TOWN OF HEMINGWAY

MINUTES OF MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

 110 SOUTH MAIN STREET AT 6:00 P.M.

**Present:** Mayor John Michael Collins, George Sutton-Mayor Pro-Tem, Keith Baxley, Charlie Carter, Jimmy Chinnes, Solomon Lewis, Bennett Cox, Tamara Johnson, Robin Lewis, Martha Burrows-Williamsburg County Hometown Chamber and Dianne Owens

**Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Collins.**

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Discussion on Christmas Event:** Martha Burrows is the new director of Williamsburg County Hometown Chamber. She stated that she is trying to make connections in each town or city in the county. She stated that Kingstree is the hub of the county, but Hemingway is the next big municipality and would like to start getting involved with the businesses. She had lunch with Robin Lewis and they discussed the needs for Hemingway. We need to put Hemingway on the map and get it highlighted. Some merchants have been meeting and they are now called the Hemingway Merchant’s Association. What better time is Christmas time and add to the parade that the Town puts on. They want to invite other merchants but wanted the Town’s consent first. They want this to lay a foundation for an annual event. They are looking at December 7th from 3:00-8:00 on Broad Street. They will close off the road from traffic. Schedule so far is 4:00-6:00 pictures with Santa and 6:00-8:00 Christmas movie. The food is going to be free. They want churches involved with caroling. They want to have a tree decorating contest, Lion’s Club would like to do an Angel tree, The Deli on Main wants to do a smore pit, Chamber will provide blow up activities, vendors will show off their wares. They are asking the Town for $1000 to get two regular port-a-potties, one handicapped port-a-potty, DJ and Santa, candy and prize money. They are asking to use the Town’s insurance policy. Mrs. Lewis was asked if they could use the insurance policy. Mrs. Lewis stated that the Town requires the Shag Festival to purchase additional insurance for their festival. Mayor Collins stated that the small insurance should cost them around $250-$300. Mr. Carter asked if that will be enough money for them to put on a good festival. He stated that if you are going to do it, make sure you do it right and not because of lack of funds. He asked where are the other funds coming from to fund the festival. Ms. Burrows stated that they are going to ask the merchants to help pitch in. They don’t want to gauge the Town for funds. Mr. Carter wants them to have adequate funds to put on a great show. Mayor Collins stated that the Johnsonville parade is set for that day and hopefully it will draw a crowd from that area. Mr. Sutton asked how are they going to show a movie. Ms. Burrows stated that they will use a projector. It will project the picture on the side of a building. Mayor Collins stated that he can move the stage and use the side of it for the movie. Ms. Johnson stated that they will be giving out tickets for the free items so that it won’t be abused. Mayor Collins stated that he has the application for $1000 but it needs to be changed to $1300. Mayor Collins made the motion to accept the application and submit funds to this festival in the amount of $1500 and it was seconded by Mr. Lewis and it carried unanimously

Mayor Collins made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mr. Chinnes and it carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Sincerely

Samantha Lewis

Town Clerk