



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2020  
5 PM**

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

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Harry Harvey gave roll call. Council Members David Ford, Kristy L. Dennis, Joe Money, Jr., and Zachary Martin were present. Also present were City Manager Janice Galloway and City Attorney Albert Palmour.

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

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

**SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS-11/5/19:** City Attorney Albert Palmour officiated the swearing-in of Council Members elected in the City of Summerville Municipal Election on November 5, 2019. The Council Members sworn in were: Council Seat #3 - Kristy L. Dennis, Council Seat #4 – Joe Money, Jr., Council Seat #5 – Zachary Martin. Each official signed their Oath of Office, which becomes part of these minutes.

**MAYOR PRO TEMPORE:** Mayor Harvey recommended Zachary Martin serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to appoint Zachary Martin, as Mayor Pro Tempore. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**AGENDA:** Mayor Harvey asked if any changes are needed to the meeting agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS:** Mayor Harvey stated the City of Summerville would observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 20, 2020, and several activities would be taking place in the community. Mayor Harvey encouraged everyone to participate and give back to the community. Mayor Harvey stated he would like to recognize Janice Sabo, Joan Butler, Cindy Cline, Cindy Skelton, Nancy Carr, and Johnna Allen for their dedication to "Make A Difference Monday." Mayor Harvey asked the ladies in attendance if they would share information with visitors about Make A Difference Monday.

**CINDY CLINE:** Ms. Cline explained a group of ladies walk daily, and they decided they could make a difference while walking by picking up trash along their route and decided they would dedicate the first Monday of each month to pick up trash. Cindy explained they love the town and hope that it would inspire others to do the same. Janice Sabo noted Ms. Cline has just recently moved to the area from the Pacific Northwest and has been a big inspiration.

Mayor Harvey presented Janice Sabo, Cindy Cline, and Johnna Allen with a certificate for their contributions and dedication to Make A Difference Monday. Cindy Skelton, Nancy Carr, and Joan Butler was unable to attend. Mayor Harvey expressed his appreciation for the group and their efforts.

Janice Sabo stated they would like to see other groups will participate.

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**LLOYD "BUDDY" WINDLE:** Mayor Harvey recognized Lloyd "Buddy" Windle for his years of service as a City of Summerville, City Council Member. Mayor Harvey thanked Mr. Windle for all of his wise counsel during the years.

Council Member David Ford presented Mr. Windle with a plaque in appreciation of his dedication and service to the City of Summerville.

Council Member Zachary Martin presented Mr. Windle with a key to the city and thanked him for his years of service.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST AND VISITORS:** Mayor Harvey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Harvey requested visitors to state their name and requested they limit comments to three to five minutes. Mayor Harvey stated visitors would also have the opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting.

**LEWIS STRANGE:** Mr. Strange addressed the Mayor and Council stating he is concerned about the naming of the Fairway Recreation Center, and he would like the Council to consider renaming the Fairway Center in honor of a Civil Rights Activist, such as; Emmett Teal, Rosa Parks, Harriett Tubman, or Medgar Evers.

Mr. Strange stated he would like to see a cover placed over the basketball court at Fairway. Mr. Strange asked how the \$113,000 that was set aside for two street sweepers would be used. Mayor Harvey explained the money that was originally allocated for the separate department was reallocated to various departments in the mid-year budget. Mayor Harvey noted the budget is always tight, and the money will be used for various operations. Mr. Strange asked if the city applied for grants for the soccer field. Mayor Harvey explained the city is currently working on the soccer fields, and he is not going to make any promises, but grants may be considered in the future.

Mr. Strange asked who set the \$150,000 price for the Montgomery Knitting Mill property. Mayor Harvey stated the property owner set the price, and the city took into consideration the value of the property. Mr. Strange asked if there was a counteroffer from the city, and if so, when would that amount be made public. Mayor Harvey explained he is not familiar with the negotiations, but the city is currently looking at grants and other options for purchasing the property, but the purchase has not been completed. City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected, stating when the property is purchased, all documents associated with the purchase would become public. City Attorney Palmour stated it is not a completed purchase, and the city is entitled to keep the information private until the city decides to go forward with the purchase. City Attorney Palmour noted the property appraised for more than the asking price. Mr. Strange asked if the building would be used or torn down. Mayor Harvey explained the plans had not been completed, and it is an ongoing process and part of the grant process. Mr. Strange voiced concerns about cities and towns applying for grants that would contribute to the debt that his great-grandchildren will be responsible for. Mr. Strange asked why not bring back city taxes and use tax money to buy the property.

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**LEWIS STRANGE CONT:** Mr. Strange asked what names the Council would consider for Fairway. Mayor Harvey stated he is not in favor of changing the name of the Fairway Recreation Center. Mayor Harvey asked Mr. Strange to leave a copy of his concerns he addressed so that the Council may review them. Mayor Harvey explained he would be glad to meet with Mr. Strange and discuss each of his concerns he addressed tonight if he so desired.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**MAIN STREET:** Mayor Harvey requested Main Street Director Susan Locklear to provide the monthly report submitted to Mayor and Council. Susan reviewed all of the activities she hosted or participated in during the month. Susan reported the City of Summerville had approximately 7,032 visitors from 21 train arrivals from the Tennessee Valley Railroad and the annual BRAG bike ride during 2019. Susan noted 917 tickets for the Summerville Santa Special were sold from city hall. Susan reminded everyone the Smithsonian Exhibit, Crossroads Change in Rural America, will be open to the public on March 7, 2020, through April 18, 2020, at the Summerville Depot. Susan noted the City of Summerville is one of only six cities to host the exhibit, and it is an honor to host this exhibit. A copy of Susan's report becomes part of these minutes.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Code Enforcement officer Joey Norton reviewed his report submitted to Mayor and Council. Joey explained 11 permits were sold during the month, generating \$820 in permit fees. Joey reviewed the yearly totals, which included 50 property maintenance cases in 2019, and \$10,045 collected in permit fees. Joey reported over a six-year span he had processed 942 property maintenance cases. A copy of Joey's reports becomes part of these minutes.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Jason Greene reviewed the report submitted to Mayor and Council, including all work performed at Raccoon Creek, Lowe Springs, and the Distribution Plant during the month. Jason reported the water treatment plant employees prepared the annual Christmas Lunch for employees. Jason reported 8.97 inches of rainfall was recorded at the plant for the month and 71.1 inches for the year. A copy of Jason's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey requested Chris Tuggle to provide the report submitted to Mayor and Council. Chris reviewed the amount of wastewater processed, repairs, samples, and monthly maintenance performed at the plant for the month. Chris reported 8.96 inches of rainfall was recorded at the plant for the month. Chris stated employee Carl Maynard attended a motor and drives class. Chris reviewed yearly totals for the wastewater treatment plant, reporting the plant treated 736.4 million gallons of wastewater, 69.76 inches of rainfall was recorded, and 185 loads of sludge with 428 dry tons of sludge was removed in 2019. A copy of Chris's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

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**PUBLIC WORKS:** Terry Tinney provided the monthly Public Works report. Terry reviewed work completed by the Street, Water, and Gas Department for the month under his supervision. Terry explained the soccer field and chert pit project is delayed due to weather. Terry reported the Historic Preservation Division had approved the relocation of the marble from E. Washington St. Terry commended his staff for the exceptional job and response to the emergency situation at the wastewater treatment plant on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. A copy of Terry's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Bo Chamlee to provide the monthly recreation department report. Bo explained the regular basketball season kicked off on Monday, January 6, with a record 49 teams in the league competing; they consist of teams participating from Summerville, Lyerly, Menlo, Lafayette, Trion, and Catoosa County. Bo explained the Annual Santa in Uniform Tournament was a success with 44 teams competing in six different age groups. Bo thanked everyone that helped with the tournament. Bo reported the GRPA basketball All-Star meeting would be held Wednesday, January 29, at Gordon County Rec to set dates and locations for all-stars. A copy of Bo's report becomes part of the minutes.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey asked Chief Stan Mosley to provide the monthly police department report for Mayor and Council. Stan reviewed each category of calls, including miles patrolled, inmates housed, the number of citations issued, incident reports, accident reports, money collected at the police department, and the number of calls responded to during the month of December. Stan also reported \$4,227 in fines and fees were collected for City Court, and \$6,958 was collected in State Court fines and fees for the month. A copy of the report is attached and becomes part of the minutes.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey asked Fire Chief Robbie Lathem to review the monthly report. Robbie reported his department had 67 calls for the month, which was comprised of; structure fires, grass fires, car fires, unauthorized burning, fire alarms, medical assist, motor vehicle accidents, gas leaks, smoke investigations, electrical problems, false alarms, trees down, and canceled en route calls. Robbie reported his department answered 985 calls in 2019. Robbie stated the department assisted with the Christmas Parade, had two training nights and hosted the Santa in Uniform basketball tournament. Robbie noted Santa in Uniform bought for 102 kids at Christmas. Robbie reported his department assisted Walker County in coverage during a large fire. Robbie reported Brit Evans was selected as Fireman of the year during the recent Christmas Party. Robbie's report becomes part of the minutes.

**CITY MANAGER:** Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide the monthly financial report. Janice reported a balance of \$2,033,213.27 in the operating account. Janice explained the greater expense vs. revenues during the month is due to paying off the following loans; chicken house, dozer, fire truck, and police car. Janice explained this money would be reimbursed when the city receives SPLOST funds. Janet commended Terry on his organizational ability and his crew for the work at the wastewater treatment plant during the recent sewer line collapse.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES:** Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> meetings. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL ELECTION:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve a Special Election to be held on March 24, 2020, to fill the unexpired term of Lloyd "Buddy" Windle. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve a Special Election on March 24, 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

**QUALIFYING DATES-SPECIAL ELECTION:** Mayor Harvey explained approval is needed to set qualifying dates as February 10-12 for the Special Election. Mayor Harvey explained the qualifying dates would be held for three days only, due to deadlines in ballot printing and advertising the election. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve February 10, 11, and 12 as qualifying dates for the March 24, 2020, Special Election. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**RAW WATER PUMP-WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving the purchase of a raw water pump for the water treatment plant in the amount of \$8,000, plus freight. Mayor Harvey requested Jason Greene and City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. Jason noted the freight is included in the \$8,000. Jason explained raw water pump #2 is the main pump used, and due to the exceptional rainfall, it is beating the pumps up, and there is no way to defend against it. Council Member, Joe Money Jr, asked Jason if he is able to have spare pumps available. Jason explained he doesn't have any redundancy of pumps; he only has motors. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of a raw water pump for the water treatment plant for \$8,000, including freight. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)-JOE MONEY, JR.:** Mayor Harvey explained a position is open for the Downtown Development Authority, due to the recent Municipal Election, and the Mayor and Council are requesting the appointment of Council Member Joe Money, Jr. to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to approve Joe Money, Jr. as a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) member. The motion was seconded by David Ford and carried unanimously.

**PROJECT UPDATES-TERRY TINNEY:** Mayor Harvey asked Terry Tinney to provide updates on sidewalks, soccer fields, and wastewater treatment plant sewer issues. Terry explained over the last couple of years, sidewalks have been installed in the Highland Ave area, Downtown area, and E. Washington St. Terry explained in the future NW Congress St and the Hwy 100 area from the Recreation Department to the Middle school could benefit from new sidewalks. Terry suggested looking at possible grant funding to help cover the installation of these sidewalks.

Terry explained about 80% of the base layer is down for the soccer fields, and that project is currently on hold until dryer weather.

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**PROJECT UPDATES-TERRY TINNEY CONT:** Terry explained on January 3, a 30-inch sewer line collapsed, and three man-holes blew out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Terry stated Kam Contractors from Canton, Georgia, was contacted to make the emergency repairs to the line and manholes.

Terry explained as of this date, 56 ft of the 30-inch line has been replaced, and two sections of concrete from the plant to the ductile line that crosses the creek is in bad shape as well. Terry recommended replacing two concrete sections of pipe that run to the ductile line that is pouring water. Terry stated as of today, the cost of the repair is \$157,915, and this does not include any labor or equipment used by the City of Summerville employees. Terry explained it costs the city \$2,500 a day to bypass pump the sewer. Terry explained the new line would be replaced with SDR 35 PVC pipe and concrete manholes, with an epoxy liner. Mayor Harvey and Council Member David Ford thanked Terry and his employees for the work they have done during the collapse of the line.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT-CARTER & SLOOPE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve Carter & Sloope to apply for Immediate Threat & Danger Funding for the recent collapse on January 3, 2020, of the sewer line and manholes at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. Janice explained it is a \$50,000 matching grant, Janice noted the city had spent well over that amount at this time. Council Member, David made a motion to approve Carter & Sloope to apply for Immediate Threat & Danger funding in the amount of \$50,000. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**REJECT BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE ARC WALKING TRAIL BRIDGE:** Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. Janice explained the low bid was from Massana Construction, Inc. for \$312,638, and the city only had \$120,000 in grant funds, but some money has already been spent on engineering, surveyors, and easements for this project. Janice explained the city would possibly need to add an additional \$50,000 to the project to the city's portion of the project. Janice explained the two items that would be included in the re-bidding process would be the piers for the bridge to set on and the installation of the bridge, and all of the frills, such as park benches, tables, lights, would be left off, and the bid could possibly come in less than \$150,000. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. questioned if the cost associated with the project is feasible. Janice stated the bridge has already been constructed. Council Member David Ford made a motion to reject the submitted bid from Massana Construction, Inc in the amount of \$312,638. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**RE-BID THE INSTALLATION OF THE ARC WALKING TRAIL BRIDGE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider re-bidding the installation of the ARC walking trail bridge. Mayor Harvey explained that only two bids were submitted previously. Council Member David Ford made a motion to re-bid the ARC walking trail bridge project. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

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**INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL (ICC):** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider adopting Chapter One of the International Code Council (ICC) of the State of adopted codes. Mayor Harvey requested Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton to provide more information on this item. Joey explained the State of Georgia adopted the codes January 1, 2020, but Georgia has amended and removed Chapter One, Scope, and Administration. Joey explained he is requesting the city to adopt Chapter One instead of creating their own. Joey explained he is also requesting the Council to adopt the International Property Maintenance Code. City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected, explaining he thought a resolution was completed to adopt the current codes as they become available. Council Member David Ford made a motion to adopt all of the current codes adopted by the State of Georgia and the administrative Section of Chapter One on the International Code Council (ICC). Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**SIGN-PALMOUR LAW FIRM:** Mayor Harvey requested Code Enforcement Officer Joey Norton to provide more information on this item. Joey explained approval is needed for a sign at 9933 Commerce Street for Palmour Law Firm. Joey noted the sign meets all requirements and current codes. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve a sign located at 9933 Commerce St. for Palmour Law Firm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - OPEN:** Mayor Harvey stated an Executive Session is needed to discuss possible litigation and land acquisition. Council Member David Ford made a motion to close the regular meeting and open an Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Executive Session was opened at 6:09 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-CLOSED:** Mayor Harvey closed the Executive Session and re-opened the regular meeting at 6:40 p.m. Mayor Harvey stated no action was taken in the Executive Session.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Harvey asked for public comments.

Mayor Harvey encouraged everyone to pick up litter and help clean up in the city. Mayor Harvey explained the city has an Adopt A Street Program, but the policy needs to be tweaked to make it more robust.

Council Member David Ford thanked Terry and Chris for all of the work that has taken place at the Wastewater Treatment Plant during the sewer collapse.

Jason Espy, with *The Summerville News*, asked how the city intends to fund the repairs made at the wastewater plant. Mayor Harvey responded, stating the budget will be reviewed to see where the money will come from. Mayor Harvey explained this is something that had to be done, and the city did not have a choice but to repair the line.

Jason asked how the new leash law was working. City Attorney Albert Palmour reported, he had not had any cases in city court, due to the updated ordinance.

Jason stated he had talked with animal control, and when the ordinance went into effect, the number of surrenders at the shelter had doubled.

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**ADJOURN:** With all business concluded, Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

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**HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR**

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**ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK**

Attest: