

TOWN OF NORWAY

PO Box 127

8403 Savannah Highway

Norway, South Carolina 29113

Phone: (803) 263-4300 / Fax: (803) 263-4114

ALL CELLPHONES ON SILENT OR VIBRATE. DO NOT ANSWER! EXCEPT, CHIEF OF POLICE

TOWN OF NORWAY COUNCIL MEETING

Via Conference Call/Virtual: 712-770-4598 Pin# 378 539 Playback #: 712-770-5402 Pin# 378 539 August 3, 2020 - 7PM

AGENDA

- 1. Call the Meeting to Order
- 2. Invocation
- 3. Approval of the Agenda
- 4. Approval of Previous Minutes
- 5. Approval of Treasurer's Financial Report (Attachment 1) Clerk/Treasurer
- 6. Department Reports
 - a. Police Department Chief Brad Wilke
 - b. Water Department Mayor Clemons
 - i. Water/Wastewater Commissioner Vacancy
 - ii. Winchester Avenue Improvement Project

7. Unfinished Business

- a. Website
- b. Town Code Ordinance 2nd Readings
 - i. Town Code 8.101 "Fiscal Year"
 - ii. Town Ordinance 1, Section 2 Standard Municipal Fine
- c. Census 2020 Update
- d. Town Codes 5.211 & 9.211 "Burning of Trash or Creating A Bonfire"

8. New Business

- a. COVID-19 Updates
 - i. Governor's & County Directives
 - ii. Testing Update
- b. 2020 Fall/2021 Spring Neighborhood Community Revitalization Grant Update
- c. Appeal to Bring SC Into the 21st Century of Learning for ALL Students
- 9. Public Comments (2-minute limit per person)
- 10. Announcements
- 11. *Executive Session
 - a. Town of Norway Property Offer & Appraisal
 - b. Monthly Room Rental at the Willow School for the Dept. of Corrections (Youth Offenders)
- 12. Adjourn

MINUTES

TOWN OF NORWAY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 6, 2020 - 7:00PM

- 1) VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mayor Tracie M. Clemons at 7:05pm.
- 2) MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Tracie M. Clemons, Councilperson Bonnie Fogle, Councilperson Gregg Covington, Councilperson Berley James, Chief Brad Wilke, Clerk Ellen Brundige.
- 3) INVOCATION BY: Councilperson Covington
- 4) AGENDA APPROVED: Motion was made to accept agenda by Councilperson Covington and seconded by Councilperson Fogle. All in favor, so moved.
- 5) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mayor Clemons asked Council to review the June 1, 2020 minutes and comment, if necessary. Councilperson Covington made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Councilperson Fogle seconded. All in favor, so moved.
- 6) SWEARING IN OF COUNCIL MEMBER;
 - a) Norway Councilperson, District 4: Mrs. Berley James: Ann Johnson signed off as notary.
 - b) Appoint Street Sanitation Commissioner: Mayor Clemons suggested that a motion be made to appoint Mrs. Berley James. She accepted. Motion to appoint Mrs. Berley James was made by Councilperson Covington. Councilperson Fogle seconded. All in favor, so moved.
 - c) Reappoint Parks & Recreation Commissioner: Mayor Clemons suggested that a motion be made to appoint Councilperson Berley James. She accepted. Councilperson Covington made a motion to accept the appointment and Councilperson Fogle seconded. All in favor, so moved.
- 7) TREASURER'S REPORT APPROVED: Mayor Clemons read off some of the figures and asked Council to review the report. Councilperson James made a motion to accept the financial report as submitted and Councilperson Fogle seconded. All in favor, so moved.
- 8) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
 - a) POLICE DEPARTMENT: Presented by Police Chief Brad Wilke.
 - Property crimes are up. Cleared several through investigative work. Proposed the hiring of another part-time officer to help cover the area so people feel more secure.
 - ii. Looking into additional grants for medical gear (ie, gauze).
 - iii. Currently will continue to hold traffic court. Will be requiring the use of face masks during court.
 - b) WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT: Presented by Mayor Clemons.
 - i. Winchester Avenue Improvement Project
 - (1) Water leak on July 4, 2020.
 - (2) Waste Water Plant is running smoothly. All tests are in the green.
 - (3) Winchester Avenue water lines are in the process of being replaced with PVC pipe.
 - (4) Changes will need to be made to Cory, Hunter and Kinard streets.

9) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Town Code Ordinance 1st Readings
 - Town Code 8.101 "Fiscal Year" amended to July 1, 2020 June 30, 2021.
 Second reading at next council meeting. Councilperson Berley James made a motion to accept changing over to a fiscal year and Councilperson Gregg Covington seconded. All in favor, so moved.
 - ii. Town Codes 5.211 & 9.211 "Burning of Trash or Creating a Bonfire" Have been combined and necessary changes made. After reading the proposed changes to the ordinance, Councilperson James asked about the burning of leaves. After discussion, there was a motion to table made by Councilperson Fogle and seconded by Councilperson James. All in favor, so moved.
 - iii. Town Ordinance 1, Section 2 "Standard Municipal Fine" First reading Amended to change fees from the current \$500 to \$1,087.50 which includes the minimum fine of \$500 x 2.075 (assessment fee), a \$25 enforcement fee and a \$25 victim's advocate fee. There will be a second reading of this updated ordinance at the next Town Council meeting. Motion to accept the ordinance as proposed was made by Councilperson Covington. Councilperson James seconded. All in favor, so moved.
- b) 2020 Spring Round Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Update: All forms that were submitted to the Town have been turned in. Our grant application was submitted on June 29. Will know by early September, if we are approved for another grant.
- c) Census 2020 Update:
 - i. The Town was awarded a \$500 grant and has purchased 35 yard signs to be placed along Hwys 321, 332 and 400 and in some of our neighborhoods. The Census team will put them in place.
 - ii. The Town's response rate so far as of July 5th is 40.7%.

10) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Town Council District 2 Seat is Open A Special Election will be held on September 15, 2020. The previous Councilperson has resigned. There is a \$5 filing fee to run for the seat and the forms are available at Town Hall.
- b) Orangeburg County-Wide Mask Requirement Ordinance: Please see attached Ordinance in its entirety.
- c) COVID-19 Updates:
 - Governor's & County Directives SC is now considered a hotspot. Mandatory quarantine for 14 days prior to leaving the state and another 14 days upon returning from out of state.
 - ii. Testing Update 4 positive cases in Norway. Increasing on a daily basis. Wear masks. Avoid large group gatherings
 - iii. Good Hope AME Church in Cope will be administering free testing on Thursday, July 9, 2020. Hours to be posted on our fb page.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ann Johnson asked if the Town had a number for after-hours water/sewer emergencies. Mayor Clemons said that there will be a number soon, but that for now emergencies should be reported on the Town's line (803)263-4300.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNED: With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

DATE ACCEPTED: August 3, 2020

Trace M. Clemons Mayor

Bonnie Fogle, Councilperson

Gregg Covington, Councilperson

Berley James, Councilperson

Ellen M. Brundige, Clerk

DATE: June 1, 2020

EMERGENCY

TOWN OF NORWAY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 3, 2020

- 1) VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mayor Tracie M. Clemons at 10:41am.
- 2) MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Tracie M. Clemons, Councilperson Bonnie Fogle, Councilperson Gregg Covington, Chief Brad Wilke, Clerk Ellen Brundige; with 16 viewers in Facebook LIVE.
- 3) PURPOSE: To adopt the Orangeburg County Ordinance regarding face covering passed on July 2, 2020 and in force at 6:00am July 3, 2020.
- 4) Mayor Clemons read the most pertinent parts of the ordinance put in force by the County and in layman's terms explained what is expected of our citizens:
 - a) Those working in close contact with the public are required to wear face masks at all times while in close proximity to patrons (waiters and waitresses while on the floor, beauty salon attendants, doctors, dentists, nurses, CNA's, cashiers not protected by a plexi-glass shield, anyone that cannot maintain the 6ft distancing requirement). The fine for not complying is \$25 per offense.
 - b) Business owners (responsible parties) are to ensure that employees as well as yourself are in compliance with this ordinance at all times. The fine for non-compliance in the workplace can be up to \$100/day.
 - c) The general population is required to wear face masks at all times while visiting a business establishment with the following exceptions:
 - Once seated at a dining facility or during a doctor/dental visit, your mask may be removed to eat or during a doctor/dentist's exam.
 - ii. Masks are not required in your personal vehicle or while in close proximity to family or friends dining with you seated together in a dining facility provided that social distancing between parties is observed.
 - iii. Masks are not required to be worn outdoors, or if social distancing may be observed.
 - d) This ordinance will be in force for the next 61 days and will expire on September 3, 2020.
 - e) A copy of this ordinance is available for viewing in its entirety on the Town's Facebook page.
- 5) Chief Brad Wilke added that this ordinance is a continuance of the State of Emergency and gives law enforcement the ability to issue tickets to those not in compliance with funds going directly to the County. They may issue 1 ticket per day per person. Non-wearing of a mask in public is not a criminal offense, so you won't be arrested unless there are other infractions in addition to non-compliance with the ordinance.
- 6) Mayor Clemons restated to clarify that infractions will be imposed on the County and handled by the Orangeburg County Magistrate Court.
- 7) ADJOURN: With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Gregg Covington and seconded by Councilperson Bonnie Fogle. All in favor of adopting this ordinance, so moved. Meeting was adjourned at 10:58am.

DATE ACCEPTED: July 6, 2020	
Tracie M. Clemons, Mayor	Bonnie Fogle, Councilperson
Gregg Covington, Councilperson	Berley M. James, Councilperson
Ellen M. Brundige, Clerk	_

Norway General Fund Balance Sheet July 31, 2020

ASSETS

Current Assets Town Of Norway	\$	1,414.64		
Total Current Assets				1,414.64
Property and Equipment				
Total Property and Equipment				0.00
Other Assets				
Total Other Assets				0.00
Total Assets			\$	1,414.64
LIABILITIE	SA	ND CAPITAL		
Current Liabilities Census Restricted Annual Insurance Pymt Reserve IT Support Memorial Day Reserve Palmetto Pride Grant Reserve PD Body Web Cams New PD Car Reserve Funds Xmas Gifts Reserve Christmas Parade Funds Reserve	\$	(316.60) (6,000.00) (2,550.00) (76.19) (1,620.53) (2,119.59) (731.00) (251.28) (481.08)		
Total Current Liabilities				(14,146.27)
Long-Term Liabilities				
Total Long-Term Liabilities				0.00
Total Liabilities				(14,146.27)
Capital Retained Earnings Net Income		10,012.78 5,548.13	-0	
Total Capital				15,560.91
Total Liabilities & Capital			\$	1,414.64

Norway General Fund Income Statement For the Seven Months Ending July 31, 2020

		Current Month		Year to Date
Revenues				
Audit Income	\$	0.00	\$	10,852.18
Town Business Licenses		35.00		7,740.03
Census Income		0.00		816.60
CheckFreePay Income		51.90		378.60
Orangeburg County Tax Income		3,514.30		40,833.88
Town Share Court Fines		441.80		5,752.36
Donation Income		0.00		686.48
Election Filing Fee		0.00		5.00
Facility Use Rental Income		0.00		75.00
Franchise Fee Income		0.00		18,582.24
Garbage Fee Income		2,263.15		16,552.28
Council Paid Health Ins		0.00		1,739.46
Homestead Exemption Prog		0.00		3,727.23
Insurance Claims Receipts		0.00		19,705.40
MASC Ins Tax Coll Program		0.00		31,263.40
Merchant's Inventory		0.00		237.70
Payroll Income		0.00		1,599.19
Restitution		25.03		25.03
Setoff Debt Collection		0.00		2,300.88
Telecommunications Tax Collect		0.00		2,459.84
Trade		0.00		82.31
Training Refund		0.00		35.00
Vehicle Sales		0.00		3,500.00
venicle sales		0.00	12	5,500.00
Total Revenues	é	6,331.18	2	168,950.09
Emana				
Expenses		575.00		2 500 00
Accounting Services		575.00		2,500.00
Advertising Expenses		0.00		384.09
Audit Expenses				600.00
Bank Fees		0.00		18.00
Building Repair		0.00		1,214.31 67.50
Business License Overpayment				
Census Expenses		0.00		183.40
Copier Lease		56.14		1,211.10
Court Expenses		0.00		160.00
COVID 10 Francis		0.00		1,475.01
COVID-19 Expenses		497.33		507.86
Debt Set Off Exp		0.00		57.31
Donations		0.00		396.00
Election Expense		0.00		932.40
Facility Rental Deposit Refund		0.00		75.00
Fuel		150.00		2,964.83
Garbage Collection Service		1,000.00		9,342.24
Housekeeping		0.00		1,283.17
Insurance		0.00		578.00
Landscaping on Main		2,500.00		4,200.00

For Management Purposes Only

Norway General Fund Income Statement For the Seven Months Ending July 31, 2020

	Current Month	Year to Date
Legal fees	1,248.91	1,323.91
Lift Station Repairs	0.00	18,983.89
Materials/Supplies	967.15	4,209.25
Memberships	0.00	1,643.50
Memorial Day Expenses	0.00	46.91
Office Supplies	121.22	2,139.45
Payroll	5,125.00	58,140.75
PD Equipment	1,848.53	2,746.73
PD Radio Expense	71.90	619.03
PD Supplies	0.00	630.59
PD Vehicle	0.00	2,769.67
PD Cell Phones/Data	150.00	964.28
PD Fuel	662.11	3,791.36
PD Software	0.00	1,533.36
PD Training	0.00	35.00
PD Uniforms	0.00	58.16
PD Vehicle Main/Repairs	0.00	1,201.38
Postage	220.00	626.00
PSC DSO funds	0.00	550.87
PSC Expenses	6,670.92	11,312.08
Employee Reimbursement	449.40	631.88
Repairs/Maint.	0.00	520.70
Alarm	53.00	491.00
Training/Travel/Per Diem	0.00	129.00
Transportation Fee	0.00	100.00
Power/phone/gas	2,157.41	18,875.27
Vehicle Maint/Repair	45.00	1,052.37
Christmas Parade Expenses	0.00	125.35
Total Expenses	24,569.02	163,401.96
Net Income \$	(18,237.84)	\$ 5,548.13

Public Service Commission Income Statement For the Seven Months Ending July 31, 2020

		Current Month	Year to Date
Revenues			
Debt Set-off	\$	0.00	\$ 608.18
Public Service Commission	3 	25,397.96	140,365.47
Total Revenues		25,397.96	140,973.65
Expenses			
Backflow Testing		95.00	95.00
Business License Trans		0.00	187.20
Chemicals		700.00	3,200.00
COVID-19 Expenses		705.00	2,160.00
DPU Water		6,610.00	45,325.64
Equipment Rental		0.00	37.00
Fines / Fees		525.00	3,229.50
Garbage Expenses		70.65	515.85
Materials/Supplies		14.32	3,818.91
Office Supplies (checks, forms)		0.00	104.06
Payroll		1,000.00	21,000.00
Postage		0.00	700.00
Repairs/Maint.		80.59	3,774.25
USDA RD Payment		3,770.00	26,390.00
USDA Reserve Repayment		100.00	700.00
Power		1,284.62	10,067.70
WW Operator	_	9,545.92	19,013.47
Total Expenses	7 <u>2-1-1</u>	24,501.10	140,318.58
Net Income	\$ _	896.86	\$ 655.07

Public Service Commission Balance Sheet July 31, 2020

ASSETS

Current Assets Adjustments Public Service Commission Water Service	\$	1,542.93 3,193.12 (1,542.93)		
Total Current Assets				3,193.12
Property and Equipment	5			
Total Property and Equipment				0.00
Other Assets	-			
Total Other Assets				0.00
Total Assets			\$	3,193.12
		LIABILITIES	ΑN	D CAPITAL
Current Liabilities Repairs/Maintenance Payable	\$	(900.00)		
	\$	(900.00)		(900.00)
Repairs/Maintenance Payable	\$	(900.00)		(900.00)
Repairs/Maintenance Payable Total Current Liabilities	\$	(900.00)		(900.00) 0.00
Repairs/Maintenance Payable Total Current Liabilities Long-Term Liabilities	\$	(900.00)	e.	
Repairs/Maintenance Payable Total Current Liabilities Long-Term Liabilities Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$	(900.00) 3,438.05 655.07	a	0.00
Repairs/Maintenance Payable Total Current Liabilities Long-Term Liabilities Total Long-Term Liabilities Total Liabilities Capital Retained Earnings	\$	3,438.05		0.00
Repairs/Maintenance Payable Total Current Liabilities Long-Term Liabilities Total Long-Term Liabilities Total Liabilities Capital Retained Earnings Net Income	\$	3,438.05	\$	(900.00)

Public Service Commission Services

For the Period From Jul 1, 2020 to Jul 31, 2020 Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Customer ID, Item ID. Report is printed in Detail Format.

Name	Item ID	Amount
PSC Customer Receipts	Adjustments	-131.55
	DŚ	178.17
	DW	441.11
	Fire Hydrant	1,070.66
	Garbage	70.65
	Late Fee	974.37
	Reconnect	1.20
	Sewer	6,043.17
	Water	10,079.26
		18,727.04
Town General Fund		6,670.92
		6,670.92
Report Totals		25,397.96

Norway Municipal Court Income Statement For the Seven Months Ending July 31, 2020

n		Current Month		Year to Date
Revenues Court Fines Income	\$	1,374.76	\$	13,426.68
Total Revenues). -	1,374.76	-	13,426.68
Expenses				
Ticket Fine Overpaid		50.00		50.00
Office Supplies		0.00		60.68
SC Ticket Portion		517.63		8,025.06
Town Ticket Portion		441.80		5,752.36
Victim's Assistance Expense	-	61.06		1,090.98
Total Expenses		1,070.49		14,979.08
Net Income	\$	304.27	\$	(1,552.40)

Norway Municipal Court Balance Sheet July 31, 2020

ASSETS

Current Assets Norway Municipal Court	\$	3,423.29	
Total Current Assets			3,423.29
Property and Equipment	24		
Total Property and Equipment			0.00
Other Assets			
Total Other Assets			0.00
Total Assets			\$ 3,423.29
LIABILITIE	S A l	ND CAPITAL	
Current Liabilities Police Dept Holding Account SC Ticket Portion Town Ticket Portion Victims Assistance Funds Total Current Liabilities	\$	(154.14) 5,142.90 5,228.00 652.13	10,868.89
Capital Retained Earnings Net Income		(5,893.20) (1,552.40)	
Total Capital			(7,445.60)
Total Liabilities & Capital			\$ 3,423.29

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	OATH OF OFFICE
TOWN OF NORWAY)	

I do solemnly swear that I am duly qualified, according to the Constitution of this State, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof and preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the State and of the United States, so help me God.

As Councilwoman of the Town of Norway, I will equally, fairly, and impartially, to the best of my ability and skill, exercise the trust reposed in me, and I will use my best endeavor to preserve the peace and carry into effect, according to law, the purposes for which I have been elected, so help me God.

Berley James
Councilwoman – District 4

Subscribed and Sworn before me this 6^{th} day of July 2020.

Notary Public for South Carolina

My Commission expires _ 04-09-2023



June 24, 2020

Dear Fellow Mayor:

We as South Carolinians have been presented with an opportunity to take decisive action that will fundamentally advance how students in poor, rural areas of this State access technology and virtual education resources. It is imperative that the State utilize funding from the \$1.9 Billion Dollars that has been allocated under the federal CARES Act legislation to provide broadband internet connectivity and associated hardware devices to the communities who now need it the most.

As schools closed their doors in March, thousands of students around the state were sent home without the necessary access to broadband internet and/or the hardware to continue their classes virtually. Students in the poor rural areas where the tests scores are already low are further disadvantaged by the loss of three valuable months of learning due to this critical deficiency. To illustrate this point, the Jasper County School District alone calculated that 46% do not have internet or Wi-Fi access in the home and 53% of the students do not have a computer or tablet. Sadly, we are all too aware that there are many school districts in South Carolina that have similar statistics.

COVID-19 has shown us that we are failing our young students on the most basic level - modern teaching tools. Imagine going to school in the 20th century without access to books and other, now basic, educational materials. That is what we are doing to the 21st century students of South Carolina who do not have reliable access to a broad internet connection. It is up to us as local leaders to demand that broadband and hardware be part of every student's toolkit. Please join us as we try to raise awareness and make it a priority to bring broadband access to every home in South Carolina.

The Mayors and elected Councils of the Lowcountry ask you to appeal to Governor McMaster and your State Delegation to appropriate the necessary resources to bring South Carolina education into the 21st Century of learning for ALL students.

Sincerely,

Mayor Billy Keyserling, City of Beaufort

Mayor Lisa Sulka, Town of Bluffton

Mayor Harry Williams, City of Hardeeville

Mayor John J. McCann, Town of Hilton Head Island

Mayor Joe Devito, Town of Port Royal

Mayor Joey Malphrus, Town of Ridgeland

Mayor Colin Moore, Town of Yemassee

Date: 6/29/2020















June 24, 2020

Dear Fellow Mayor:

We as South Carolinians have been presented with an opportunity to take decisive action that will fundamentally advance how students in poor, rural areas of this State access technology and virtual education resources. It is imperative that the State utilize funding from the \$1.9 Billion Dollars that has been allocated under the federal CARES Act legislation to provide broadband internet connectivity and associated hardware devices to the communities who now need it the most.

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COVID-19 has shown us that we are failing our young students on the most basic level – modern teaching tools. Imagine going to school in the 20th century without access to books and other, now basic, educational materials. That is what we are doing to the 21st century students of South Carolina who do not have reliable access to a broad internet connection. It is up to us as local leaders to demand that broadband and hardware be part of every student's toolkit. Please join us as we try to raise awareness and make it a priority to bring broadband access to every home in South Carolina.

The Mayors and elected Councils of the Lowcountry ask you to appeal to Governor McMaster and your State Delegation to appropriate the necessary resources to bring South Carolina education into the 21st Century of learning for **ALL** students.

Sincerely,

Mayor Billy Keyserling, City of Beaufort

Mayor Lisa Sulka, Town of Bluffton

Mayor Harry Williams, City of Hardeeville

Mayor John J. McCann, Town of Hilton Head Island

Mayor Joe Devito, Town of Port Royal

Mayor Joey Malphrus, Town of Ridgeland

Mayor Colin Moore, Town of Yemassee

RECEIVED

Date: 6/29/2020

ORDINANCE 2020-001

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE STANDARD MUNICIPAL FINE

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Norway, South Carolina, hereby finds that it is necessary and advisable to change the standard municipal fine of \$500 to include additional South Carolina law enforcement, victim fund and assessment fees,

SECTION 1 AMEND. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the standard municipal fine detailed in ORDINANCE NO.1, Section 2 of the Norway Town Code.

ORDINANCE NO.1, Section 2 is hereby amended to add a sentence at the end to state "In addition to the fine of \$500.00 as provided by Section 14-25-65, 1976 South Carolina Code of Law as amended, the following additional fees includes:

- a. The South Carolina Code of Law \$500 fine multiplied by 2.075 (assessment fee)
 - b. \$25 state law enforcement surcharge fee,
 - c. \$25 state victim fund surcharge fee.

The total standard municipal fine shall be \$1087.50 after enactment of this ordinance.

SECTION 2. CONFLICTS. Any previously enacted Town ordinance that is in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance is hereby repealed from and after the effective date of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. Should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence, or word of the Ordinance be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences or words of the Ordinance as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.

<u>SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.</u> This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval at the second reading.

ADOPTED and APPROVED in meeting duly assembled this day of August

Tracie M. Clemons, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk to Town Council

First Reading July 4, 2020

Second Reading August 3, 2020



TOWN OF NORWAY

PO Box 127

8403 Savannah Highway Norway, South Carolina 29113

Phone: (803) 263-4300 / Fax: (803) 263-4114

August 3, 2020

The Honorable Henry McMaster Governor of South Carolina State House 1100 Gervais Street Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor McMaster,

The Town of Norway joins our fellow Municipalities throughout the State in an appeal to bring South Carolina into the 21st Century of learning for ALL our students.

COVID-19 has taught us that education in our State needs more than just higher pay for teachers. As schools closed their doors in March, thousands of students around the state were sent home without the necessary access to broadband internet and/or the hardware to continue their classes virtually.

Students in the poor rural areas where the test scores are already low are further disadvantaged by the loss of three valuable months of learning due to this critical deficiency. Our District Superintendent has told us that as many as half do not have internet or Wi-Fi access in the home and/or do not have a computer or tablet. COVID-19 has shown us that we are failing our young students on the most basic level – modern teaching tools.

We can no longer wait. The failure to educate our children is a far more deadly disease than COVID-19.

Sincerely

Tracie M. Clemons

Mayor



TOWN OF NORWAY

PO Box 127

8403 Savannah Highway Norway, South Carolina 29113

Phone: (803) 263-4300 / Fax: (803) 263-4114

August 3, 2020

The Honorable Henry McMaster Governor of South Carolina State House 1100 Gervais Street Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor McMaster,

The Town of Norway joins our fellow Municipalities throughout the State in an appeal to bring South Carolina into the 21st Century of learning for ALL our students.

COVID-19 has taught us that education in our State needs more than just higher pay for teachers. As schools closed their doors in March, thousands of students around the state were sent home without the necessary access to broadband internet and/or the hardware to continue their classes virtually.

Students in the poor rural areas where the test scores are already low are further disadvantaged by the loss of three valuable months of learning due to this critical deficiency. Our District Superintendent has told us that as many as half do not have internet or Wi-Fi access in the home and/or do not have a computer or tablet. COVID-19 has shown us that we are failing our young students on the most basic level – modern teaching tools.

We can no longer wait. The failure to educate our children is a far more deadly disease than COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Tracie M. Clemons Mayor