



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING April 14, 2014



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

ROLL CALL: Mayor Harry Harvey gave roll call. Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle, 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.

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Harry Harvey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Zachary Martin led the pledge of allegiance.

WELCOME: Mayor Harvey welcomed everyone to the April 14, 2014 Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Harvey requested those in attendance to sign in with their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey explained that there would be an opportunity for visitors to speak at the end of the meeting.

MEETING AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any additions, deletions, or changes to the meeting agenda. City Manager Russell Thompson stated that the Budget Work Session schedule needs to be added to the agenda. City Manager Thompson stated that each elected official has a copy of the tentative dates for consideration. City Manager Thompson stated that the dates need to be set. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of the Budget Work Session schedule. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

PARADISE GARDENS – JORDON POOL: Mayor Harvey stated that there are several visitors present. Mayor Harvey stated that they will start with a presentation by Mr. Jordon Pool of Paradise Gardens. Mr. Pool gave a slide show presentation wherein he explained that Paradise Gardens has enjoyed 5,659 visitors over the past 21 months of operation. Mr. Pool explained that visitors spend an average of \$39 each during their visit which has a positive "tickle-down" affect for the community. Mr. Pool also expressed that he is proud of the mural on the side of Echols. Council Members expressed their appreciation for the presentation and dedication to the facility.

STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONS RECOGNIZED: Assistant Recreation Department Director Kris Willis announced and presented awards for the Summerville Recreation Department State Wrestling Champions. The awards were given to:

STATE CHAMPIONS

8 and under 42 pound weight class
8 and under 48 pound weight class
12 & under 205 pound weight class

JACOB BOND
GAVIN CARLTON
LUIS MEDINA

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STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONS RECOGNIZED CONTINUED:

FOUR TIME STATE CHAMPIONS

10 and under 73 pound weight class
12 and under 61 pound weight class

GARRISON DENDY
JACKSON BOND

EIGHT TIME STATE CHAMPION

14 and under 61 pound weight class

TREVOR BURDICK

Kris Willis expressed gratitude to the Mayor, Council, parents, coaches, and wrestling program participants for their support of the Summerville Recreation Department. Trevor Burdick's father, Jake Burdick, expressed his appreciation for the Mayor and Council's support of the Summerville Recreation Department.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY – EUGENE MCGINNIS: Eugene McGinnis stated that as a member of the Summerville Historical Society he wants to convey the Historical Society's opinions that repair of the Couey House is an urgent and pressing issue. Mayor Harvey stated that with this year being the 175th anniversary of Chattooga County he agrees that efforts should be made to improve the assets present.

BETTER HOMETOWN: City Manager Russell Thompson reported that Susan Locklear is not present due to illness. Mr. Thompson gave a brief report that Susan has completed 8 hours of Better Hometown certification, the Easter Bunny Brunch was a success, and the drawing for the golden basket will be held at 6 pm on 4/18/14. City Manager Thompson also reported that Susan is interested in working on having a second Saturday event for the downtown area. City Manager Thompson explained that Susan wants Council's blessings to work on the project. The response to the idea of second Saturday events was positive but no formal motion was made.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Building and Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton reported that several permits have been issued, next month there will be a request for rezoning for property at Seventh and State Streets for the purpose of parking a feed truck. City Manager Thompson explained that there was a request to address Council but there is protocol for posting the property, notifying area residents, and holding a meeting for a zoning change. City Manager Thompson stated that more details are needed and feels the item would be better presented at next month's meeting.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT: Water Treatment Superintendent Janice Galloway reported that routine maintenance has been performed during the last month which included cleaning the fence line at Lowe Springs as well as many other tasks.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLAN: Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent Chris Tuggle reported that 54.2 million gallons of waste water was treated for a daily average of 1.7 million gallons per day. Chris also reported that the alum tank project is completed. Chris explained that the Water Shed Management Protection Program has been approved by the EPD.

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PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES: Tony Carroll gave a report of all work done by all departments under his supervision. Tony also reported that 19 pot holes were fixed during the month of March.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Kris Willis reported that 18 teams participated in the Santa in Uniform softball/baseball tournaments which are finished. Sign-up for softball/baseball season are completed with 30 teams established. Kris also reported that ball season will begin on April 28th.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Stan Mosley reported that officers patrolled 7,465 miles, housed 33 inmates for a combined 132 days, issued 17 citations and collected \$6,268 for the month of March.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT: Police Chief Stan Mosley reported that the Probation Department collected \$10,235 in fines and \$10,241 in fees for the month of March.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: City Manager Thompson reported that Fire Chief Greg Echols is not present.

CITY MANAGER – FINANCIAL REPORT: City Manager Thompson stated that everyone received a copy of the financial report which shows revenue at 12 million and expenses at 10.9 million with three months left if the fiscal year. City Manager Thompson stated that the city is 1.1 million in the black and anticipates the fiscal year ending in the black. City Manager Thompson stated that if anyone has any questions concerning the financial report please let him know.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Council Member David Ford made a motion to accept and approve the minutes of the previous meeting as prepared and presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

CDBG SCOGGINS/RAMEY PHASE 1: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to explain the situation concerning paving for the CDBG project on Scoggins and Ramey. City Manager Thompson explained that the city received a Block Grant for sewer improvements and paving with a change order issued on the paving portion of the project. City Manager Thompson stated that the change order on the paving was to apply 2 inches of binder and 1 inch of topping. City Manager Thompson explained the contract was awarded to BJ Gamble who sub-contracted paving to Randy Patty. City Manager Thompson stated that once he discovered that the paving was done in excess of the contract specification he ordered the paving to stop. City Manager Thompson stated that the paving contractor says they discussed the additional topping with city staff explaining that 1 inch of topping wouldn't last and were advised to go ahead and do a thicker layer. City Manager Thompson stated that city staff does not concur with the paving contractor's assertions. City Manager Thompson stated that at this point in time the paving work is \$18,050 over budget with \$33,560 needed to complete the paving project. Larry Whitley of Ladd Engineering stated that originally the project had 4 inches of fill and was reduced to 2 inches; topping originally at 1.5 inches reduced to 1 inch to lower the project cost. Larry Whitley stated that DCA would accept an explanation of needing more paving. Mayor Harvey stated that the \$18,000 concerns him. Attorney Albert Palmour stated that the city has a contract and a bond noting that to proceed as is would be a violation of the contract.

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CDBG SCOGGINS/RAMEY PHASE 1 CONTINUED: Attorney Palmour stated further that the city can demand the contractor complete the job with funds allocated. Larry Whitley interjected that the bottom line is that finishing the job with 1.5 inches of asphalt will be \$51,700. Mayor Harvey stated that he thinks the city needs to look at the legality of the \$18,000 over giving consent. City Manager Thompson stated that the expense is unbudgeted but could be paid for with unrestricted cash. Mayor Harvey stated that he would like to see the additional \$34,000 needed to complete the paving negotiated and debate the \$18,000 over budget done without consent. Attorney Palmour stated that the city's legal position is that a change order should have been done or the work done as specified in the contract. Attorney Palmour stated that he recommends authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to talk with the contractor and bring the item back to Council at a Special Called Meeting. Attorney Palmour also stated that a written change order needs to be done. Mayor Harvey stated that more discussion is needed on the situation. Attorney Palmour stated that the pressing problem is getting the street paved. Mayor Harvey stated that he needs a motion to approve \$34,000 to complete the paving project and discuss the unapproved \$18,000. Council Member Dale Housch stated, "So moved". The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously. Attorney Palmour stated that the motion needs to include a Change Order for \$34,000 to complete the job and look at \$18,000 to reach some agreement to be brought back to Council at a Special Called Meeting. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he amends his motion as directed by City Attorney Albert Palmour. No objection to the amendment was voiced.

MGAG PORTFOLIO IV: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to explain the MGAG Portfolio IV. City Manager Thompson stated that the MGAG Portfolio III expires December 31, 2014. City Manager Thompson explained that this agreement allows the Municipal Gas Authority to purchase natural gas through the issuance of municipal debt on behalf of all its members. City Manager Thompson explained that the cap for the futures in this portfolio is the same as the one that expires December 31st of this year. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that the city could opt out of the agreement if wanted. City Manager Thompson stated that there was a document included in Council packets that gave the frequently asked questions concerning the agreement. City Manager Thompson stated that the full package of information is available for inspection by Council. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to authorize Mayor Harvey to sign all necessary documents needed to enter into the MGAG Portfolio IV agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

2014 FINSTER FEST: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give the details about Finster Fest. City Manager Thompson stated that Paradise Garden's Foundation is requesting to have a special event, Finster Fest, on May 31st and June 1st. The Foundation is also requesting to hold a "Man of Vision" concert Saturday May 31st from 4 PM to midnight. City Manager Thompson explained that the event will require closing Washington Street from Highway 27 to University Street. City Manager Thompson stated that the Foundation has requested the city provide port-a-toilets and trash removal for the event. City Manager Thompson stated that Jefferson's wants a Special Event Alcohol Permit to coincide with Finster Fest. City Manager Thompson stated that last year Council voted to waive the \$250 Special Event Permit. Event organizer Jordon Pool interjected that the plan is to have about 50 artists participate in the event. Jordon explained that the concert will be a ticketed event; \$10 this year.

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2014 FINSTER FEST CONTINUED: Council Member Dale Housch stated that he is concerned about businesses being requested to close during the event. City Manager Thompson responded stating that all surrounding property owners will be notified two weeks prior to the event. City Manager Thompson stated further that last year access to and from businesses wanting to remain open was available. Council Member Housch stated that any businesses wanting to stay open should be able to do so. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to authorize the 2014 Finster Fest to be held May 31st and June 1st, 2014, waive the special event permit fee, and notify all surrounding residents of the upcoming event and subsequent road closings associated with the event two weeks prior to Finster Fest. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

ALCOHOL PERMIT - FINSTER FEST 2014: A general discussion rendered that age verification would be done and an arm band issued to those eligible to purchase alcohol. Further information stated that alcohol would be for sale all day Saturday until midnight; in line with State and local law. There will be no sales of alcohol on Sunday. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve alcohol sales at Finster Fest on Saturday, May 31, 2014. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

FIVE MINUTE BREAK

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

MID-YEAR BUDGET AMENDMENTS – SECOND READING: Mayor Harvey stated that this is the second reading for the 2013-2014 mid-year fiscal budget amendments. Mayor Harvey read ordinance listing the amendments which is attached and becomes part of these minutes. City Manager Thompson interjected that \$10,000 for the 175 year County Fair celebration is included in the amendment as well as the increased funding for the Summerville Cemetery and repairs to the Couey House. Council Member Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the 2013-2014 mid-year budget amendments. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

FINSTER ANGLE – STREET SIGNS: Mayor Harvey stated that Paradise Gardens Foundation has pledged \$2,400 to make new street signs in the downtown historic district that would include a signature Finster angle. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Thompson to give details about the foundation's request. City Manager Thompson stated that Jordon Pool has made a request to have the signature Howard Finster angle put on the city's downtown street signs. Mr. Pool stated that the Finster Foundation will supply \$2,400 to purchase the signs. City Manager Thompson stated that the number of signs involved has not been determined. City Manager Thompson also stated that legal council advises that there is nothing to keep the city from adding the Finster angle to the street signs. Mr. Pool stated that he thinks the signs can be replaced for under \$2,400. Mr. Pool clarified that the signs would be new with the angle made of reflective material for better visibility. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve the addition of the Howard Finster angle on street signs in the downtown historic district with funding for the new signs coming from the Paradise Gardens Foundation totaling \$2,400. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

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GAS RIGHT-OF-WAY MOWING: Mayor Harvey stated that the next item for discussion is mowing the gas right-of-way. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Thompson to explain the item. City Manager Thompson stated that the city mows the right-of-way for the gas lines then the maintenance cost is split between Trion, LaFayette, and Summerville. City Manager Thompson stated that there was only one bid submitted; B & T Tree Service for \$11,500. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to accept and award the contract for mowing the natural gas line right-of-way to B & T Tree Service for \$11,500. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

NEW ROOF – FAIRWAY RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Thompson to give details of the repairs needed for the Fairway Recreation building. City Manager Thompson stated that several complaints have been received about leaks at the Fairway Recreation Department main building. City Manager Thompson stated that the roof needs to be repaired before more damage occurs. City Manager Thompson stated that the low bid was received from All Top Roofing Service, Inc. at a cost of \$8,853. Council Member Dale Housch asked if the roofing is being done only on the main building and why isn't a metal roof being installed. Recreation Assistant Director Kris Willis responded stating that shingles are being replaced so that the roof will match the existing pavilion. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to accept and award the roof repairs for the Fairway Recreation Department main building to All Top Roofing Service, Inc. at a cost of \$8,853. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

MGAG VOTING DELEGATE: Mayor Harvey stated the next item for discussion is designation of the voting delegate and alternate for the MGAG annual board meeting. City Manager Thompson stated that cities have to appoint delegates to vote at the MGAG annual board meeting. City Manager Thompson explained that in the past the City Manager has been appointed with the alternate designee as the Utility Superintendent. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to appoint City Manager Russell Thompson as the voting delegate for the City of Summerville at the annual MGAG board meeting with the alternate designee as the city's Utility Superintendent Tony Carroll. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

O & M MANUAL – WATER DISTRIBUTION: Mayor Harvey stated that authorization is needed to have an O & M manual for water distribution prepared. City Manager Thompson stated that the EPD requires the city to have an O & M manual for the water distribution system. City Manager Thompson stated that the new regulation requires that the document has to be done by a licensed engineer. City Manager Thompson stated that LADD Environmental can prepare the document needed for \$4,700. Tony Carroll explained that in the past the city operated with the EPD document listing requirements but they will no longer accept that practice. Tony explained that the city has to have a step-by-step operations and maintenance book for the water plant. Council Member Housch asked where the funds would come from to have the document prepared. City Manager Thompson responded that S.P.L.O.S.T. funds would be used. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve \$4,700 in S.P.L.O.S.T. funds to have LADD Environmental prepare the Water Distribution O & M Manual. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

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LMIG PROJECTS: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to provide information concerning the LMIG projects. City Manager Thompson reported that there is a new grant formula for LMIG project street resurfacing. City Manager Thompson explained that of the \$46,000 project 19% local match is required. City Manager Thompson reported that Tony Carroll has prepared a list of street priorities which has been included in elected official's information packet. City Manager Thompson explained that for the first time two bids were received that are identical. Bids were received from Delbert Patty and Randy Patty; \$1.00 per square foot to cut out and mill, \$25 per ton to install asphalt, and \$4 per ton for tack. City Manager Thompson stated that in order to move forward with the resurfacing project Council needs to decide who gets the bid, have the project re-bid, or come up with a plan to allow for subcontracting. Council Member David Ford asked if the streets could be split half and half between the two bidders. City Manager Thompson stated that could be possible if the bidding contractors agree to that situation. Mayor Harvey interjected his idea of awarding the bid to a primary contractor then they could subcontract. Council Member Dale Housch asked how long it would take to re-bid the project. Tony Carroll responded stating it would take about two weeks to re-bid. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked where the project was advertised. City Manager Thompson replied that advertisements were published in the Summerville News. City Manager Thompson stated that his recommendation "...in light of the current problem" is to award the primary paving to Delbert Patty and he could subcontract with Randy Patty. Council Member David Ford made a motion to award the LMIG paving project to Delbert Patty with subcontract work to be done by Randy Patty. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

SPRING CLEAN UP: Mayor Harvey stated that dates need to be set for Spring Clean Up. City Manager Thompson stated that the goal is to have the city's Spring Clean Up when Chattooga County holds their clean up time. City Manager Thompson suggested April 21st through 25th and asked if *The Summerville News* would assist with getting an advertisement in this week's paper to inform citizens. Jason Espy stated that he could take care of making sure the ad is published this week. Council Member David Ford made a motion to set Spring Clean up as April 21 through April 25, 2014. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

CAPITALIZED ITEM THRESHOLD INCREASED: City Manager Thompson explained that the auditors have suggested for the last two years that the city's threshold for capitalized items be increased from the current \$1,000 to \$5,000. City Manager Thompson explained that capitalized assets are depreciated over time. City Manager Thompson stated that the auditors recommend this change to be in line with accepted accounting practices. City Manager Thompson stated that he recommends updating the number. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to authorize the threshold of capitalized items be changed from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

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COUEY HOUSE REPAIRS: Mayor Harvey stated that no bids have been received for repairs to the Couey House. Mayor Harvey stated further that \$20,000 has been allocated for the project; \$10,000 from the city and \$10,000 in grant funds. City Manager Thompson explained that bid packets were advertised locally and on the Georgia Municipal Association web site with no response. City Manager Thompson stated that the condition of the structure continues to deplete. Mayor Harvey stated that he thinks the city should do as much as possible in house. Mayor Harvey also stated that he thinks there should be community uses for the location established. Utility Director Tony Carroll stated that professional help is needed to stabilize the building. City Manager Thompson stated that the city is not a licensed contractor and is concerned about the liability if an accident occurred. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated if the building isn't jacked up right it could cave in. Building and Code Enforcement officer Joey Norton interjected that a few log cabins have been repaired at Berry College. Joey said that he would be happy to get some information from the Berry folks and give it to the City Manager. Attorney Palmour interjected that a general contractor is needed because the building will have to be jacked up and leveled to be repaired without losing the two chimneys. Mayor Harvey stated that the repairs need to get underway or the building is going to need even more repairs. City Manager Thompson suggested that steel I-beams be put under the structure for support, which LADD has offered to donate, and then conceal the beams to mirror period correct building techniques. It was also noted that the structure would need pest control treatment. Mayor Harvey stated that something needs to be done in two weeks. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. said the city needs to rope off the porch; he saw some children on the porch. City Manager Thompson stated that he agreed that access to the porch needs to be blocked. City Manager Thompson stated that Joey will get information on the people that did restoration to the log cabins at Berry College then he (City Manager) will provide information to Council concerning the restoration project.

SIGN REQUEST – LOS MAGUEY: Mayor Harvey stated that Council has a sign request for Los Maguey at 10020 Commerce Street. Mayor Harvey asked for Joey Norton to explain the request. Building and Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton stated that the sign request is in the downtown historic district so it requires Council's approval. Joey explained further that the folks at Los Maguey found the old sign used by the previous tenant and simply had new faces for the sign made. Joey stated that the sign meets code specifications and he recommends approving the request. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the sign request as submitted by Los Maguey at 10020 Commerce Street. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

SIGN REQUEST – CLEMENTINE'S: Mayor Harvey stated that there is a sign request for Clementine's at 10098 Commerce Street which is in the downtown historic area. Joey Norton stated that Jefferson's has added a gift shop next to the restaurant called Clementine's and they want to add window treatments. Joey stated that the window dressing at Clementine's does meet code requirements for the downtown historic district. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the sign application for Clementine's. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

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SIGN REQUEST – AMERITAX: Mayor Harvey stated that Ameritax has submitted a sign request for 79 West Washington Street. Joey Norton explained that they had requested a sign that was too large; request withdrawn. Joey stated that Ameritax has resubmitted their sign request with a scaled-down version of the original application to meet ordinance requirements. Joey explained that the Ameritax sign is lighted but is not electronic. Joey stated that the sign request meets code requirements. Council Member Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the Ameritax sign application for 79 West Washington. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money Jr. and carried unanimously.

SECOND SATURDAY DOWNTOWN ACTIVITIES: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to provide information concerning proposed Second Saturday Downtown activities. City Manager Thompson stated that Susan Locklear has mentioned organizing an evening event the second Saturday of each month from May through October. City Manager Thompson explained that the events would feature bands and have the benefit of drawing more people to the downtown area. City Manager Thompson stated that Susan wants to know if this is something Council would be interested in. City Manager Thompson stated that Susan didn't want to pursue this project without Council's blessings. Council Member David Ford stated that he thinks the city should try this to see if it will help build the downtown area business. Joey Norton interjected that since Rome has initiated a block party program their sales have gone up 25%. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to begin work on the project of second Saturday activities with Council's final approval of the program. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

WATER SHED PROTECTION PLAN – PHASE III: Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Thompson to explain the Water Shed Protection Plan. City Manager Thompson reported that the EPD mandates that the city prepare a Water Shed Protection Plan. City Manager Thompson explained that the Phase III Water Shed Protection Plan has been approved by the EPD but also has to be adopted by the city. Waste Water Treatment Plant Director Chris Tuggle interjected that the city's permit has been renewed and this document has to be in place. Chris explained that the document has sampling requirements wherein samples are taken three times a year and submitted for testing. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to accept and adopt the Water Shed Protection Plan Phase III. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

GEFA LOAN – AMR WATER METERS: Mayor Harvey stated the next item is concerning the GEFA loan for AMR water meters noting the City Manager will provide details. City Manager Thompson stated that previously Council approved entering into a loan agreement to purchase automated water meters. City Manager Thompson explained that GEFA has prepared the documents that lists the contract guidelines and payment schedule. City Manager Thompson explained that Mayor Harvey needs authorization to sign the loan agreement to be returned to GEFA for the 1.2 million dollar project. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to authorize Mayor Harvey to sign the 1.2 million dollar GEFA loan agreement documents associated with the purchase and installation of automated water meters. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

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SET FEE FOR STATE – COUNTY & NON-PROFIT WATER SAMPLES: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give details of the item. City Manager Thompson stated that the City of Summerville water department has a state certified lab and is able to test water samples. City Manager Thompson stated that in the past the city has done water sample tests for the county health department at no charge. City Manager Thompson reported that he recently learned that the county charges people \$95 to test water samples; the county pulls the sample but our staff runs the test. City Manager Thompson stated that if the county charges \$95 and we do the test the city should charge something to recoup our cost. City Manager Thompson suggested a \$50 charge but requests Council's input and decision. Eugene McGinnis was present and stated that he is on the Board of Directors for the Chattooga County Health Department. Mr. McGinnis stated that the charge would be a burden on the county since their budget is already set. Council Member Dale Housch asked what it costs the city to perform the water test. Water Treatment Plant Director Janice Galloway responded stating that the base test alone cost approximately \$22 each then you add on the cost of 2 analysis tests per sample, staff, maintaining certification for the facility, and the potential of liability. Janice explained that historically the lab has tested water inside the city at no cost. Mr. McGinnis stated that Chattooga County Health Department is funded by the State which has experienced sever cuts. City Manager Thompson asked Mr. McGinnis if the \$95 charge set for samples at the Health Department was set locally or by the State. Mr. McGinnis said that he was not sure but he would find out. City Manager Thompson suggested that the fee be set at \$30 then revisit the issue if the Health Department modifies what they charge. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to charge enough to recover the cost of running water sample tests, \$50, and waive the fee until July 1 of the next fiscal year; 2014. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

HAYS WATER METER: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give Council information concerning the purchase of a water meter at Hays Prison. City Manager Thompson explained that a large water meter at Hays Prison is bad which results in the city loosing \$2,000 to \$2,500 of billable water per month. City Manager Thompson stated that it is his recommendation that the broken meter be replaced with a 10" octave meter from Consolidated Pipe and Supply costing \$7,600. Council Member Dale Housch asked what the projected date is for installation of the automated meters. A general discussion rendered that once the bid for water meters and installation has been awarded it will take about 4 to 5 months to get everything completed. City Manager Thompson stated that the meter being requested can be retrofitted to work with the automated meter reading system. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 10 inch octave meter from Consolidated Pipe and Supply for \$7,600. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

WALKING TRACK AT FAIRWAY: Mayor Harvey stated that discussion has been held concerning a walking track at Fairway. Tony Carroll stated that he estimates the project costing approximately \$20,000 using a 4 inch chert base topped with number 89 crushed rock edged with landscaping timbers. Attorney Palmour interjected that the design will have to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act for parking and accessibility. Council Member David Ford stated that National Parks use ground up tires as the surface material.

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WALKING TRACK AT FAIRWAY CONTINUED: City Manager Thompson stated that the city needs to be clear that all aspects of the project meet code requirements. City Attorney Palmour stated that Joey Norton could review the project for compliance. City Manager Thompson explained that this project is included as a capital budget item in the fiscal year ending 2015. Mayor Harvey stated that he would like to hold off on this project until the new budget and give time to deal with the city's certificates of deposit. No further action was taken on this item.

VERIZON CELL TOWER: Mayor Harvey stated that the next item for discussion is the Verizon cell tower. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that there are several changes to the original agreement. City Attorney Palmour stated that Verizon wanted five year leases that did not require Council approval. Attorney Palmour stated that the current lease agreement expires in 2018. City Attorney Palmour stated that extending the agreement with additional renewals being done at a higher price coupled with Council's ability to approve or decline renewal is in the city's best interest. City Attorney Palmour stated that the city is also interested in having authorization to install a repeater on the cell tower if it wouldn't interfere with Verizon transmissions. Attorney Palmour stated that a motion is needed to authorize the Mayor to execute documents associated with updating the Verizon cell tower agreement. Council Member Zachary Martin made a motion to authorize Mayor Harvey to sign the new Verizon cell tower agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

CITY CD FUNDS: Mayor Harvey stated that the city has \$356,000 from an insurance settlement that occurred several years back that is in the bank as a CD. Mayor Harvey stated that he would like to know if Council wants to use these funds for projects or leave it in the bank. City Manager Thompson stated that the funds could be used for projects to benefit the public such as repairs to pot holes, clean up the city, and a walking track. City Manager Thompson stated that he would like Council to think about setting aside some of the money for a clean and lien condemnation fund. City Manager Thompson explained that the funds are unrestricted. City Manager Thompson explained that a Clean and Lien Condemnation program would work with a base amount of money used to condemn abandoned property then the property would be put up for sale to replenish the fund. City Manager Thompson stated that he would also like to have some money set aside to issue a contract to have pot holes repaired professionally. City Manager Thompson stated that another item that he would like Council to consider is paying off the final \$68,000 owed on the gas looping project. City Manager Thompson stated that paying off the final balance would allow funds to be freed up to off set equipment purchase payments. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he was not in favor of spending all of the \$356,000 but thinks it is reasonable to use some of the money. Council Member David Ford asked City Manager Thompson how much money is needed for the Clean and Lien program. City Manager Thompson stated that he thinks \$50,000 seed money would be a good starting point. Council Member Joe Money Jr. said that it cost between \$3,500 and \$4,000 in dump fees to clean off the lot next to S & S Butane. Council Member Money wanted to know if there is a possibility to negotiate the dump fee since the property is also in Chattooga County. City Manager Thompson responded that he could discuss the request. Building and Codes enforcement officer Joey Norton interjected that the city can't make money on the condemnation of property.

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CITY CD FUNDS CONTINUED: Attorney Albert Palmour stated that if the property sells at a price above what the city has invested to clean the location then any excess funds have to be returned to the owner. Attorney Palmour explained further that if the property does not sell for at least what the city has tied up in cleaning the location then the city can retain the location and sell it as city property which would allow any funds received to be put back into the Clean and Lien Condemnation fund. Mayor Harvey stated that it is his suggestion to retain \$150,000 to \$200,000 of the CD and use the balance to work on things such as the tennis courts, the Depot, roof repairs, and the walking track. Mayor Harvey recommended that Council set a list of priorities at a called meeting to formally designate project funding. Council Member Dale Housch asked for confirmation that the CD matures December 2014. City Manager Thompson responded stating that is correct but there would be no penalty to liquidate the CD. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he would like to see \$50,000 set for a revolving Clean and Lien fund then take some time to set up other projects. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated that he would like to have the clean and lien project set up and pot holes fixed. Utility Director Tony Carroll interjected that it will take about \$60,000 to \$70,000 to get pot holes fixed. Mayor Harvey stated that Council needs another meeting to determine what projects would take priority and the associated funding. A general discussion rendered that next Thursday, April 24th, at 6 PM would be a Special Called Meeting to discuss and determine Council's decision on the issue of the City's CD. Council Member David Ford made a motion to set April 24th at 6 PM as a Special Called Meeting for the purpose of discussing the city's CD funds and potential special projects. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

BUDGET AGENDA: Mayor Harvey stated that everyone has a copy of the proposed budget meetings. City Manager Thompson stated that the meetings begin in May with the first meeting being anticipated to be the longest of all. City Manager Thompson stated that the goal is to have the final reading and adoption of the upcoming budget at the June 9th Council Meeting. Council Meeting David Ford made a motion to accept and adopt the budget work session schedule. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OPEN: Mayor Harvey stated that an executive session is needed to discuss the City Manager's annual review and compensation package. Council Member Zachary Martin made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CLOSED: Mayor Harvey reported that there was no action taken in the executive session. Mayor Harvey stated that a motion is needed to close the executive session. Council Member David Ford made a motion to close the executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S RAISE: Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to grant a 4% salary increase for City Manager Russell Thompson which will be \$3,150. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried with Council Members Windle, Housch, Money, and Martin voting in favor of the increase. Council Member David Ford voted in opposition of the motion.

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DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF CITY MANAGER'S RAISE: Mayor Harvey stated that a motion is needed on the date the City Manager's raise will go into effect. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion for the City Manager's 4% salary increase to go into effect July 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any questions or comments. Jason Espy of *The Summerville News* asked how Council came up with a 4% increase for the City Manager's pay. Mayor Harvey responded stating that the work the City Manager has done was considered as well as what employees have gotten the last three to four years. Mayor Harvey stated that consideration was also given to the grants the City Manager has been instrumental in securing.

ADJOURN: 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.