



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 11, 2013



CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Harvey called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Harry Harvey gave roll call. Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and Council Members David Ford, Dale Housch, Joe Money, Jr., and Zachary Martin were present. Also present was City Manager Russell Thompson and City Attorney Albert Palmour.

INVOCATION: Mayor Harry Harvey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Dale Housch led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any changes needed to the agenda. City Manager Russell Thompson stated that he has two items that need to be added to the agenda. City Manager Thompson stated that the first item is approval of the Election Superintendent and Election Staff for the upcoming Special Election to be held on March 19, 2013. City Manager Thompson stated that the second item that needs to be added to the agenda is to discuss using Ladd Environmental for resolving the curable DDR dealing with new requirements for feeding alum into the Wastewater Treatment Plant system. A motion was made by Council Member David Ford to approve the agenda with the addition of the two items requested by City Manager Thompson. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey stated that there are several groups attending the meeting; some for a zoning issue and some concerning a bar-b-q cook-off. Mayor Harvey stated that attendees will be offered an opportunity to address the Council later in the meeting.

Mayor Harvey stated that there will be two elections held on March 19th; the county votes on S.P.L.O.S.T. and the city votes on the liquor by the drink referendum.

Mayor Harvey reported that Smokin on the River bar-b-q contest will be held on April 4th and 5th. Mayor Harvey also reported that on April 13th there will be a Chattooga County 5 K run.

BETTER HOMETOWN: Ms. Sylvia Keziah reported that the Harlem Ambassador Program was a huge success.

Ms. Keziah reported that the grand opening for the Boys and Girls Club will be held on Monday, March 25, 2013 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Ms. Keziah reported that 80 children have registered so far with the hope to reach 100. Ms. Keziah reported that the most children to participate in the program in one day is 51.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton reported that there are several projects going on with the largest being Mohawk's Phase 2. Joey reported that \$4,453 was collected for permits in February.

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WATER TREATMENT PLANT: Water Treatment Superintendent Janice Galloway reported that in the month of February the water plant pumped 49,931,000 gallons of water. Janice also reported that the EPD will do a lab inspection at the end of the month.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Chris Tuggle reported that 75.2 million gallons of wastewater was handled in February. Chris also reported that the phosphate pre-treatment permit with Mohawk has been revised effective 3-1-13 with a surcharge if they go over the approved EPD level.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES: Public Works and Utilities Superintendent Tony Carroll gave a report of all work orders performed by every department in the city under his supervision during the month of February. Tony also reported that the EIP project is 99% complete, the GCI prints are ready for approval, work is being done on the EPD erosion plan, and the CDBG Grant with the county is underway.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Recreation Department Director Bo Chamlee reported that baseball, softball, and T-ball registration is currently underway with one more week left for sign-ups.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Captain Harold Tucker reported that the Summerville Police Department patrolled 4,468 miles, housed 13 inmates, issued 108 citations, and collected \$5,785 for the month of February. Captain Tucker reported that Probation Collected \$8,146 in fines, \$3,179 in fees and handled 146 cases for the month of February. Captain Tucker reported that for State Court \$14,659 in fines and \$6,009.48 in fees was collected for February and 297 cases handled.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Greg Echols reported that the Summerville Fire Department responded to 48 calls during the month of February. Among the calls were 1 gas leak, 1 cover assignment, 9 dispatch cancelled in route, 2 electrical, 12 EMS, 8 medical assists, 1 car fire, 1 vegetation fire, 2 public assist, and 4 structure fires among the calls.

CITY MANAGER FINANCIAL REPORT: City Manager Russell Thompson reported that revenue is ahead of expenditures with revenue at approximately 8.8 million and expenses at 8.7 million. City Manager Thompson explained that this is even with a 14% reduction of franchise tax revenue. City Thompson explained that for the first time in months the city is back in the black.

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 11, 2013 Regular Council Meeting and Special Called Meeting minutes for February 18, 21, and 25, 2013. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and carried unanimously.

FULMER ST – RHONDA LIVELY: Mayor Harvey stated that Ms. Lively requested to be on the agenda to address Council concerning a drainage issue on Fulmer St. Mayor Harvey asked if Ms. Lively is present. City Manager Thompson responded that Ms. Lively is not in attendance at this time. A general discussion was held which brought to light that Ms. Lively needs to have some work done on her property that would cost around \$3,000 to \$4,000.

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FULMER ST – RHONDA LIVELY CONTINUED: Utilities Director Tony Carroll stated that there are no records of Ms. Lively providing an easement to allow the city to do the work she is now requesting. Mayor Harvey stated that he recommends that the City Manager access the situation. Council Member David Ford asked if Council could wait until Ms. Lively can address Council before any decision is made. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he does not think any work should be done on any property without an easement. Council Member Housch stated further that he does not see why the city should pay for the work. Mayor Harvey stated that it is his opinion that Ms. Lively pay for all materials and provide an easement before the city does any work. Council Member Dale Housch started to make a motion when City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected that no action is needed.

CHATTOOGA COUNTY CDBG GRANT: City Manager Russell Thompson addressed the Council explaining that the county has approached the city requesting the city to partner with them in application for a Community Development Block Grant for up to \$50,000. City Manager Thompson explained that the grant would be for a sewer project by Paradise Gardens noting that there would be a cost match of \$90,000 with \$70,000 that can be "in-kind" funding. City Manager Thompson explained that this is the same type grant the city was awarded for the Scoggins and Ramey Street improvements. City Manager Thompson stated that the county has asked the city to provide the cash match requirement. City Manager Thompson stated that the grant application has to be turned in by April 1, 2013. Mayor Harvey asked that the item be held for further discussion until the next Special Called Meeting so that final numbers are available. No further action was taken.

411 EAST WASHINGTON STREET: Mayor Harvey stated that owners of 411 East Washington Street are looking at renovating the location with the intent of using the location as a group home. Mayor Harvey stated that the renovation has been addressed at previous meetings. Mayor Harvey stated that at this point in time plans are being submitted for the façade of the home. City Manager Russell Thompson stated that the required report has been submitted which meets the historical requirements of the location. City Manager Thompson stated that he recommends the request be granted with the stipulation that all State requirements be satisfied. Codes Enforcement and Building Inspector Joey Norton stated that from the City of Summerville's perspective the location is a single family residence. Mr. Norton expounded further that the State Fire Marshall would be responsible for determining state compliance requirements. Mayor Harvey stated that there are several people in attendance. Mayor Harvey stated that one person from each household will be afforded an opportunity to speak noting that their comments should be limited to 2 minutes. Mayor Harvey explained that there would be no arguing allowed; the meeting is to be conducted in a civil and professional manner. Comments were given by several individuals. Since these minutes are not a verbatim rendition it is duly noted that opinions on both sides of the issue were voiced. The opinion that a group home to handle the medically fragile is needed and that Ms. Brenda Veatch-Haynes has done a wonderful job providing that care was voiced. The opinion that the home will be used as a business was voiced. The opinion that the concern of residents is to maintain the historical integrity of the neighborhood was voiced. The opinion that the entire process was approached incorrectly was voiced. The opinion that there are three homes currently running business from their homes on the same street was voiced.

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411 EAST WASHINGTON STREET CONTINUED: The opinion that there are other places this business could be located was voiced. The opinion that ordinances are to be maintained otherwise they should be abolished was voiced. Mayor Harvey asked if Council has any questions. Mayor Harvey stated that the City Manager has given his recommendation that approval be given for the renovation plan for 411 East Washington Street. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve the City Manager's recommendation to approve the renovation plan for 411 East Washington Street noting that the integrity of the community be maintained. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that this is a single family dwelling so consideration is being requested for the architectural plan as submitted with State Fire Marshal requirements to be met per that agency's laws. Council Member Dale Housch stated, "So moved". Council Member Zachary Martin seconded the motion which passed with Council Members Windle, Housch, Money, and Martin voting in favor of the motion. Council Member David Ford voted in opposition to the motion.

THE WELL – BAR-B-Q: City Manager Russell Thompson reported that The Well will be holding a special event Bar-b-q on April 5th and 6th. City Manager Thompson stated that the only thing the city will provide is police coverage for parking. The city's ordinance has a Special Event Permit fee of \$250 for events with the funds to help recover the city's cost. City Manager Thompson stated that this is a non-profit organization and feels the fee should be waived. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to waive the permit fee of \$250 for The Well since it is a non-profit organization. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

SMOKIN ON THE RIVER: Mr. Ray Henson addressed Council stating that the Smokin on the River event will be the first of this magnitude for this area. Mr. Henson explained that there would be 25 to 30 cookers plus other vendors and around 6 to 8 performers at the event. Mr. Henson explained that the Kansas City Bar-b-Q folks are on board with the event noting that this will be the second event of the year. Mr. Henson stated that the event will be held during the first part of April with media coverage from Channel 3 and Channel 9 out of Chattanooga. Mr. Henson stated that the event is also associated with the Georgia Bar-b-q Association.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – ALUM DISPENSING PLAN: City Manager Russell Thompson explained that as of September 2012 there was a new permit issued which includes limits on phosphorus content in discharge water from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The city has used alum in the influent flow to reduce the phosphorus content. The EPD wants permanent plans and specs for curable phosphorus levels. It was explained that currently tote tanks of alum are being used which the EPD considers a temporary way to handle the situation. The EPD wants a long range plan put into place for handling alum. City Manager Thompson explained that Council is being provided information to consider with no decision requested at this meeting. City Manager Thompson explained that there are two options to meet the EPD mandate. Option one is to use tote tanks and build a building and feeder system. Option two is to build a storage tank to hold alum that will be capable of feeding the alum into the influent flow. City Manager Thompson and Waste Water Treatment Plan Superintendent Chris Tuggle both explained that phosphorus levels are higher during warmer weather. Council Member Dale Housch questioned what the alum does to the phosphorus.

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WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT – ALUM DISPENSING PLAN CONTINUED: Chris Tuggle responded that it allows the phosphorus binds into the sludge which is then separated from the discharge water thus reducing the phosphorus level in discharge water. Chris stated further that if a tank is constructed it would last 20 to 25 years, be capable of maintaining the chemical's temperature requirements, and has the ability to hold any type of chemical. Chris expressed the opinion that constructing a tank would be the most cost effective way to meet the EPD requirements. City Manager Thompson explained that the pay-back for the investment would take about three years due to the reduction in cost of bulk loads of alum verses tote tanks.

ADJOURN: All business having been concluded, Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

JILL DURHAM – CITY CLERK, G.C.M.C.