



## **CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR CALLED MEETING JANUARY 14, 2019 5 PM**

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

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Harry Harvey gave roll call. Council Members David Ford, Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle, Earl H. Parris, Joe Money, Jr., and Zachary Martin were present. Also present were City Manager Janice Galloway 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 there are any changes needed to the agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**WELCOME VISITORS:** Mayor Harvey welcomed everyone to the January Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Harvey requested visitors sign in listing their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey stated visitors would have the opportunity to address the Council now and again at the end of the meeting. Mayor Harvey requested visitors to limit their comments to three to five minutes.

**ANGELA HORNER:** Angela Horner addressed the Mayor and Council stating she would like to start a Narcotics Anonymous program in Chattooga County. Ms. Horner provided a brief overview of herself stating she has a number of years of sobriety and knows what it is like to suffer from an addiction. Ms. Horner stated she is asking the Mayor and Council to allow her to use a City of Summerville Facility to have meetings for one hour a day. Angela introduced Ricky Johnson stating he is in favor of a support group in the county.

Ricky Johnson introduced himself and provided a timeline of his life as a substance abuser. Mr. Johnson stated a support group is needed in Chattooga County. Mr. Johnson stated a place to have meetings every day is needed to give people the support they need when trying to stay clean.

Angela stated all she is asking is a chance to try to help people in the county.

Mayor Harvey thanked Ms. Horner for sharing her information and attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey stated in a previous conversation with Ms. Horner she asked to use the Fairway Recreation Center. Mayor Harvey stated he does not think the Fairway Center is the proper place for her program, and there would be better places in the community that would serve her program better. Mayor Harvey asked Ms. Horner if she was a certified counselor. Ms. Horner explained she is 800 hours away from being a licensed chemical dependency counselor (LCDC). Council Member Earl H. Parris asked Ms. Horner if using the Scout Hut would be a problem. Angela stated, "No, she needs a roof over her head for one hour at least two to three days a week." Mayor Harvey explained he had reservations about using the Scout Hut.

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**ANGELA HORNER CONT:** Mayor Harvey stated he would like to see credentials, the program outline, and time of meetings if city property will be used. Mayor Harvey stated if other activities are going on at the facility, he doesn't want the meetings to impact other activities. Council Member Earl H. Parris stated he is in favor of Ms. Horner using the Scout Hut and her program. Mayor Harvey stated he would still like more information on her program before a decision is made. Council Member Earl H. Parris asked if this would be something the Council needed to vote on. Mayor Harvey stated, "It is not something at this time that needs to be voted on until more information is provided about the program." Council Member Earl H. Parris asked Mayor Harvey what other information he would like Ms. Horner to provide. Mayor Harvey explained he would like to see her credentials, time and place of meeting, where the attendees would be coming from, and when and how often these meetings would take place. Mayor Harvey explained there are other programs that take place at these facilities that need to be considered. Council Member Earl H. Parris asked Ms. Horner if this would be a free service to participants. Angela stated "Yes."

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Harvey gave the following announcements:

- There will be several January and February Events
- Regular Council Meetings are held the Second Monday of the month
- A Mid- Year Budget Meeting will be held on January 22, 2019
- Mayor's Day sponsored by GMA will be held January 25-28 in Atlanta

**REPORTS**

**MAIN STREET:** Mayor Harvey requested Susan Locklear provide the monthly report for Main Street activities. Susan reviewed her report listing all events held. Susan provided numbers of people visiting the city through the Tennessee Valley Train arrivals and Bicycle Ride Across Georgia (BRAG) beginning January 1 through November 11, 2018, was 3,212 visitors. Susan noted this does not reflect the number of event goers, train chasers, photographers and family members of BRAG riders that also attended these events. Susan explained the total number of riders for the Santa Special rides recorded by TVRM is 3,855, which is a 94% increase from 2017. A copy of Susan's report becomes part of these minutes.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Joey Norton to give his monthly report. Joey reviewed the yearly case report provided to Council listing the status of each case. Joey explained the permit fees had increased from 2017. Joey explained for the month eleven permits were sold. A copy of Joey's report becomes part of these minutes.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey requested Jason Greene provide the monthly report for the Water Treatment Plant. Jason reviewed his report submitted to Mayor and Council for work performed at the distribution plant and Raccoon Creek for the month. Jason noted recorded rainfall for the year was 77.82 inches. Jason stated the monthly safety topic was Trenching: Don't dig into trouble. A copy of Jason's report becomes part of these minutes.

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**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey requested Chris Tuggle to provide the monthly Wastewater Treatment Plant report. Chris reviewed the volume of wastewater and sludge processed for the month. Chris noted the monthly safety topic was A Safe Workplace Where Do You Stand. Chris noted the yearly amount of rainfall recorded at the wastewater plant was 74.83 inches. Chris's report is part of the minutes.

**PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES:** Mayor Harvey requested Terry Tinney provide his report for Mayor and Council. Terry reviewed work performed by Street, Water, and Gas Department, the number of locates performed and gave an update on the projects he is overseeing. A copy of Terry's report becomes part of these minutes.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey asked Bo Chamlee to provide the monthly Recreation Report to Mayor and Council. Bo reviewed the activities for the Recreation Department, which included the Santa in Uniform Basketball Tournament. Bo noted it was the second largest turnout with 38 teams participating. Bo stated the 2019 basketball season was underway with 261 games currently scheduled with 44 teams participating. Bo reported the GRPA meeting was held January 9 in preparation for Spring/Summer Sports. A copy of Bo's report becomes part of these minutes.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Police Chief Stan Mosley give his report for his department. Chief Mosley reviewed the monthly activities of the 679 calls worked, and miles patrolled for the month. Chief Mosley also provided a yearly report of calls performed. Stan stated \$5,635 in fees was collected for City Court fees, and \$5,479 was collected in State Court Fees. A copy of Stan's report becomes part of these minutes.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested that Fire Chief Robbie Lathem provide his monthly report for the Fire Department. Robbie reviewed all of the 90 calls his department responded to during the month of December. Robbie noted the total of calls for the year was 997. A copy of Chief Lathem's report becomes part of the minutes.

**CITY MANAGER:** Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide her report. Janice reported the operating account currently has a balance of \$1,717,092.57. Janice stated the department heads and employees had done a good job in December. Janice explained Terry and his departments is currently filling in low spots with sand in the grassy areas between Morris Jewelers and Los Maguey.

Council Member Earl H. Parris stated Downtown and the grass on the ball fields look fantastic, and Christmas was beautiful.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**EMERGENCY MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM – ROBOCALLS:** Mayor Harvey stated the Council is being asked to consider approving a maximum of \$2,000 annually to Chattooga County for the purpose of an Emergency Mass Notification System. Mayor Harvey explained this system is approximately \$6,000 with Chattooga County and possibly other municipalities contributing. Mayor Harvey explained the city's cost would be between \$1,600 and \$2,000 annually. Mayor Harvey asked for discussion from the Council.

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**EMERGENCY MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM – ROBOCALLS CONT:**

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. explained he had spoken with Walker County Emergency Management, Chief Blake Hodges and he is pleased with this system. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. pointed out this is not a weather radio, and citizens should understand they need to find other ways to get warnings for weather. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve a maximum of \$2,000 annually to Chattooga County for the purpose of an Emergency Mass Notification System. Council Member Earl H. Parris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES:** Mayor Harvey stated the first item of business is to approve the minutes from the previous meetings. Mayor Harvey asked for discussion or questions regarding the December 10<sup>th</sup>, and January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Council Member Earl H. Parris made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 10<sup>th</sup> and January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**ANNUAL AUDIT - CHRYSAN THOMAS:** Mayor Harvey explained Ms. Chrysan Thomas CPA will give a report for the annual audit. Mayor Harvey explained he would like Ms. Thomas to give her presentation before the First Reading of the FYE 2018 Yearly Budget Ordinance. Mayor Harvey explained the main purpose of the Yearly Budget Ordinance is because the figures may not be the same and it needs to bring into compliance. Ms. Thomas addressed the Mayor and Council stating the audit she is reviewing is for the fiscal year that ended in June 2018 and cautioned the Council there was still some personnel changes taking place from the previous year that was corrected after the fiscal year ended in June. Ms. Thomas provided an overview of the audit and reviewed where the information could be found within the audit report. Ms. Thomas stated she had met with Mayor Harvey and City Manager Janice Galloway and reviewed the management letter. Ms. Thomas explained items that were addressed in last years audit had been corrected. Ms. Thomas stated payables were current and is being entered in a timely manner. Ms. Thomas stated payroll issues and personnel files are in better shape this year compared to the previous year. Ms. Thomas stated the only items that had not been addressed was the old deposits and credit balances. Ms. Thomas explained it was a much cleaner audit this year. Mayor Harvey explained there are several items that still need to be watched carefully. Mayor Harvey asked the Council for any comments or concerns.

**FIRST READING - FYE 2018 YEAR-END BUDGET ORDINANCE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the First Reading of the FYE 2018 Year – End Budget Ordinance. Mayor Harvey explained the City Charter requires an Ordinance to bring the budget into compliance. Mayor Harvey stated this is the First Reading, and the Second Reading and Adoption would be held on January 22, 2019. Mayor Harvey read the FYE 2018 Year-End Budget Ordinance reviewing the amendments to Revenues and Expenditures for the General Fund, Confiscated Drug Fund, SPLOST Fund, Hotel-Motel Tax, and the total revenue transfer of \$2,139,275 is needed to finalize the budget. Mayor Harvey asked for questions or concerns from the Council or the Public. Mayor Harvey stated the Ordinance is available for anyone to review.

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**ARC RECREATIONAL TRAIL:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve moving forward with the ARC Recreational Trail. Mayor Harvey explained this project was included in the 2017-2018 SPLOST Budget, and \$15,000 was allocated for the project. Mayor Harvey stated approximately \$10,000 has been spent on preliminary items at this time. Mayor Harvey explained the Grant is an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), Grant. Mayor Harvey explained the Grant is for \$120,000, and the city's portion is \$30,000 and this amount can be both money and in-kind. Mayor Harvey asked for questions from the Council. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if \$5,000 would be for the bores. Terry Tinney stated "Yes." Mayor Harvey stated he would like to approve moving forward on the trail and then approve the bores. Council Member David Ford made a motion to move forward with the ARC Recreational Trail Grant and design. Council Member Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**GEOTECHNICAL BORES - ARC RECREATIONAL TRAIL:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving GEC, Inc. to perform Geotechnical bores for the ARC Recreational Trail for \$5,145, to be paid out of SPLOST funds. Mayor Harvey stated Public Works/Utilities Director Terry Tinney and Carter & Sloope Consulting reviewed the information and the recommendation is to use GEC, Inc. Council Member Earl H. Parris asked when the project would begin and would it be in conjunction with the E Washington St project. Terry stated, "As soon as possible, and most likely would be the same time." Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve GEC, Inc. to perform Geotechnical bores for the ARC Recreational Trail in the amount of \$5,145. Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – OPEN:** Mayor Harvey explained an Executive Session is needed to discuss possible real estate transactions. Council Member Earl H. Parris made a motion to close the regular meeting and go into Executive Session. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED & REOPEN REGULAR MEETING:** Mayor Harvey stated no action was taken in the Executive Session, and at this time the Executive Session is closed and the regular meeting is reopened.

Mayor Harvey explained there would be a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, for the Second Reading of the Year End Budget Ordinance, and the First Reading of the Mid-Year Budget. Mayor Harvey explained he attended a SPLOST meeting and would have more information for Council available at the Special Called Meeting. Mayor Harvey stated in order to have a SPLOST vote in March, the Municipalities must agree to SPLOST and SPLOST projects. Council Member Earl H. Parris asked for clarification on the SPLOST vote. Mayor Harvey explained it would continue the SPLOST program that is currently in place, but all the municipalities and county has to agree to participate.

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**KAREN MAYES:** Karen Mayes addressed the Mayor and Council stating she was supporting Ms. Angel Horner in her quest to find a facility to have meetings for addicts. Ms. Mayes explained meetings helped save her life. Ms. Mayes explained she understands resources are limited to help people because it is a small community, but they are not asking for monetary donations, only for a place to meet an hour or so a day seven days a week. Ms. Mayes stated there is a lot of people in the community that needs their help, and it would be no cost to the city. City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected and explained if a facility was provided to your group free of cost, then the city would have to provide it free to anyone else. City Attorney Palmour stated the facilities are available for rent. City Attorney Palmour asked if they are asking for the city to provide a facility free of cost. Ms. Mayes stated "Correct." City Attorney Palmour stated it would not be free because the city would need to provide a facility to use, utilities, and bathrooms. City Attorney Palmour stated he is not trying to speak against the cause, but the Mayor has concerns about the facility being appropriate for the use. City Attorney stated if the city provides the facility then the city is responsible. City Attorney Palmour explained they would not qualify for a 501 3 C because they have not been in operation long. Ms. Mayes asked if there would be a facility the city would be willing to rent. City Attorney Palmour stated there are facilities that can be rented, but typically not for a long period of time. Council Member Zach Martin asked if it is something that could be done temporarily or a trial period. Mayor Harvey stated time, place and some legalities would still need to be considered.

Jason Espy with *The Summerville News* asked when the planting of the trees downtown would begin. Mayor Harvey stated, "He doesn't know." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated this Spring. Mayor Harvey stated there are some problems currently that need to be addressed before planting. Council Member David Ford noted the plan and type of trees had been voted on in a previous meeting.

Jason asked for an update on Badger Meetings. City Attorney Albert Palmour explained they have promised a response to the demand letter to whether or not they will provide support for commercial and other meters but he has not received a legal response from the legal department.

Jason asked if a report was available on the manual reads. Terry stated, "All of the information has not complied." Jason asked if the manual reads were completed. Terry stated "Yes."

**ADJOURN:** With all business concluded, Mayor Pro Tem Lloyd "Buddy" Windle made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Earl H. Parris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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**HARRY HARVEY-MAYOR**

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**ANGIE WHITE-CITY CLERK**

**Attest:**