



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 13, 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 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.

AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any changes to the agenda. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that the agenda includes consideration of the engineering services agreement associated with the City's bonding issue. Attorney Palmour stated that the legal services agreement needs to be added with the discussion. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion and consideration of the legal services agreement for the City's bond issue. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S OPENING COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey stated that he welcomes everyone to the October 2014 Council Meeting. Mayor Harvey requested that visitors sign in. Mayor Harvey stated visitors will be given the opportunity to address Council now and at the end of the meeting. Mayor Harvey asked that comments be limited to one and a half minutes. Mayor Harvey asked if anyone wanted to address Council at this time. There were no comments made.

BETTER HOMETOWN: Susan Locklear of the Better Hometown program reported to the Mayor and Council that three ribbon cuttings have been hosted since September and another one is scheduled for Tuesday. Susan reported that the Crushed Tomato will have a ribbon cutting at 11 AM on Tuesday, October 14th to celebrate their third year of business. Susan also reported that Regions Bank sponsored the Downtown Coffee Break where Joey Norton was the guest speaker. Susan reported that the fall activities have been a success so far and everyone is looking forward to the remainder of the upcoming festivities.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: City Manager Russell Thompson reported that Joey Norton is not present at the meeting. City Manager Thompson explained that Joey was chosen as the Georgia representative for a code enforcement conference in Texas which he is currently attending. City Manager Thompson stated that there are a couple of items for discussion and consideration associated with code enforcement which will be discussed further into the meeting.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT: Janice Galloway gave a report of all routine maintenance and repairs done at the Water Treatment Plant during the month of September. Janice also reported that during the month of September the plant pumped 57.4 million gallons of water and had 2.24 inches of rain.

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WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Chris Tuggle reported that 26.2 million gallons of sludge was processed during the month of September for a daily average of .9 million gallons. Chris also reported all general maintenance done as well as each classification of waste loads received. Chris reported there was 1.7 inches of rain at the WWTP during the month of September.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: City Manager Thompson reported that Bo Chamlee is unable to attend the meeting due to make up games.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief and Public Safety Director Stan Mosley reported that officers patrolled 7,485 miles, housed 72 inmates for a total of 39 days, issued 95 citations and collected \$7,695 at the Police Department.

PROBATION DEPARTMENT: Police Chief and Public Safety Director Stan Mosley reported that the Probation collected \$6,792 and State Probation collected \$6,797 for the month of September.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief and Public Safety Director Stan Mosley stated that there was an issue reported on AM1180 and he wants to assure everyone that there are sufficient firefighters to serve our community successfully. Firefighter Robbie Lathem reported that the SFD responded to 131 calls in the month of September. A copy of the report giving the breakdown of categories of the calls is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

PUBLIC WORKS: Tony Carroll reported all work done by all departments under his supervision. Tony also reported that 19 pot holes were repaired, three new gas services were connected, all easements have been signed for Back Valley Road, and the CDBG work in Pennville was started today. Tony asked if there any changes to the list of streets to be paved by LMIG. Council did not request any changes to the paving list.

CITY MANAGER: City Manager Russell Thompson stated that all elected officials have received a copy of the financial report. City Manager Thompson stated that revenue is in excess of three million and expenses at 2.9 noting that the city is still in the black. City Manager Thompson stated that he will be happy to answer any questions concerning the financial report. No questions were given.

LIBRARY BOARD: Mayor Harvey stated that the City needs to appoint a member to the Chattooga County Library Board. Mayor Harvey stated that the Library Board has made a recommendation for the appointment. Mayor Harvey asked that City Manager Thompson provide information concerning the appointment. City Manager Thompson stated that the individual recommended by the Library Board currently lives in Trion but is in the process of moving back to Summerville. City Manager Thompson stated that he thinks the woman's name is Ms. Swaggart. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve and appoint the Library Board's recommended person to the Chattooga County Library Board. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously. After the meeting it was duly noted for clarification that the correct name of the person recommended by the Chattooga County Library Board to be appointed as a Board member is Angie McGraw. A letter of Council's approval of the Library Board's recommendation is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

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SIDEWALK BIDS – COMMERCE STREET: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give details of the proposed Commerce Street sidewalk project. City Manager Thompson explained that the design of the sidewalk on Commerce Street in front of the Commissioner's office and down to Jefferson's presents a challenge for parking longer vehicles. Mr. Thompson stated that the design must have been done when cars were smaller. City Manager Thompson explained that the proposed project would involve removing the first step of the sidewalk. City Manager Thompson explained further that the City received bids for the project with the low bid being from Patty Construction; \$3,600 to pour and re-stripe asphalt to provide a bevel between the street and sidewalk once the step is removed. Patty's also bid \$9,400 to re-pour concrete and construct a handicap ramp. City Manager Thompson explained that the City will be responsible for purchasing the asphalt and concrete. City Manager Thompson stated that if Council chooses to move forward with this project the total low-bid cost is \$13,000 with the City being responsible for approximately \$5,000 in asphalt and concrete materials. City Manager Thompson stated that this is an unbudgeted project and will require a budget amendment to appropriate necessary funds if approved. City Manager Thompson explained that Council has been looking at uses for unrestricted cash for projects such as this. City Manager Thompson stated further that DOT has reviewed and approved the proposed plan. Mayor Harvey stated that the total cost will be between \$18,000 and \$19,000 but what Council is being asked for is a motion concerning the low bid submitted by Patty Construction. Council Member David Ford made a motion to accept the low bid for the sidewalk improvement project submitted by William Patty. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ENGINEERING AGREEMENT – METER PROJECT/BOND: Mayor Harvey stated that the next item for discussion is an engineering agreement associated with the meter project. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson and Larry Whitley of LADD Engineering to explain the item. City Manager Thompson explained that USDA requires full time inspection during construction of the meter upgrade project associated with the \$800,000 revenue bond. City Manager Thompson stated that there is an engineering agreement with LADD Environmental in the amount of \$126,500. City Manager Thompson stated that the contract also provides for \$65,000 for GIS services. City Manager Thompson stated that he has removed the GIS services agreement so that part can be bid. City Manager Thompson stated that conversations about GIS programming have been held with a couple of other folks and it would be good to see what they submit. Council Member Dale Housch asked if the GIS programming is provided on discs. Larry Whitley responded that the GIS programming is a software program that is utilized through computers such as a PC station or a laptop. Council Member Dale Housch asked if the City would own the software. City Manager Thompson responded explaining that the City would purchase a set number of license for access to the program then pay an annual maintenance and support fee like is currently done with the City's billing program. City Manager Thompson explained further that the \$126,500 engineering contract would function for both the GEFA and USDA loans associated with the meter project. Mayor Harvey stated that if all questions and discussion is done a motion is needed. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to authorize Mayor Harvey to execute an engineering agreement with LADD Engineering for \$126,500 without GIS services. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and carried unanimously.

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LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – METER PROJECT REVENUE BOND: City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that the USDA requires a legal services agent agreement for the revenue bond. Attorney Palmour stated that the bond agreement budgets \$23,460 for legal services associated with the bond but he (Attorney Palmour) thinks he can get the work done at a lower cost. Attorney Palmour stated that he has not gotten the agreement back yet but he should have it tomorrow. Council Member Zachary Martin made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor executing a legal services agreement with Attorney Albert Palmour. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

FLAME PACKS – GAS DEPARTMENT: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give details on the proposed purchase of flame packs for the gas department at a cost of \$5,546.70. City Manager Thompson explained that flame packs are used for gas leak detection. City Manager Thompson explained further that purchasing the flame packs is part of a consent agreement with the Public Service Commission as a result of a deficiency found during our annual inspection. City Manager Thompson stated that since the purchase price is over \$5,000 it requires Council approval. Council Member David Ford asked if the purchase is required. City Manager Thompson responded that the purchase is required. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve the purchase of flame packs at a cost of \$5,546.70. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

SCREW AUGER – WWTP: Mayor Harvey stated that the Wastewater Treatment Plant is asking to have the screw auger replaced. City Manager Thompson stated that the auger has had multiple repair welds and is at the point where it needs to be replaced. City Manager Thompson explained that there is an eight week lead time for the item. City Manager Thompson stated that several bids were received for this item with the low bid coming from Westech at \$33,695. City Manager Thompson stated staff's recommendation is to purchase the replacement auger. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the purchase of a screw auger for the WWTP at a cost of \$33,695 from Westech. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: Mayor Harvey stated that the next item for discussion is the 2014 surplus equipment sale list. City Manager Thompson stated that surplus equipment sales have been held both annually and bi-annually with the more recent sales being handled through the use of GovDeals.com. City Manager Thompson stated that Tony Carroll has done a good job listing equipment for sale through the web site. City Manager Thompson explained that Tony has compiled a list of equipment that is for sale which was included in Council packets. City Manager Thompson asked if Council had any questions about anything listed. Mayor Harvey asked about the "V" backhoe bucket. Tony Carroll responded stating that it is something that was purchased about 20 years ago and does not function well for the type of work done by City crews. Mayor Harvey also asked about why the Ford tractor with a side arm mower is being listed. Tony Carroll stated that the Ford tractor has had parts taken off of it to keep the other tractor running so it is no longer useful. Tony stated that all parts useful to the City have been removed. Council Member David Ford stated that he thinks that the City could get more for the wheels on the Crown Vic than the car alone.

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SURPLUS PROPERTY CONTINUED: Council Member Dale Housch asked if there are any parts that can be salvaged from the Crown Vic. Public Safety Director Stan Mosley responded that the vehicle has been stripped of all parts useful to the Police Department. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the sale of surplus equipment as listed. Council Member Dale Housch seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

FIRST FREEDOM MINISTRY – DOWDY PARK 11/8/14: Mayor Harvey stated that the City has received a request from First Freedom Ministries to hold a gathering in Dowdy Park on November 8th. City Manager Thompson stated that the group wants to use Dowdy Park from noon until 6 PM on November the 8th. City Manager Thompson stated that the group is not requesting any services by the City. City Manager Thompson stated that staff recommends approving the permit with the group paying the \$250 special event permit up front then refunding the fee if the park is cleaned up properly. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve First Freedom Ministry to obtain a special event permit for \$250 for an event to be held from noon until 6PM on Saturday, November 8th, 2014 with the permit fee refundable if the park meets inspection after the event. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

CHS CHORUS CONCERT 10/16/14 – DOWDY PARK: Mayor Harvey stated that the Chattooga County High School Chorus is requesting a special event permit for Dowdy Park on October 16th. City Manager Thompson stated that the event will require closing Washington Street at 5 PM on Thursday, October 16th. City Manager Thompson stated that a request has also been made to have the City provide three officers patrol the area during the event and provide porta-toilets. City Manager Thompson stated that additional officers assigned to this event would cost the City overtime. City Manager Thompson explained that a discussion was held where it was determined that normal patrol of the area will suffice. City Manager Thompson stated that the group has requested two porta-toilets. Council Member Dale Housch asked what the businesses in the immediate area say about Washington Street being closed. Public Safety Director Stan Mosley stated that he had the people from the school check with all surrounding businesses. Lonnie Smith stated that all surrounding businesses have given written consent for closing the street for the choral event. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the CHS Chorus event in Dowdy Park on 10/16/14 with the City providing two porta-toilets, routine police patrol, payment of the \$250 event permit fee which will be refunded if the park is cleaned up after the event, and closing Washington Street at 5 PM the day of the event. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

RED RIBBON WEEK – OCTOBER 23 – 31, 2014: Mayor Harvey stated that he has a proclamation for National Red Ribbon Week which is being held in recognition that each individual can make a difference in combating illicit drug use by practicing a healthy drug free lifestyle. Mayor Harvey stated that the red ribbon was chosen commemorating the work of Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena and will be worn October 23rd through October 31st as a symbol of support for this important cause. Mayor Harvey read the full proclamation which is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

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SIGN REQUEST – 9974 COMMERCE ST: City Manager Thompson stated that a sign request has been received for 9974 Commerce Street. City Manager Thompson stated that everything associated with the sign is in compliance with code requirements. City Manager Thompson explained that the sign is in the Downtown Historic District and requires Council approval. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the sign request for 9974 Commerce. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

BUILDING PERMIT – CHATTOOGA COUNTY JAIL: City Manager Thompson explained that the Chattooga County Sheriff's office is doing some renovations and made application for a building permit. City Manager Thompson stated that he waived the permit fee. City Manager Thompson reported that the work requested meets code per Joey Norton. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the building permit for the Chattooga County Sheriff's Department. The motion was seconded by Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT – 411 EAST WASHINGTON: Mayor Harvey stated that a residential building permit request has been received for 411 East Washington Street. Mayor Harvey asked for City Manager Thompson to give details of the request. City Manager Thompson stated that the permit is for an approximately \$100,000 renovation by a licensed contractor. City Manager Thompson explained that due to the physical location the permit needs Council approval. General discussion determined that the location of the renovation will be behind the existing home where the old pool house is located. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the permit. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

FLOYD SPRINGS ROAD GAS EXTENSION: Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to provide information about the request to extend the City's natural gas service on Floyd Springs Road. City Manager Thompson reported that a request has been received to extend the gas lines to accommodate eight proposed chicken houses. City Manager Thompson stated that the estimated cost to the City to extend the gas line is \$196,000. City Manager Thompson stated that if a contract is set with a guarantee of 400 MCF per year it will take 16.6 years to recover the investment. Tony Carroll interjected that the project would be expensive due to the need to upgrade the gas lines and installation of a regulator station to accommodate the service needs. City Manager Thompson stated that the City has several projects in the works that have required debt to accomplish. City Manager Thompson stated that from the analysis it looks like the only way to fund the extension is through a rate increase. Adam and Jake Williams stated that they would be willing to provide a promissory note as security for the project with an annual guarantee of 500 MCF. Mayor Harvey asked how long it would take to do the extension. Tony Carroll responded stating that it would take eight months to a year to complete the project. Mr. Williams stated that they would have to start off with propane then switch over to natural gas once the extension is complete. Council Member Dale Housch asked if it would be appropriate to table this item so more information can be gathered. Mayor Harvey stated that tabling the item can be done. Council Member Housch stated that he makes a motion to table the item. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey stated that the City wants to add gas customers but the cost of doing that must be considered.

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COOPER HEIGHTS PROPERTY PURCHASE: City Manager Thompson asked if an Executive Session needed to be called to discuss the potential purchase of Cooper Heights property. City Manager Thompson stated that the owner is asking \$12,500 for the property. City Manager Thompson explained that the City currently has a perpetual easement on the property but wanted to present the item to Council. City Manager Thompson also stated that there is a cell phone tower on the property. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that he recommends an Executive Session to discuss the item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OPENED: Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CLOSED: Council Member David Ford made a motion to close the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey stated that no action was taken in the meeting noting that legal counsel will do some investigation and report back to Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any questions or comments from the public. No comments or questions were made.

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

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

JILL DURHAM – CITY CLERK, G.C.M.C.

