



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 8, 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 Joe Money, Jr. led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any changes to the agenda. Mayor Harvey stated that he would like to add an executive session for the purpose of discussing real estate and compensation evaluation of personnel. Council Member David Ford stated that he would like to add discussion of a hotel/motel tax. Council Member David Ford made a motion to accept and approve the agenda with the addition of the two items mentioned above. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

VISITORS: Mayor Harvey stated that he wanted to welcome all visitors. Mayor Harvey recognized Curtis Garvin who represents the City's auditors, Williamson & Company. Mayor Harvey stated that Curtis would be giving the auditor's report to Council later in the meeting. Mayor Harvey stated that Charles Bennett is also present. Mayor Harvey asked if Mr. Bennett wanted to address the Council. Mr. Bennett declined the opportunity stating he is present as a spectator only.

MAYOR'S STATEMENT: Mayor Harvey thanked all employees for their good work and dedication to the City's successful daily operations and special events.

BETTER HOMETOWN: Susan Locklear reported on all meetings and activities for the month of November. Susan reported that New Beginnings Church won the \$100 first place prize for their float in the Christmas parade. Susan stated that the \$75 second place winner was Subligna Baptist Church and the third place \$50 winner was Floyd Urgent Care. Susan reported that the Better Hometown program is receiving a Tillotson grant of \$8,000 for economic development which will be used for marketing. Susan stated that work is being done for the upcoming Christmas in the Park where drawings will be held for two bikes and a ham. Susan also reported that the Better Hometown Board will meet December 17th in the Georgia Room at Jefferson's, December Coffee Break will be held at the Depot on December 12th at 8 AM, and the deadline for entering the Christmas decoration contest is December 12th.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton reported that 9 permits were issued in November for \$330. Joey also reported that the second Clean or Lien house has been demolished with two more in the works. Joey stated that he continues to work on property maintenance issues.

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CODE ENFORCEMENT CONTINUED: Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if there is any way to remove old big signs like the one that isn't being used at the vacant Hardee's lot. Joey responded stating that property signage goes with the physical location and could have a negative impact on potential future occupants. Joey explained that if the sign had been there for a long time the sign would be grandfathered in under the initial construction set backs.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT: Water Treatment Plant supervisor Janice Galloway reported all maintenance done at the Water Treatment Plant for the month of November. Janice also reported that there were 55,665,000 gallons of water pumped and 4.13 inches of rain in November. Janice stated that there has already been 1.79 inches of rain in December.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Wastewater Treatment Plant supervisor Chris Tuggle reported that 35.8 million gallons of waste was processed at the plant for a daily average of 1.2 million gallons per day. Chris also reported all loads of sludge received, all general maintenance, and that there was 4.7 inches of rain for the month of November. Chris stated that the wires are so short on the aerator that if there is another problem the unit will have to be replaced.

PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES: Public Works director Tony Carroll gave a report of all work done by all departments under his supervision. Tony also reported that the steps in front of the Commissioner's office are completed with striping to be done this week. Tony stated that the City has received an \$8,500 grant from Tillotson to be used for the Fourth of July fireworks.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: The Recreation Department Assistant Director Kris Willis reported that the 7 year old and under football league won the State Championship, basketball season has started, and the Santa N Uniform tournaments will begin Friday, December 12th and will run through December 18th. Kris reported that the gym floor at the Summerville Recreation building has been redone and all floors in the building have been stripped and waxed.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Public Safety Director and Police Chief Stan Mosley reported that officers patrolled 4,398 miles, housed 14 inmates for a total of 30 days and collected \$6,503 for the month of November. Chief Mosley also reported that Probation collected \$7,175 and \$5,272 was collected for State fees. Chief Mosley reported that 107 citations were issued for November. Chief Mosley read the number and category of each type citation. A copy of said citation report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Fire Chief Greg Echols reported that the Summerville Fire Department responded to 84 calls during the month of November. Chief Echols gave a report of each type of call that was received. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

CITY MANAGER: City Manager Russell Thompson stated that the staff appreciation Christmas lunch will be held this coming Friday at 2 p.m. City Manager Thompson stated that he wanted to extend an invitation to all elected officials to join the celebration.

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CITY MANAGER CONTINUED: City Manager Thompson reported that the steps in front of the Commissioner's office are finished but there has been some concern expressed about the depth of the steps. City Manager Thompson stated that work is underway to mark the edge of each step for better visibility.

City Manager Thompson stated that elected officials were given a financial report as well as a sheet depicting month end balances for the last two fiscal years and through November of this fiscal year. City Manager Thompson stated that revenue is at 5.3 million and expenses are at 5.5 which is the norm for this time of year. City Manager Thompson stated that the month end balances reflect the trend of revenue increases beginning in January. City Manager Thompson stated that the City is still in good shape.

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 Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and carried unanimously.

SECOND READING OF THE FY 2013-2014 BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Mayor Harvey stated that this is the second reading of the budget amendments noting that the first reading was done at last month's meeting. Mayor Harvey asked if there are any questions or items relating to this item for discussion. There were no questions or items of discussion voiced. Mayor Harvey read the full Ordinance to Amend Budget. A copy of said budget is attached and becomes part of these minutes. Following the second reading of the ordinance Council Member David Ford made a motion to accept and approve the 2013-2014 Budget Amendment Ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

2013-2014 AUDITOR'S REPORT: Curtis Garvin of Williamson and Company, CPAs addressed the Mayor and Council stating that the City once again has an unmodified auditor's report. Curtis stated that the unmodified auditor's report indicates that practices, procedures, checks and balances are on target. Curtis explained modified auditor's reports are for those situations that need correction; the City does not have any. Curtis went over the balance sheet that gives a comparison between the prior audit year and the current audit year. Curtis stated that there are explanations throughout this balance sheet showing any notations pertinent to the sheet. Curtis stated that the overall assessment of the audit is that solid business practices have been followed and the City continues to be operated with sound cash management practices. Curtis stated that everyone should feel free to ask questions concerning any portion of the audit report. There were no questions presented.

SET BROKERAGE FEE FOR HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE: Mayor Harvey stated that Council voted at the last meeting to maintain the broker for health and dental insurance. Mayor Harvey requested that City Manager Thompson provide information on the topic. City Manager Thompson stated that last year the brokerage fee was 2.5%. City Manager Thompson stated that is approximately \$18,000 for the year. City Manager Thompson stated that the broker has requested to stay at 2.5%. City Manager Thompson stated that they gave an alternate option which would be to work on an hourly rate. City Manager Thompson explained that if Council chooses to go with the hourly rate the broker has requested the item be tabled to allow the broker to research this method and present information at the next meeting. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated that he likes the hourly rate idea adding that a monthly report showing what has been done should be submitted with any bill. Council Member

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SET BROKERAGE FEE FOR HEALTH & DENTAL INSURANCE CONTINUED:

Joe Money, Jr. stated that there should be transparency of the cost of broker services. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he would like to see what kind of hourly rate the broker comes up with. Council Member David Ford voiced agreement concerning the hourly rate approach. Council Member Zachary Martin asked how the invoicing could be validated. City Manager Thompson stated that billing would be partly the honor system coupled with backup information submitted with any bill. Mayor Harvey stated that if there is sufficient interest in an hourly rate then the item could be tabled until next month. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to table the broker rate for health and dental insurance pending more information. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

ALCOHOL LICENSE: Mayor Harvey stated that the next item for consideration is renewal of alcohol license. Mayor Harvey asked if all applicants have met requirements. City Manager Thompson stated that the Willow Tree Grill needs to be added to the list. City Manager Thompson stated that there are a couple of accounts that are in the process of getting their fees paid. City Manager Thompson stated that staff's recommendation is to approve alcohol renewals with the stipulation that all fees and paperwork be submitted prior to release of said license. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve the alcohol license renewals with the submittal all paperwork and payment of applicable fees are paid prior to release of the license. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OPEN: Mayor Harvey stated that an executive session is needed for the purpose of discussing the purchase of real estate and compensation for a public employee. Council Member David Ford made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION COLSED: 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 executive session. Mayor Harvey asked if there is anything else Council wishes to discuss.

SALARY ADJUSTMENT – MAT CRAIG: Council Member David Ford made a motion to adjust Mat Craig's salary with an increase of \$1.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and carried with Council Members Ford, Windle, and Martin voting in favor of the motion. Council Members Housch and Money voted in opposition to the motion.

Mayor Harvey stated that he does not think this should be done because it is not fiscally responsible or in line with the compensation plan.

Mayor Harvey asked if there is anything else to be discussed.

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HOTEL/MOTEL TAX: Council Member David Ford said that he would like to discuss implementing a hotel/motel tax since there could be up to 8% revenue. City Manager Thompson interjected that the State rules what is done with anything above 5%. City Manager Thompson stated that 3% can be used for general purposes. City Manager Thompson stated that this might be used for the Better Hometown program but he would like for the City Attorney to look into exactly what would need to happen. City Manager Thompson stated that implementation of a hotel/motel tax might need to be done through the General Assembly. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that he will gladly put information together on this topic for Council's review. City Manager Thompson stated that the item can be set for the January meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any public comments or questions. There were no questions or comments made.

ADJOURN: All business 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.