



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 9, 2016  
6 PM**



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

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

**INVOCATION:** Mayor Harry Harvey gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member David Ford led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA:** Mayor Harvey asked if Council needs to make any changes to the agenda. No changes were requested. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Harvey welcomed everyone to the May Council Meeting. Mayor Harvey requested that visitors sign in listing their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey stated that attendees may address Council now and again at the end of the meeting. Mayor Harvey requested that comments be limited to three minutes each. Mayor Harvey asked if anyone would like to speak at this time. No comments were made.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Harvey stated that May and June are filled with events which the Home Town Director will share during her report. Mayor Harvey stated that Council meets the second Monday of each month at 6 PM. Mayor Harvey stated that the Main Street Concert Series will host Small Town Rumor on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Harvey stated that June 4<sup>th</sup> will be the first Ducky Derby event. Mayor Harvey stated also that work is being done on the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget noting that another budget meeting will need to be set for the near future.

**BETTER HOMETOWN:** Susan Locklear addressed Council reviewing all Better Hometown/Main Street program activities for the month of April. Susan also shared the reports, meetings, and training she was involved with during the prior month. Council Member Earl Parris asked what is being done with the grass areas along the sidewalks in downtown. Susan explained that concrete squares have been poured and brick work will be added around those squares to add a decorative touch. Susan explained that the squares insure that people have a mechanism to reach the sidewalk without having to step on the grass. A copy of Susan's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Joey Norton reported that \$40,000 worth of work is being done which has resulted in \$460 in permits. Joey stated that work is still on-going with the city attorney to review codes. There was no hard copy report submitted for Code Enforcement.

**PAGE 2**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Janice Galloway addressed Council reviewing Raccoon Creek Plant, Lowe Spring, distribution, and statistics for the month of April. Council Member Earl Parris asked if the openings at the Water Treatment Plant have been filled. Janice responded that she is still working on that noting that it is almost impossible to find anyone with certification to fill positions. A copy of Janice's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Chris Tuggle addressed Council reviewing statistics of the WWTP operation, sampling, repairs, and general maintenance done for the month of April. A copy of Chris' report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES:** Tony Carroll reviewed the work performed by the water, sewer, street, and gas department and the number of locates done. Tony also provided general information on existing projects. A copy of Tony's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Bo Chamlee reported that activities for baseball and softball season are at the half way point. Bo also reported that the handicap accessible swings installed at Dowdy Park have been a huge success. Bo reported that the Dewey Hoskins gym is heavily used and a gravel walkway has been installed for better community access to the facility. A copy of Bo's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Captain Harold Tucker reported the April statistical information for Summerville Police Department, City Probation and State Probation. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Fire Chief Robbie Lathem reviewed the Summerville Fire Department report listing the number and type of calls handled during April. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**CITY MANAGER:** City Manager Russell Thompson reported that expenses are at 1.3, revenue is at 1.259, there is \$203,272.06 in outstanding reimbursements and a bank balance of \$2,480,987.17. A copy of City Manager Thompson's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**MINUTES:** Mayor Harvey asked if anyone had any comments or changes needed to the minutes of the prior meetings. Council Member Joe Money Jr., made a motion to approve the minutes of prior meetings as prepared and presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

**BUDGET WORK SESSION:** Mayor Harvey stated that the next portion of the meeting will be to discuss capital improvements. Mayor Harvey interjected that a date also needs to be set for a budget work session. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to go over the capital requests sheet.

**PAGE 3**  
**CITY OF SUMMERSVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

**BUDGET WORK SESSION CONTINUED:** City Manager Thompson explained that the Capital Requests FY 2016 – 2017 Budget Sheet reflects what each department leader has requested for the upcoming fiscal year. City Manager Thompson explained further that the lines highlighted in blue are projects or debt service already earmarked in S.P.L.O.S.T. or operating funds. City Manager Thompson explained that if the project or debt service is pulled from S.P.L.O.S.T. then it will have to come from the operating funds. City Manager Thompson explained that each department leader will give their reasoning for their requests.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Captain Harold Tucker explained that the department has five patrol cars with one vehicle having 140,000 that is unreliable and requires frequent repairs. Harold stated that he thinks it would be better to replace the worn out vehicle rather than spend more on repairs. Council Member Earl Parris asked if the price listed of \$43,000 is the state cost. Harold responded that it is the state cost. City Manager Thompson explained that Crown Vics are not manufactured so the pool of police vehicles is more diverse. City Manager Thompson explained that when an existing patrol vehicle was a Crown Vic and a new Crow Vic was bought then the equipment could be rolled to the new vehicle. City Manager Thompson stated that police vehicles have to be bought fully equipped. Council Member David Ford asked how much has been spent on repairs. Harold answered that he doesn't know off the top of his head but there has been one thing after the other to fix.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Robbie Lathem explained that the Fire Department is requesting four sets of turn out gear. Robbie explained that the goal is to have a primary and secondary set of gear. Robbie explained that it creates a problem if a fire call comes in and turn out gear is being cleaned and is unavailable.

Robbie explained that the three Conex style containers and material to build a training facility would be helpful in further reducing our ISO rating which in turn helps our citizens. Robbie explained that there is property in the Industrial Park that could be used to build the facility using fire department staff. Council Member David Ford asked if other fire departments would be brought in to train. Robbie answered that they would if the facility is built. Council Member Earl Parris asked where the training is currently offered. Robbie stated that the Gore Fire Department has one Conex container for training. City Manager Thompson asked what the shelf life is of the container. Robbie answered that they last 10 to 15 years.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:** Tony Carroll stated that he has a 4 X 4 Tahoe replacement vehicle listed for \$45,000 but thinks he can get it for \$39,000 through the state. Tony explained that this would replace his vehicle that gets about 9 miles per gallon of gas. Tony explained that his current vehicle would be rolled to the assistant utilities director who would in turn roll his vehicle to the line locator staff member. Tony explained that the truck used by the line locator staff member is knocking really loud and sounds like the motor is ready to blow up. Tony stated that he would also like to replace one of the ¾ ton trucks and thinks he can get one for about \$33,000 to \$35,000

Tony explained that he would like to have the gas main extended over the bridge to make natural gas available to potentially 25 to 30 residents.

**PAGE 4**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

PUBLIC WORKS CONTINUED: Council Member Earl Parris asked Tony what item he would cut if one item had to be taken out of the capital purchase requests presented from his department. Tony responded he would recommend removing the GIS mapping. Council Member Parris stated that is what he (Council Member Parris) was looking at cutting. Council Member Earl Parris asked what is going to be done with the City Manager's truck. It was suggested that the City Manager's truck be rolled to Fro and Susan get Fro's vehicle since she currently has to drive her own vehicle. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked what the new city manager is going to drive. City Manager Thompson stated that would be up to Council.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Bo Chamlee stated that he is asking for a zero radius mower and new lights for the Dewey Hoskins gym. Council Member Money asked how many mowers the Recreation Department has. Bo responded that there is one zero radius mower used now and he is asking for another one that is bigger. Bo explained that mowing is done from March through October on about 31 acres. Council Member David Ford asked if what is being requested is commercial grade. Bo responded stating that the requested mower is commercial grade. Bo explained further that the current zero radius mower cuts 52 inches and the requested new one has a 60 inch cut.

WATER PLANT: Janice explained that the Scada system needs to be upgraded. Janice explained further that currently the operating system is XP which is no longer supported. Council Member Earl Parris asked the age of the system. Janice stated that it is a 2003 system. City Manager Thompson stated that an upgrade was in the budget but there was a 12 to 15% SPLOST reduction which impacted the purchase. Mayor Harvey asked Janice to explain about the generator. Janice explained that if the power is out the water supply is depleted by gravity feed at a fairly rapid pace. Janice explained that a generator on the clear well side would make it possible to run the high service. City Manager Thompson explained that a generator is listed as a disaster mitigation program. Council Member Earl Parris asked how often power outages occur. Janice responded that last year the power was out for 14 hours. Tony Carroll interjected that if all reservoirs are full low pressure water can be available for two to three days.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Chris Tuggle stated that every two years the UV sleeves and bulbs need to be replaced. Chris explained that the wiper blades and brushes wear out and need to be replaced also. Chris stated that he would like to have an engineer review the wastewater treatment plant for recommendations of what improvements need to be done since it has been 10 years since the last overhaul of the facility. Council Member Earl Parris asked if there are plans to dredge the slurry ponds. City Manager Thompson stated that dredging has been discussed but has not been done yet. Chris explained that when the upgrade of the plant was done ten years ago he thinks the drains to the ponds were filled in. Chris explained that he estimates two to three feet of sludge at the bottom.

**PAGE 5**  
**CITY OF SUMMERSVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

**SPLASH POOL:** Council Member Earl Parris asked when money would be available for a splash pool. City Manager Thompson responded stating that the project would cost between 150,000 and \$170,000 with \$60,000 to \$80,000 coming from S.P.L.O.S.T. funds over the next four years. City Manager Thompson stated that he talked to USDA about borrowing funds for the project but they will not loan money for recreational projects. Mayor Harvey stated that more research is needed before a decision is made on the splash pool project.

**NEXT BUDGET WORK SESSION:** Mayor Harvey stated that the capital requests need to be reviewed followed by another budget work session. A general discussion was held which determined that the next budget work session will be held on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**MOBILE HOME MORATORIUM:** Mayor Harvey stated that City Manager Russell Thompson and City Attorney Albert Palmour have been requested to review the city's mobile home ordinance. Mayor Harvey requested that City Manager Thompson provide information on this topic. City Manager Thompson stated that a mobile home in the historic district has been cited which in turn has brought on conversation of re-zoning and associated mobile home regulations. City Manager Thompson stated that the mobile home ordinance could be a bit more robust. City Manager Thompson stated that it would be beneficial to establish a moratorium on mobile homes to review the ordinance. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated that he has a mobile home moratorium prepared for Council's review. Attorney Palmour stated that he would like Council to review the ordinance and make sure it is what Council wants then a public hearing can be held to make a decision. Attorney Palmour stated that the item could be completed in six months but if a decision is reached sooner the matter could be ended. Attorney Palmour stated that the mobile home ordinance update could fall in line with the work being done to update the zoning map. Mayor Harvey asked how long the work will take. Attorney Palmour stated that Joey is working on the zoning map now so if a concentrated effort is focused on this item it shouldn't take very long. Attorney Palmour stated that two public hearings could be held in June with a tentative map published in the paper to get things set. Attorney Palmour stated that typically zoning maps are reviewed periodically. Mayor Harvey asked if a mobile home moratorium can be lifted at any time. Attorney Palmour responded, "Yes". Mayor Harvey stated that a 45 to 60-day mobile home moratorium can be established with the zoning and code review. Mayor Harvey asked if there are any questions. Council Member David Ford made a motion to have a 60-day mobile home moratorium and review the zoning map and associated codes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Earl Parris and carried unanimously.

**OUTDOOR EATING ON SIDEWALKS IN DOWNTOWN AREA:** Council Member David Ford stated that he thinks it would look nice to have sidewalk seating available for downtown restaurants. Council Member Ford stated there are a lot of restaurants in Rome that have outdoor sidewalk seating. City Manager Thompson stated that the type, size, and kind of materials to be used when setting up the designated spaces. City Manager Thompson stated that some research is needed to draw up a plan. Joey Norton stated that in Rome the city engineer actually pinned the sidewalk to mark the specific area where outside seating could occur. Attorney Palmour stated that the DOT right of way goes to the edge of buildings in the downtown area.

**PAGE 6**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

**AUDITING SERVICES:** Mayor Harvey stated that Council heard from three companies bidding on the auditing services for the city. Mayor Harvey requested that City Manager Thompson provide information on this item.

City Manager Thompson explained that three presentations were given to Council for auditing services. City Manager Thompson stated that four companies bid on auditing services. City Manager Thompson stated that Nichols Cauley and Associates bid \$34,940.00 and did not give a presentation. City Manager Thompson stated that presentations were given by Mauldin and Jenkins who have a tiered bid with the 2016 audit being between \$17,000 to \$19,500, Williamson and Company who bid \$18,500 with a single audit of \$1,500 for a threshold of \$750,000, and Chrysan Thomas bid \$19,200. City Manager Thompson stated that all three firms represented are CPA companies. City Manager Thompson stated that one company is local, one firm has a history with the city, and one firm has the lowest price. Mayor Harvey stated that he likes the current firm, the money is close, and all firms do what is required. Council Member Zachary Martin stated that he likes Chrysan Thomas because he would like to keep the service local. Council Member David Ford stated that he agrees with Council Member Zachary Martin. Mayor Harvey stated that a motion is needed. Council Member David Ford made a motion to award auditing services to Chrysan Thomas, CPA. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**FIARWAY DESIGN SERVICES:** Mayor Harvey stated that two companies have submitted professional design services bids for the Fairway Recreation facility to be rebuilt. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Thompson to provide information concerning the bids.

City Manager Thompson explained that two companies have submitted proposals for design development for the Fairway Recreation facility. City Manager Thompson explained that Robert and Company Services' proposal total is \$45,000. Robert and Noble Architects' proposal total is \$13,500. City Manager Thompson stated that there is a significant difference in price. City Manager Thompson explained that Robert Noble Architects has done work with our Street Scape project. City Manager Thompson explained further that three public meetings need to be held then have a design drawn with consideration of the available funds. City Manager Thompson stated that once the design has been approved then the project can be set for bid. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to award the design development for the Fairway Recreation Department facility to Robert and Noble Architects. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

**CHICKEN HOUSE – DALE WILLIAMS:** Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Thompson to give information concerning Dale Williams' request for gas for a chicken house.

City Manager Thompson explained that Dale Williams approached Tony Carroll about getting gas service to his chicken house. City Manager Thompson stated that Council just established an ordinance that requires the chicken house owner to share the cost of the project with Council making the final decision if the project will blend with city obligations already in place at the time of a request. City Manager Thompson explained that the estimated cost of the project is \$68,000 with the farmer being responsible for \$34,000. City Manager Thompson explained that funds are not appropriated in the budget for this project.

**PAGE 7**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 9, 2016**

**CHICKEN HOUSE – DALE WILLIAMS CONTINUED:** Council Member Joe Money, Jr. wanted to know if the city has the manpower to do the project. Tony responded that work is still being done on Mahan so the earliest the project could begin is late fall or early winter. Tony stated that Mr. Williams wants the line installed by early 2017. Mayor Harvey stated that he does not think this project needs to be approved due to established city obligations. Mayor Harvey stated that it might be considered for the upcoming budget. Council Member Earl Parris stated that the payback period looks good. Mayor Harvey responded that it may look good but it isn't in the current budget so it can't be done right now. Council Member Earl Parris asked if the city would lose money doing the project. City Manager Thompson stated that if the farmer absorbs 50% of the project cost the city will be okay with the payback. Council Member Earl Parris made a motion to table the Dale Williams chicken house gas line request until the July budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

**TURBIDIMETER UPGRADE – LOWE SPRING & RACCOON CREEK:** Mayor Harvey requested Janice Galloway to explain the situation with the request to upgrade the Lowe Spring and Raccoon Creek turbidimeter systems. Janice explained that the system is out of date making acquiring replacement parts virtually impossible. Janice explained that a replacement system would be more cost effective. City Manager Thompson stated that the item is budgeted under S.P.L.O.S.T. Council Member David Ford made a motion to authorize the \$13,911 expense to upgrade the turbidimeter system for Lowe Spring and \$16,655 expense to upgrade the turbidimeter system for Raccoon Creek using S.P.L.O.S.T. funds with the equipment coming from Hatch Company. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – TURNOUT GEAR:** Mayor Harvey stated that the Fire Department needs some spare turnout gear. Robbie Lathem explained that there is one firefighter that has no gear so he can't go on calls. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of two complete sets of turnout gear at a cost of \$5,910 to be purchased from Bennett Fire Products and paid for from S.P.L.O.S.T. funds. The motion was seconded by Council Member Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – HOSE EQUIPMENT:** Mayor Harvey asked Robbie to explain the \$14,643.45 request for hose equipment. Robbie stated that the request is for replacing the pre-connect for engine 91 and LDH (large diameter hose). Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of hose equipment from Georgia Fire and Rescue at a cost of \$14,643.45 with funding to come from S.P.L.O.S.T. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor Harvey stated that an Executive Session is needed for the purpose of deliberating, interviewing and hiring applicants for the City Manager position. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle and carried unanimously. Jason Espy stated that he heard that the Executive Session is to discuss how to hire a City Manager rather than to discuss a specific hire.

**PAGE 8  
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 9, 2016**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION CONTINUED:** City Attorney Albert Palmour responded stating that the Executive Session will be to discuss hiring, interviewing, and possibly an interim City Manager. Jason Espy stated that he wanted to go on record as objecting to the Executive Session. The Executive Session was held as a closed session.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION CLOSED:** Council Member David Ford made a motion to close the Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

**NO ACTION TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor Harvey reported that there was no action taken in the Executive Session.

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING:** Mayor Harvey stated that a Special Called Meeting is needed to determine hiring an Interim City Manager. Council Member Earl Parris made a motion to have a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm to discuss hiring an interim City Manager. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

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

**JASON ESPY:** Jason Espy of *The Summerville News* asked if bids were taken for concrete. Tony Carroll said that two bids were received. Jason wanted to know the dollar amount for concrete last time and how much was used for the curbs. Tony answered saying that he would have to look up that information.

Jason Espy stated that S.P.L.O.S.T. was sold on the platform of getting a splash park and he (Jason) doesn't understand why the splash park isn't built.

Jason Espy stated that he would like an explanation of why there was so much secrecy concerning the auditing services bids. Council Member Earl Parris stated that he would like to see the bid opening process. City Manager Thompson explained that until bids are reviewed and tabulated there is a potential for wrong numbers being reported. Jason Espy stated that he thinks all bids should be opened out with public oversight.

**CLEAN UP WEEK:** Mayor Harvey announced that this week is clean up week so folks that want things picked up can put them on the curb. Mayor Harvey stated that citizens need to be mindful that the city only picks up items that are accepted at the transfer station.

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

Attest:

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**HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR**

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**JILL DURHAM – CITY CLERK, G.C.M.C**