2020 Act No. 176).** A motion was made by **Councilmember Gray.** The motion was seconded by **Councilmember Mims** and passed by a unanimous vote.
11. **Councilmember Hicks** wanted to thank Public Works Director Evans for all he does for the Town of Turbeville. She stated he left his daughter’s wedding after the father/daughter dance to get the water turned on for the people in the town and made it back just in time to send her off with her new husband.
12. Mayor Turbeville stated she was proud of the turnout of the meeting that afternoon. She said that Turbeville is a strong community, and it needs to stay that way. She said she knows she has ruffled many feathers lately but there are steps that need to be taken for things to be done properly.
13. **Councilmember Hicks** asked a question for Town Administrator Taylor. She asked if there are any grants for things to be done in downtown Turbeville. Administrator Taylor stated there are different avenues for different grants and that we received our first allotment for the American Rescue Plan Act. He stated that council needs to have a mid-year review on the budget and that he would like to know the projects that the councilmembers are interested in pursuing.
14. **Councilmember Gray** stated the camera system on the water tower does not seem to be directed toward the area it is supposed to and he wanted to see about getting them corrected. County Councilman Benton Blakely stated Santee Electric gave money to the Turbeville Children’s Home, but Turbeville has not received anything. He said Theo Lane is our contact person for Duke Energy and the town should call him and see if they can help with any projects in which the town is interested.
15. There being no further business, **Councilmember Gray** made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by **Councilmember Mims** and passed by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at **7:15 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Kaitlin Alexander**

Town Clerk