

TOWN OF SWANSEA
GENERAL MEETING
November 28, 2022
6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Linda Butler
Councilman Michael Luongo
Councilwoman Doris Simmons
Mayor Viola McDaniel
Councilman Jerome Williams

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Viola McDaniel at the Swansea Municipal Court Room, 320 West third street.

All media notifications were sent and the proper posting at town hall and the police department and the town website.

The town met the quorum for the General meeting. It was followed by a 20 second Silent Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor presented the minutes for an approval. A motion by Councilman Luongo for an approval and second by Councilwoman Butler.

Motion passed Unanimously.

Mayor McDaniel presented to Council "Words from the Mayor". The Town of Swansea current situation to move forward. It was her completion of one year of service, which has been a growing and learning year since elected.

She ran on unification, as there was a lot of separation in the town. She wanted to bring the town together. She will be in her role as Mayor until 2025. Therefore, The Mayor is hoping Council will be on board as she strives to do better.

The Town of Swansea situation has not gotten any better. They forged through this year with the financial debt of the town. The economy itself has changed, the town will have to go with the changes. This means a price increase in some things.

The Mayor stated, they will need the support of the entire town. She thanked those that came out and wanted them to continue. So, everyone could get the same information and not get it second hand from Face Book, news outlets and other outside people. She and all of Council are asking for your support.

She hopes all of Council shared the same agenda, the constituents. Mayor stated there is no I, or me they are all one. There can be only one leader at a time. Mayor only has one vote. However, whenever Council members vote in unity and there is a majority, that is three and they have to go with that.

The Mayor asked, the town to pay their water bill as it brings in more revenue. She has created a system implemented and it is working. To the town neighbors and customers. Their water bill will be cut off at the end of month, if not paid. Mayor referenced, we on council to pay their water bills.

Central Midlands Council of Governments representative Rocky Simmons shared the following: The Hazard Mitigation Plan on any possible things i.e.: Hurricanes, Storms, tornadoes, National Disasters, floods, earthquakes that would possibly come to Swansea.

Fema Plan to be adopted by December 16, 2022. The Plan is done every 5 years, historical data, 1980 to present. Adoption Resolution for COG to stand behind town and give assistance.

A motion was presented to accept the new increase in Sanitation Fees at a rate of \$15.75, effective on the January 1, bill 2023 by Councilman Luongo and second by Councilwoman Butler.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor presented the Town of Swansea Holiday List for 2023 with two different list options. One (1) and Two (2).

A motion by Councilwoman Butler to accept Holiday list Two (2) and Second by Councilman Williams.

Councilman Luongo opened the floor up for discussion, with a question to all of the Council members Only. His question to them was...Which members of Council had anyone in their family in the **Confederacy** or was a **Slave**. He indicated; he did not have a dog in the fight. However, he wanted Council members to raise their hand, if they had any ancestors as slaves. Mayor McDaniel raised her hand.

Councilwoman Butler shared, she still felt like a slave. While Councilman Luongo continued, questioning her, if she had family members as slaves.

Councilman Williams told Councilman Luongo he couldn't say he did not have any, but stated it was an unfair Question.

Councilman Luongo stated, Council Members with roots from a Slave has to excuse themselves from voting on the Holiday list with Juneteenth listed. If there were personal ties to what is being voted on, they could not vote.

The Mayors response, to Councilman Luongo. To Think about the history of SC, Slaves, Rape, Mutilation some people don't want to realize or come to terms with it. The confederated is dead. Let it go! be smart, be human, be Kind and understanding; be a change for the World. We are going to move on, for what it represent to the People. Move on.

A motion was made to accept the Holiday schedule list number (2) two by Councilwoman Butler and second by Councilman Williams. The vote was 3 in Favor and (2) No's Councilman Luongo and Councilwoman Simmons.

Motion Passed.

The PSSC scheduled event on December 17th at the First Baptist church has requested for the street to be to be closed.

A motion was presented by Councilwoman Butler and Second by Councilman Luongo.

Motion unanimously Passed

POLICE REPORT

Chief Williams monthly report for November were 110 Citations, 3 Traffic Accidents and 52 incidents reports.

A number of events for the month of November/December:

1. Holiday Blood Drive
 - B. Block of Parking
2. Donate Money to the Town for Non-Profit/ For Blood Drive
3. Adopt a Family
4. SPD PATCH – Designer Sample

A motion was presented to go into Executive Session by Councilman Luongo and second by Councilman Williams.

Motion unanimously Passed.

Mayor McDaniel stated, there were no actions taken while in Executive Session.

A motion was presented to come out of Executive Session by Councilman Luongo and second by Councilwoman Butler.

Motion unanimously Passed.

A motion was made on item A in Executive Session to sell a piece of the town equipment by Councilman Luongo and second by Councilwoman Butler.

Motion unanimously Passed.

A motion to adjourn was requested by Councilwoman Butler and second by Councilman Williams.

Motion unanimously Passed.

Respectively Submitted,

Margaret Harvey
Clerk Treasurer