



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 9, 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 Mayor Pro Tem 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 Kristy L. Dennis led the pledge of allegiance.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Harvey welcomed visitors to the Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Harvey offered visitors the opportunity to address the Council and requested they list their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey asked visitors to limit comments to three to five minutes, explaining they would have the opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting.

**RANDY PAULEY:** Mr. Pauley addressed the Mayor and Council providing history on a request for a six-inch water line to his home over the years. Mr. Pauley explained over the last twenty-eight years, he has approached each City Manager, and he has yet to have his request granted for a six-inch water line. Mr. Pauley explained he addressed Council two years ago requesting the city to upgrade the water line from a three-inch line to a six-inch line, or allow him to change his water service to Chattooga County water. Mr. Pauley stated the Council directed City Manager Tony Carroll to provide a cost analysis, but he was never contacted with a price. Mr. Pauley stated City Manager Tony Carroll told him if the county would agree to run the line, he would agree to allow Mr. Pauley to change to Chattooga County water. Mr. Pauley explained his biggest concern is the lack of a fire hydrant in his community, and due to the size of the waterline, a fire hydrant is not possible. Mr. Pauley explained he contacted Commissioner Jason Winters and requested a cost analysis, and at the time, Commissioner Winters told him it was cost prohibited for the county to extend the line, but when the money became available, the county would install the six-inch line. Mr. Pauley explained he recently approached Commissioner Winters, and the money is available to extend the line, with permission from the city. Mr. Pauley stated he was contacted by Joe Reed, explaining City Manager Galloway would not authorize the county to extend the water line to his community. Mr. Pauley stated the city had not lost a penny on the existing water line due to homeowners paying for each new service, and customers paying a monthly fire charge. Mr. Pauley explained in the past; the three-inch water lines had caused problems, including too much pressure and not enough volume, reducer valve replacements, and now the situation with the water contamination, but his biggest concern is lack of fire hydrants. Mr. Pauley stated he is formally requesting the Council to make the decision tonight, to allow Chattooga County to install a water line to his community.

**PAGE 2**  
**CITY OF SUMMERSVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

**RANDY PAULEY CONT:** Mayor Harvey thanked Mr. Pauley for attending the meeting, stating he is aware he has addressed Mayor and Council in the past regarding the water line in his area, but it was cost prohibited at the time, and the Council would not make a decision tonight. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway and Public Works Director Terry Tinney to provide more information. Mr. Pauley stated he was told the same thing two years ago, but nothing has happened, and he feels he has presented enough information to the Council to allow for a vote tonight. Mayor Harvey stated the Council would not vote on the item tonight. Mr. Pauley asked for a timeline. Mayor Harvey attempted to explain to Mr. Pauley he would not provide a timeline at which time Mr. Pauley began speaking out loud, while the Mayor was speaking. City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected, explaining to Mr. Pauley the meeting would follow rules of order, and he would not be allowed to interrupt while people were speaking.

Terry explained he was unclear if City Manager Tony Carroll had relayed information to Mr. Pauley concerning the cost to run a six-inch water line and fire hydrants, but the cost would be over \$100,000. Council Member Joe Money Jr. asked how many customers are on the line. Terry stated, "Probably ten." Mr. Pauley stated he could provide a map, but he believes there are only six customers.

Mayor Harvey explained there are service area agreements with the county, and that will be taken into consideration. Mayor Harvey stated a decision would be made in the near future, but he is not willing to provide a timeline. Mr. Pauley explained he is aware that it is cost prohibited for the city, but he has another municipality that serves the same area, and they have the funds and is willing to install the six-inch line and fire hydrants.

**MR. MADDEN:** Mr. Madden addressed the Council with several questions concerning the water issue and the contaminants found in the water supply. Mr. Madden stated he would like to know if the water is safe for his family to drink, who is responsible for the contamination, and who is responsible for fixing it. Mayor Harvey said an update would be provided later in the meeting, but he will address his specific questions now. Mayor Harvey stated the water advisory is not a Do Not Drink Water Advisory; it is an advisory for sensitive groups such as pregnant women, infants, nursing mothers, and people with compromised immune systems. Mayor Harvey explained the EPA/EPD standards had been lowered to 70 parts per trillion, and the city is currently at 98 parts per trillion. Mayor Harvey explained the PFOS/PFOA that was found in the water are prevalent in everyday society, but they should not be in the water source. Mayor Harvey stated the city is looking into freshwater wells and filtration systems to remove the chemicals. Still, it could be six months to a year to find a solution for the contamination. Mayor Harvey stated water is available, and it should be limited to the most sensitive groups. Mayor Harvey explained EPA/EPD is investigating the source of the contamination, but the city can not wait to see who is responsible for the cleanup. Mayor Harvey explained drilling freshwater test wells should begin in three to four weeks. Mr. Madden asked if more information will be available by the next council meeting. Mayor Harvey explained updates would be provided later in the meeting concerning the water issue.

**PAGE 3**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

**VALERIE MOOYOUNG:** Ms. MooYoung asked if the filtration system at Raccoon Creek, would be adequate to filter the contaminants even with blending water. Mayor Harvey explained chemicals can be added to reduce the contaminant but will not remove it completely, but it will get it below the EPA's guideline of 70 parts-per-trillion until another source of water can be found.

**CRAIG MOOYOUNG:** Mr. MooYoung explained he has lived in the area since 2007, and he is concerned with his utility bills increasing to cover the cost and how it would be distributed between 5,000 customers. Mayor Harvey stated there would be some increased cost and fees, and the city will be looking into directing more money into infrastructure.

**DOUG SUITS:** Mr. Suits asked if the contaminant has always been in the water. Mayor Harvey explained more information would be forthcoming later in the week, but in 2016 the EPD guidelines changed the acceptable level, but how much was in the water before is unknown. Mr. Suits questioned if the city intends to build an infrastructure to deal with other contaminants that could possibly be in the water. Mayor Harvey explained that is one of the reasons the city is considering freshwater wells, and the city is aware of EPD/EPA guidelines, but those could change in the future. Mr. Suits stated he would like to reiterate what Mr. Pauley discussed, saying his community has the opportunity to receive clean water from the county.

Mayor Harvey explained the decisions the city makes concerning the water should be done right, and future issues should be considered. Mayor Harvey stated an update would be given on the wastewater treatment plant, water treatment plant, and water health advisory during the meeting

**DOUG SUITS:** Mr. Suits asked where the water supply that is located in the tanker truck is coming from. Mayor Harvey stated, "Lowe Springs."

**TREE CITY USA AWARD:** Mr. Bronson introduced himself as Chief Forrest Ranger for Chattooga and Floyd Counties. Mr. Bronson explained he is in attendance to present the City of Summerville the Tree City USA award for the fourth year. Mr. Bronson reviewed the standards required to be recognized as a Tree City. Mr. Bronson presented the award to Council Member David Ford.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Harvey encouraged people to participate in political races, but request political signs be appropriately placed and comply with the rules and regulations of the city and state. Mayor Harvey asked Joey Norton to provide additional information concerning the city's sign ordinance. Joey reviewed the areas that signs are and are not allowed.

Mayor Harvey stated the city has a lot of infrastructure needs and would like the Council to consider having a planning session on April 20 to discuss some of these needs.

**PAGE 4  
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2020**

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**MAIN STREET:** Mayor Harvey asked Main Street Director Susan Locklear to review her monthly report. Susan presented her report to the Mayor and Council. Susan discussed the activities she participated in and gave updates on the Smithsonian Exhibit, which opened March 7 with a county-wide art show. Susan reported 668 visitors passed through the exhibit since opening, and it will continue to be open until April 18, 2020. Susan's report becomes part of these minutes.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Code Enforcement Joey Norton to provide his monthly report. Joey reported he began fourteen new property maintenance cases. Joey explained his reporting system was down, and he was unable to provide a monthly report listing new permits.

**WATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey requested Jason Greene provide the monthly Water Treatment Plant Report. Jason discussed the monthly preventative maintenance performed at the facilities during the month. Jason explained the plant assembled a powdered activated carbon system for basins five and six to demo and test filters for PFAS removal. Jason thanked Terry Tinney for help assembling the necessary plumbing for the demo. Jason reported the safety topic for the month was Identify, Treat, and Prevent Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. A copy of Jason's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** Mayor Harvey asked Chris Tuggle to provide the monthly wastewater treatment plant report for Council. Chris reviewed the maintenance, testing, sampling, and repairs made at the plant. Chris explained he meet with Mohawk to discuss the permit renewal for 2020. Chris reported the plant treated 145 million gallons of wastewater for an average of 5.0 million gallons a day, which is a plant record. Chris noted 11.66 inches of rainfall was recorded for the month. A copy of Chris's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Terry Tinney provided the monthly Public Works report for Mayor and Council. Terry reviewed all work done by the Street, Water, and Gas Department under his supervision for February. Terry discussed project updates, explaining the marble installation has started for the walking trail, two freshwater wells sites have been selected, and work on the soccer fields, and chert pit is postponed due to weather. Terry's report is part of these minutes.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Mayor Harvey requested Kris Willis to review the monthly report submitted to Mayor and Council. Kris reported the status of basketball teams in the District Five Championships. Kris explained baseball and softball sign-ups ended on Friday, and the recreation department is currently placing players on respective teams. Kris noted the baseball/softball season would begin at the end of the month. A copy of Kris's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**PAGE 5  
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2020**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Chief Stan Mosley provided the monthly report for the Police Department and Probation. Chief Mosley reviewed the monthly activities for the Summerville Police Department, which included; miles patrolled, the number of inmates housed, citations issued, incident and accident reports, and the number of calls the department answered during the month. Chief Mosley reported \$7319 was collected in Sate Court fines and fees, and \$5,319 was collected in City Court fines and fees. Chief Mosley's report is attached and becomes part of the minutes.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Fire Chief Robbie Lathem reviewed the February fire report submitted. Robbie reported his department had 62 calls for the month and discussed the breakdown of each shift worked. Robbie reported the department had four training nights, accumulating 110 hours of training. Robbie's report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**CITY MANAGER:** City Manager Janice Galloway reported the month-end balance in the operating account as \$2,571,405.42. City Manager Galloway reviewed the monthly expenditures and revenues for February. A copy of the financial report is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

Mayor Harvey asked for questions or comments concerning departmental reports.

Council Member David Ford asked Kris Willis how many children signed up for baseball and softball. Kris stated, "Around 160." Council Member Ford asked if that number was up or down from the previous year. Kris stated, "It is about the same."

Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin asked how many parts per trillion of PFOS/PFOA was found in the Lowe Springs water source. City Manager Janice Galloway stated, "Zero."

**AGENDA:** Mayor Harvey asked Council if any changes are needed to the meeting agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES:** Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed for the previous meeting minutes. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**UPDATES-WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EMERGENCY, WATER HEALTH ADVISORY, AND WATER SUPPLY UPDATE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item on the agenda is to hear updates on the wastewater treatment plant emergency, water health advisory, and water supply update. Mayor Harvey requested wastewater treatment plant supervisor Chris Tuggle to provide updates.

**PAGE 6  
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 9, 2020**

**UPDATES-WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EMERGENCY, WATER HEALTH ADVISORY, AND WATER SUPPLY UPDATE CONT:** Chris explained the new sewer lines and manholes are working fantastic, and they are handling 145 million gallons of water. Chris stated some grading work and backfilling is needed at the plant from the sewer line replacement, but they are waiting on drier weather.

Jason Greene explained the water treatment plant is testing activated carbon to assist in the removal of PFOS/PFOA in the source water. Jason explained the initial amount added was five parts per million, which reduced the amount of contaminant by ten parts per trillion. Jason explained the current plan is to increase the amount of carbon to twenty parts per million. Jason noted this could be a temporary solution. Janice explained the activated powder carbon is an absorbent, when the water passes through the carbon, the impurities stick to the carbon. Janice explained samples have to be pulled from the plant and tested after increasing the amount of carbon. Janice explained the 16-inch water lines for freshwater wells would be very expensive to install, and the city is working as fast as possible to resolve the problem. Janice reminded visitors the tanker truck is still available for the City of Summerville customers to use during this time.

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if the city had anyone available to assist people when filling up containers from the truck. Janice stated, "It's a good idea, but you never know when someone will show up."

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked for an update on the source of the contamination in Raccoon Creek. Janice explained she doesn't believe the EPD will point the finger at a person or group, and the city is stuck with the cleanup. Janice stated the chemicals are considered forever chemicals, and the best solution is to find a good producing freshwater well. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if there is a possibility the source of the contaminants will remain unknown. Janice stated, "Unless the EPD releases the information." City Attorney Albert Palmour interjected, saying the manufactures of the chemicals are known, and there is a class-action lawsuit against the manufacturers, such as Dupont, which makes the chemicals. City Attorney Palmour stated it would be up to the city to determine if they would like to join a class-action lawsuit against these companies. Mayor Harvey explained the contaminants are used in all types of materials, and eighty percent comes from various materials, but it should not be in drinking water. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if EPA has pulled more samples from Raccoon Creek. Janice responded, No, samples have to be sent to a private lab in Florida for testing. Terry Tinney noted two samples had been sent for testing from locations in the system that is being fed by the county well. Janice stated a notice would be provided to customers once the results come back. Terry mentioned Hays Correctional Institute is currently receiving water from the Town of Trion, but that is the only customer they can supply in the area.

Mayor Harvey reminded visitors the water health advisory remains the same, and it is not a Do Not Drink Advisory, but sensitive groups should continue to take precautions. Mayor Harvey reviewed the vulnerable groups and the recommended filters that can be purchased to reduce the contaminants; Mayor Harvey noted if using filters, they should be changed in a timely manner.

Mayor Harvey asked for questions or concerns regarding the water advisory.

**PAGE 7**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

**DOUG SUITS:** Mr. Suits asked Terry Tinney for clarification, if the City of Trion is now supplying water to Hays Correctional Institute. Terry stated, "Yes," Mr. Suits asked if the City of Summerville previously served Hays. Terry said, "Yes."

**DANA MOSLEY:** Ms. Mosley asked if a map could be distributed to ease the customer's minds. Mayor Harvey responded, stating, Yes, and information should be going out in the near future.

Mayor Harvey explained the city is in constant contact with the EPD and EPA. Mayor Harvey stated it is a slow and expensive process, and the city will do as much as they can, as quickly as they can, but the city is trying to guard against problems in the future.

**MR. MADDEN:** Mr. Madden voiced concerns over the amount of plastic that is accumulating due to the lack of a recycling center. Mayor Harvey responded, stating, recycling might be something to look into.

**JIMMY HOLBROOK-WZQZ:** Mr. Holbrook, with *WZQZ*, asked when the activated carbon filter was installed and what was the cost associated with it. City Manager Janice Galloway explained the cost is minimal at this time, due to having a mixer and carbon on site. City Manager Galloway explained when the city begins to purchase the carbon, and it will be around \$1.66 per pound. Mr. Holbrook asked what the city is currently paying the county for water. City Manager Galloway stated, "It is her understanding; it will be \$1.80 per thousand."

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT-SEWER PLANT EMERGENCY:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve \$166,664.52 to be paid from the 2014 SPLOST for the emergency repairs at the wastewater treatment plant. Mayor Harvey reviewed the items included in the emergency repair of sewer lines and manholes at the wastewater treatment plant. Mayor Harvey noted there would be additional invoices, such as legal fees and engineering. Mayor Harvey stated the city would receive an ITAD Grant for \$50,000, which will lower the draw request by \$50,000 from the 2014 SPLOST. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve payment for the wastewater treatment plant emergency for \$166,664.52. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL ELECTION-POLL WORKERS:** Mayor Harvey stated that approval is needed for Poll Workers for the upcoming Special Election. The workers are:

- Angela White-Election Superintendent
- Poll Manager-Jill Durham
- Assistant Poll Manager-Vickie J Dawson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Poll Manager-Linda Greene
- Poll Worker-Preeya Fain

Mayor Harvey noted absentee and advance voting for the upcoming March 24, 2020, Special Election would begin on Monday, March 2, 2020, and continue until Friday, March 20, 2020. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve Poll Workers for the Special Election. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**PAGE 8**  
**CITY OF SUMMERSVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

**ADOPT-A-STREET POLICY #48:** Mayor Harvey stated consideration is needed to make changes to the Adopt-A Street Policy #48 and to approve up to \$1,500 in maintenance supplies. Mayor Harvey explained changes had been made to the policy to encourage individuals and organizations to pick up litter. Mayor Harvey explained guidelines are included in the policy, and a coordinator is needed. Mayor Harvey stated trash bags, gloves, vests, and grabbers would be provided to volunteers. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the amended Adopt-A-Street Policy #48 and no to exceed \$1,500 in maintenance supplies. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**PYRO SHOWS INC.:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item for consideration is the approval of a down payment of \$7,500 to Pyro Shows, Inc. for the Annual Celebrate Independence Day fireworks show. Mayor Harvey requested Terry Tinney to provide additional information on this item. Terry stated the total for the fireworks display would be \$14,999, but at this time, a downpayment of \$7,500 is required. Terry explained the city would receive \$8,500 from the Tillotson Grant and donations from businesses. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked for the date of the celebration. Terry stated, "July 3<sup>rd</sup>." Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve a downpayment of \$7,500, to Pyro Shows, Inc. for the Annual Celebrate Independence Fireworks display. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION MOHAWK SURCHARGES:** Mayor Harvey stated a discussion is needed concerning Mohawk surcharges. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway and Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor Chris Tuggle to provide more information on this item. Chris explained the industrial pretreatment program was approved in 2001, Mohawk's first permit was approved in 2002, and it is renewable every four years. Chris explained four years ago, a quick study was conducted, and surcharge rates were adjusted for inflation. Chris stated this time research had been completed, and it was discovered the city was not covering their cost per pound of pollutant to treat. Chris explained a permit extension was necessary until it is resolved, and it is set to begin April 1, 2020, if Council approves. Chris stated Mohawk requested the rates be phased, instead of implementing the cost at once. Council Member asked who conducted the two studies. Chris stated, "Carter & Sloope." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked the amount the city paid for the quick study. Chris stated, "It was less than \$5,000, and the second in-depth study was around \$13,000." Mayor Harvey noted the second study is much more detailed. Mayor Harvey reviewed the timeframe for phasing in the surcharges and recommended doing so over twenty-four months. Chris stated he did not have a recommendation on the time frame, but there is a two percent increase for cost built-in. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve Mohawk surcharges and to phase-in the surcharges over twenty-four months. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 to 1, with Council Member Joe Money, Jr. abstaining from the vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Harvey asked for comments from visitors.

**RANDY PAULEY:** Mr. Pauley thanked the city for the utility service provided over the years, but asked the Council to sincerely consider his request. Mr. Pauley explained he is concerned about the health and well-fare of his family, and if his home should catch on fire, it would be on the ground because he does not have access to a fire hydrant.

**PAGE 9**  
**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

**RANDY PAULEY CONT:** Mr. Pauley stated he had been more than patient after twenty-eight years, and it would be minimal customer loss for the city if the county provides water to him. Mayor Harvey explained he would have City Manager Galloway, Public Works Director Terry Tinney, Fire Chief Lathem, and Commissioner Jason Winters to discuss his request.

**DOUG SUITS:** Mr. Suits asked how many people at the prison has a compromised immune system, and if the city has turned water service over to another agency, then why would the city not do the same for him. Mayor Harvey explained other agencies are involved concerning the prison, and he can not give the prison directive.

**CRAIG MOOYOUNG:** Mr. Mooyoung asked how often the large manufacturers in the area is audited. Mayor Harvey stated, "I don't know, I'm sure they have regulations." Mayor Harvey suggested Mr. Mooyoung may want to visit the EPA website.

**MR. MADDEN:** Mr. Madden asked if more information would be available at the next council meeting concerning the water issue. Mr. Madden stated the city should look into the class-action lawsuit because the cost on the customers is immediate when purchasing bottled water. Mayor Harvey explained he is hopeful that more information will be available at the council meeting next month, but he wants factual information and not false information.

Mayor Harvey encouraged visitors to participate in March and April events and reminded visitors the next regular council meeting would be held on Monday, April 13, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN:** With all business concluded, Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

---

**HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR**

Attest:

---

**ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK**