



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 11, 2015  
5 PM**



**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 Melissa Hise.

**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 Council had any changes to the agenda. Council made no requests for additions or deletions to the agenda as presented. City Manager Thompson stated that if it pleases Council he would like to add discussion concerning brown bagging at public events. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he would like discussion of creating an assistant public utility director position in executive session. Mayor Harvey responded that the creation of the position has to be done in an open meeting but discussion on personnel can be done in closed session. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of a discussion concerning brown bagging at public events. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**VISITORS:** Mayor Harry Harvey stated that he welcomes all visitors to the meeting. Mayor Harvey requested that all visitors sign in listing their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey explained that visitors will be given an opportunity to speak now and again at the end of the meeting. Mayor Harvey asked that each visitors limit their comments to three minutes. Mayor Harvey asked if anyone wished to address Council at this time.

**CHARLES BENNETT:** Charles Bennett stated that an individual approached him at Trade Day and stated that their son got a job to build a deck but was unable to obtain a building permit for three weeks. Charles wanted to know why it would take a man three weeks to get a permit. Codes Enforcement Officer Joey Norton responded stating that it does not take three weeks to get a permit. Joey explained that permits are readily available at City Hall during normal business hours. Joey stated that from what he was told the hold up had to do with the contractor. Charles stated that he was just going by what the man said.

Charles Bennett asked if an individual not living in the city can come to the meetings (Summerville City Council Meetings). Mayor Harvey responded stating that the meetings are open to the public so anyone that chooses to attend is welcome to do so.

Charles Bennett stated that there is brush growing over a fence near his house and he thinks it should be cut because it is ugly. Mayor Harvey asked that Mr. Bennett contact Joey Norton concerning the issue so that the specific address can be noted. Mr. Bennett said that the address is 79 Martin Street.

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**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Mayor Harvey stated that there will be lots of activities in May and June. Mayor Harvey explained that those items will be covered in the Better Hometown report. Mayor Harvey stated that there will be budget and planning meetings in May. Mayor Harvey reminded everyone of the upcoming Georgia Municipal Association annual meeting. Mayor Harvey also stated that everyone is invited to attend the Regular Council Meetings that are held the second Monday of each month.

**BETTER HOMETOWN:** Mayor Harvey asked Susan Locklear to present the Better Hometown report. Susan gave a review of all activities for the month of April. A copy of the report distributed to Council as a part of their meeting agenda packet is attached and becomes part of these minutes. Council Member David Ford interjected that the Mock Council Meeting was great noting that it was a treat to watch.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton reviewed the report of April permit activity distributed to Council with their April agenda packet. Joey gave the number and dollar value of permits issued. A copy of Joey's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes. Joey also reported that he continues to work on property maintenance issues.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey asked for Janice Galloway to review the Water Treatment Plant report. City Manager Thompson stated that Ms. Galloway is not present for the meeting noting that Council has a copy of her departmental report covering April activities. City Manager Thompson stated if Council has any questions please let him know. A copy of the Water Treatment Plant report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey asked Chris Tuggle to review the Wastewater Treatment Plant report. Chris reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant activities for the month of April. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Mayor Harvey requested that Terry Tinney review the April report for Public Works. Terry reviewed the April report of all work performed by each departments under Public Works. A copy of the report was given to Council with the meeting agenda and becomes part of these minutes.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey asked Bo Chamlee to review the Recreation Department April report. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Chief Stan Mosley to give the Police Department report. Chief Mosley reviewed the Police Department report. A copy of the report covering officer activity, citation count, Chattooga County State Court, State Probation pre-trial collections, Municipal Court and Municipal Court pre-trial collections is attached and become part of these minutes.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested the April Fire Department report be reviewed. Josh Shelton reviewed the April Fire Department activity report giving the number and type of calls as well as the number of staff hours. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

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**CITY ATTORNEY:** Mayor Harvey asked if there is anything to be reported by the City Attorney. Melissa Hise of Albert Palmour's office responded stating that any topic of discussion she has is listed on the agenda.

**CITY MANAGER:** Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Russell Thompson to give his report. City Manager Thompson stated that expenses were at 1.5 April 30<sup>th</sup>. City Manager Thompson stated that revenue was just shy of that number noting that the bank balance is \$500,000 higher this year than it was last year at this time.

City Manager Thompson stated that discussion has been held with the Department of Transportation concerning paving the approaches to the railroad tracks but no firm date or commitment has been made.

City Manager Thompson stated that conversations have been held with the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum people which have resulted in an anticipated monthly train ride beginning in July through the train season.

City Manager Thompson stated that a city clean up has been discussed but no date has been set. City Manager Thompson stated that if Council does not have a preference of time he (City Manager Thompson) will move forward and schedule that event. Council had no comment designating a preference of dates.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:** Mayor Harvey stated that Council has received minutes of the April 13<sup>th</sup>, April 30<sup>th</sup>, and May 5<sup>th</sup> meetings. Mayor Harvey stated that if there are no changes to the minutes a motion is needed for approval. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the prior three meeting minutes as prepared and presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

**ZONING RECLASSIFICATION – UNION STREET:** Mayor Harvey stated that this is the first reading of the ordinance to rezone parcel number 00S22-00000-042-000 owned by AEB Properties from R-2 to C- N. Mayor Harvey stated that the second reading of the ordinance will be held at the next meeting. Mayor Harvey read the ordinance aloud. A copy of said ordinance is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**REPLACEMENT TRUCKS – 2 WATER DEPT & 2 GAS DEPT:** Mayor Harvey stated that a request is listed to approve the purchase of two service trucks for the Water Department and two service trucks for the Gas Department. Mayor Harvey asked that City Manager Thompson give details of the request. City Manager Thompson stated that copies of the truck bids were included with Council agenda information. City Manager Thompson explained that there is \$116,000 in S.P.L.O.S.T. funds budgeted to buy replacement trucks. City Manager Thompson explained that the trucks can be purchased for \$115,413 which includes two 2015 F-150 trucks for \$37,974, one 2016 F-550 4X4 for \$42,750, and one Dodge 3500 for \$34,689. City Manager Thompson explained that vehicles unable to be reassigned will be sold as surplus. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve four trucks as described by the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

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**MGAG VOTING DELEGATE:** Mayor Harvey stated that another voting delegate needs to be approved for the upcoming MGAG annual meeting. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to give details of the request. City Manager Thompson stated that staff members are set to attend training and the annual MGAG meeting. City Manager Thompson stated further that Tony Carroll and Jody Stoner were set as the voting delegates for Summerville but Tony is unable to attend. City Manager Thompson recommended that Jody Stoner be set as the primary voting delegate and Ben Smith as the alternate. Mayor Harvey read the MGAG resolution aloud. Council Member David Ford made a motion to set Jody Stoner as the voting delegate and the alternate as Ben Smith. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

**ASSISTANT UTILITY DIRECTOR:** Mayor Harvey stated that the next item is to discuss creating the position for an Assistant Utility Director. Mayor Harvey asked that City Manager Thompson explain. City Manager Thompson explained that Tony has had some medical problems which have required him to be out of work. City Manager Thompson explained that when Tony is out Terry Tinney fills in. City Manager Thompson stated that there needs to be a clear chain of command in Tony's absence. City Manager Thompson explained that the recommendation is to have an Assistant Utility Director set as a class 21 with the step to be discussed in executive session. Mayor Harvey asked what the other director classifications are. City Manager Thompson stated that the Police Chief is class 23, Utility Director is class 23, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent is class 21, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent is class 21, City Clerk is class 20, and Recreation Department Director is class 21. City Manager Thompson explained that the Water Department Foreman position would be eliminated and moved to class 21. Mayor Harvey stated that the money associated with class 21 should follow the classification plan. Mayor Harvey stated that he wanted Council to look at this closely. Mayor Harvey stated that he would like to see the position as salaried. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if the Assistant Director would make as much money as the superintendents for the water, wastewater, and recreation departments. Council Member David Ford stated that the Water Department Foreman currently gets a lot of over time. City Manager Thompson stated that an executive session is needed to discuss the compensation side of the position. Mayor Harvey stated that a salaried position has no overtime pay. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to create the Assistant Utility Director position then go into executive session to discuss compensation. Attorney Melissa Hise stated that compensation for the position can be discussed in executive session. Mayor Harvey read the Georgia State Code listing allowable reasons for a closed session. Council Member David Ford asked if the position can be listed as a 20.5. Council Member Dale Housch asked why an executive session is needed if the position is being created in the open meeting. Attorney Hise responded stating that the position alone can be set in open meeting then have an executive session to determine the compensation for the newly created position. Mayor Harvey stated that a second is needed concerning setting the position of Assistant Utility Director. Council Member David Ford seconded Council Member Housch's motion. The motion carried with Council Members Ford, Windle, Housch, and Martin voting in favor of the motion. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. voted in opposition of the motion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION OPEN:** Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to go into executive session. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

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**CLOSE 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.

Mayor Harvey stated that no action was taken in the executive session. Mayor Harvey stated further that the personnel issue discussed during executive session will be considered in the upcoming budget work session.

**USDA REVENUE BOND – METER PROJECT:** Mayor Harvey stated that Attorney Hise will provide information concerning the USDA Revenue Bond. Attorney Hise explained that this is a junior loan attached to the 2005 bond. Ms. Hise explained that once the resolution is passed by the city's Council then it is sent to the Bond Council for final processing. Attorney Hise stated that two certified copies will be submitted. Attorney Hise explained that the first two pages of the bond document is the preamble then the rest of the document gives a lot of detail. Ms. Hise explained that the first page gives the synopsis of the bond. Mayor Harvey read the first page of the USDA Bond resolution. Mayor Harvey asked if there are any questions or discussion. City Manager Thompson stated that this resolution is for the gas portion of the project. Mayor Harvey asked how long it will take for the project to be completed. Terry Tinney stated that the project will take about six months. Terry also explained that the gas meters will begin being installed at the first of July. Council Member Dale Housch made a motion to approve the USDA Revenue Bond Resolution for the meter project. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION:** Mayor Harvey stated that another budget work session is needed. Mayor Harvey asked if there were any suggestions of a date that will work. Mayor Harvey stated that the goal is to have another budget work session and first reading. Mayor Harvey stated that the second reading will be done at the June 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Council Meeting. After a general discussion it was determined that the next budget work session will be held Thursday May 28, 2015 at 6 p.m. Mayor Harvey asked that Council let City Manager Thompson know about any changes needed.

**BROWN BAGGING:** Mayor Harvey stated that discussion of brown bagging was added to the agenda. Mayor Harvey asked that City Manager Thompson provide information concerning this item. City Manager Thompson stated that brown bagging was discussed last year and Council chose to proceed with vendors at special events. City Manager Thompson stated that it has been brought to his attention that during the Second Saturday Concerts, not associated with the city, brown bagging has been observed. City Manager Thompson stated that since he is aware of the situation he would like guidance on Council's preference. City Manager Thompson explained that the current ordinance prohibiting brown bagging within the city limits will have to be either enforced for amended. Council Member David Ford stated that he does not think the current ordinance should be amended. Council Member Ford stated that he thinks that if families are encouraged to participate in activities then brown bagging should remain prohibited. Mayor Harvey stated that he leans to the opinion of not having brown bagging. City Manager Thompson stated that there is a difference between private parties verses public events. Council Member Ford stated that he thinks private parties with alcohol are not allowed in the park.

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**BROWN BAGGING CONTINUED:** City Manager Thompson responded stating that, as it is written in our current ordinance, any event where alcohol is to be consumed has to make application for the event listing the venue which is then considered by Council. City Manager Thompson explained that if the county had a venue on county property but that location is within the city limits and they want alcohol then there would need to be a permit from the city for that event. Council Member Dale Housch stated that he did not see why it would be a big deal if alcohol consumption is limited to the venue and nobody was leaving the location. City Manager Thompson responded explaining that if Council wishes to allow brown bagging in any form then the current ordinance needs to be amended to reflect those wishes. Mayor Harvey interjected that everything needs to be spelled out for what is or is not allowed concerning alcohol consumption. City Manager Thompson stated that whatever Council wants can be specified in the city's ordinance with Council issuing any applicable permit. Council Member David Ford asked if the City of Rome allows brown bagging. City Manager Thompson responded, "No". Susan Locklear interjected that the City of Rome has block parties that allows alcohol consumption within a confined area while some other events such as Town Green have no alcohol allowed. Council Member David Ford stated again that he has been under the impression that the goal is to attract families to city events noting that brown bagging might not be the way to accomplish that goal. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated that he makes a motion to table brown bagging for now. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dale Housch and carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Harvey asked if there are any public comments or questions.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAYOR PRO TEM WINDLE:** City Manager Thompson stated that there is a Council Member having their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and he wanted to wish that person a Happy Birthday. Everyone wished Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle a Happy Birthday followed by the group singing the birthday song.

**ADJOURN:** Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

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**HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR**

Attest:

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**JILL DURHAM – CITY CLERK, G.C.M.C.**