



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
VIA TELECONFERENCE  
MAY 11, 2020  
5 PM**

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Harvey called the teleconference meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**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 David Ford led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA:** Mayor Harvey requested the Council to review the meeting agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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

- Regular Council Meetings are held the second Monday of each Month
- Projects will be reviewed during the meeting
- Very few activities will be held due to COVID-19
- Will follow CDC and State guidelines for reopening
- Next Regular Council Meeting will be held on Monday, June 8, 2020

Mayor Harvey greeted all visitors logged in to the teleconference meeting. Mayor Harvey stated visitors were offered the opportunity before the meeting to address any questions or concerns and will have the opportunity at the end of the meeting as well.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** City Attorney Albert Palmour reviewed the information discussed during the question and answer session concerning badger meetings, and the well site options.

**CITY MANAGER:** City Manager Janice Galloway reviewed the revenues and expenditures for the month of April, and reported a balance of \$2,661,013.41 in the operating account.

City Manager Galloway reviewed the departmental reports in the absence of department heads. A copy of departmental reports is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MINUTES:** Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed for the previous meeting minutes. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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**ARC GRANT PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider awarding the ARC Grant pedestrian bridge project to Excellere Construction, LLC, based on a recommendation from engineers Carter & Sloope. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. City Manager Janice Galloway reported the grant amount was \$120,720, with a required match from the city of \$30,180, for a total of \$150,900. City Manager Galloway reported the city had spent \$36,559.66 year to date on the project. City Manager Galloway reported the approximate cost of the project would be \$150,259.66, which includes engineer fees, bridge, and bridge installation. Council Member David Ford asked if we are under budget on the grant. City Manager Janice Galloway stated, "Yes." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked what the city portion will be. City Manager Galloway explained the city has already contributed \$36,559.66 to the project, and the money is still available to complete the project. Council Member Joe Money, Jr, asked if any money would come out of the general fund for this project. City Manager Janice Galloway stated, "No." Council Member David Ford made a motion to award the ARC Pedestrian Bridge project to Excellere Construction, LLC, in the amount of \$111,700. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

**REPRINTING BALLOTS TO REFLECT DATE CHANGE FROM MARCH 24, 2020 TO JUNE 9, 2020:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item for discussion is the reprinting of ballots to reflect the change in the election date due to COVID-19 from March 24, 2020, to June 9, 2020. Mayor Harvey explained it is his understanding the ballots with March 24, 2020, can be used with Council approval or new ballots can be printed with the correct date. Mayor Harvey asked City Clerk Angie White to provide more information on this item. City Clerk Angie White explained she spoke with the liaison with the Secretary of State and City Attorney Melissa Hise regarding reprinting the ballots to reflect the date change. City Clerk White explained the Secretary of State would not require the city to reprint, but recommended following up with the City Attorney for guidance. City Clerk White explained she emailed City Attorney Melissa Hise requesting guidance, and Attorney Hise advised it is not necessary to reprint the ballots to reflect the new date, but she recommended a formal vote by Council, should they decide to use the ballots with the March 24, 2020 date. City Clerk White explained the reprinting of ballots would be less than \$400, and she had discussed the reprinting with the printers, and it would not be a problem to have them printed by May 18 when advance/absentee voting begins. Mayor Harvey recommended not reprinting ballot and use the ballots with the March 24, 2020 date. City Attorney Albert Palmour stated, "He is good with that." Council Member David Ford made a motion to use the ballots with March 24, 2020, date in the Special Municipal Election on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

**ELECTION STAFF – SPECIAL ELECTION:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item for consideration is to approve the election staff for the Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Mayor Harvey reviewed the election staff, including:

- Poll Manager-Keitha Shamblin
- Assistant Poll Manager-Vickie J Dawson
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Poll Manager – Jessica Keith
- Poll Worker- Nicki Alexander

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**FIVE MINUTE BREAK-** Trey Goble with Computer Central asked for a five-minute break during the teleconference due to technical issues. Mayor Harvey announced the meeting would resume in five-minutes.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**ELECTION STAFF - SPECIAL ELECTION CONT:** Mayor Harvey asked for discussion concerning the election staff recommendation. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the recommended election staff. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PAYMENT APPROVAL**

**CHATTOOGA COUNTY WATER:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider a payment to Chattooga County Water for well #7 water usage for \$ 15,983.42. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the payment of \$15,983.42 to Chattooga County Water for well#7 water usage. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford, and carried unanimously.

**TOWN OF TRION:** Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed for payment to the Town of Trion in the amount of \$14,182.51 for Hays State Prison water consumption. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve payment to the Town of Trion for \$14,182.51. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PARKER SYSTEMS:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider a payment of \$25,000 to Parker Systems for a rock bore on Hwy 100 at the river bridge for gas line repair. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. City Manager Janice Galloway explained Southeastern had submitted a cost of \$84,000, and Parker submitted a cost of \$25,000 for the bore. Council Member made a motion to approve a payment to Parker Systems for \$25,000 for a rock bore at the river bridge on Hwy 100 for a gas line repair. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – MECHANIC AND MOTORIZED FLEET REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the solicitation of a Request for Proposal for bids on mechanic and motorized fleet repair and maintenance. Mayor Harvey asked for any questions or concerns regarding the RFP. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. questioned if it would be better to have separate RFP's, one RFP for fire vehicles, and the other for the regular fleet vehicles. City Manager Janice Galloway explained the fire department would like to go with a different contractor, but since bids have not been received, it is possible the contractor the fire department wants to use may get the bid, so it would be a moot point to have two separate RFP's. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated, the current contractor is doing a great job, but if they can not work on the fire truck, the city is paying \$25,000 yearly, and still paying someone else to work on the fire truck. City Manager Galloway explained a lot of the work that has been done on the fire truck could not have been done by local contractors because they don't have the equipment to test the vehicle to diagnose the problem. Council Member David Ford commented the current contractor might not be familiar with the workings of a fire truck.

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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – MECHANIC AND MOTORIZED FLEET REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE CONT:** Mayor Harvey asked if the Council would like to omit the fire truck from the proposed RFP, and have a separate RFP for the fire truck. Council Member Money responded, stating that would be his recommendation. Council Member David Ford agreed with Council Member Money. City Attorney Albert Palmour commented heavy equipment vehicles are different from ordinary vehicles, and they may need a more specialized mechanic. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the solicitation of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for mechanic and motorized fleet repair and maintenance with the exception of fire trucks. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – FIRE TRUCK:** Mayor Harvey asked for direction from City Attorney Albert Palmour concerning the Request for Proposal for mechanic and motorized fleet repair and maintenance, not including the fire trucks. City Attorney Palmour explained the heavy equipment and fire trucks should be omitted from the bid for mechanic and motorized fleet repair. City Attorney Palmour recommended listing the items the RFP for mechanic, and motorized fleet repair would not include, such as trackhoes, dozers, and fire trucks. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve solicitation of a Request for Proposal for heavy equipment and fire trucks. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – OIL CHANGES:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item for business is to consider approving the solicitation of a Request for Proposal for bids on oil changes and the servicing of the city's vehicles and equipment fleet. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the solicitation of a Request For Proposal for bids on oil changes and the servicing of the city's vehicles. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

**RANDY PAULEY - 16 HOMESTEAD DR:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving Randy Pauley's request to allow Chattooga County to provide his service area with water for fire protection. Mayor Harvey explained in order for the city to install a fire hydrant, it would require a six-inch water line. Mayor Harvey explained Chattooga County could run a line cheaper than the city, but still, there are service area agreements to consider, and it is his understanding that having a fire hydrant would not mean faster or better fire protection. Mayor Harvey asked for a discussion from the Council concerning this item. Council Member David Ford explained that even with a fire hydrant, a fire truck would still be required. Council Member Ford explained he spoke with Fire Chief Robbie Lathem concerning the response if the need should arise to Mr. Pauley's residence, and Chief Lathem explained they pre-plan for situations and what departments would respond. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked City Attorney Albert Plamour if there would be any legal ramifications down the road if the city should decide not to allow Chattooga County to provide service to Mr. Pauley. City Attorney Palmour explained if you charge someone for a service, you should provide the service, and the city provides this service. City Attorney Palmour stated he does not think there would be a legal consequence of not having a fire hydrant due to Sovereign immunity.

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**RANDY PAULEY - 16 HOMESTEAD DR CONT:** Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked if the responding departments would have an adequate supply of water. Council Member David Ford stated, "I would think so." Mayor Harvey asked for a motion to approve the request. No motion was made to allow Chattooga County water to provide water service to Randy Pauley. The item dies for lack of a motion.

**DEPOT RULES AND REGULATIONS DURING COVID-19:** Mayor Harvey stated the next item for discussion is to consider approving new rules and regulations concerning the rental of the Summerville Depot over the next four months due to COVID-19. Mayor Harvey expressed concerns about meetings and safety. Mayor Harvey stated we are in an era where social distancing, cleanliness, and sanitizing should be considered. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on the rentals that are currently scheduled at the Depot over the next few months. City Manager Galloway explained several events, including a wedding, birthday party, and shower is scheduled in June and early July for the Depot. City Manager Galloway stated she consulted with City Attorney Melissa Hise and City Attorney Albert Palmour, and they recommended deep cleanings and sanitizing after each event at the Depot. City Manager Galloway explained she contacted two companies for a quote; one company would not provide a quote due to possible lawsuits due to COVID-19, and the other quote was an excessive amount. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked how much the deep cleaning would cost. City Manager Galloway stated, "It was from ServPro, and it would be \$930 each time." Council Member Dennis asked if the cost would be absorbed by the people renting the Depot. City Manager Galloway stated, "It would have to be." Mayor Harvey recommended a deep cleaning in between events but stated the city does not have the personnel to do the deep cleaning. Mayor Harvey asked City Attorney Albert Palmour if there could be any legal ramifications. City Attorney Palmour explained if it were a city event, a procedure would need to be in place to protect city personnel and the public. City Attorney Palmour stated he could provide a release of liability if that is what the Council desires. Mayor Harvey stated he does not think the city should be sponsoring any events at this time. Mayor Harvey stated his recommendation would be to cancel the rentals for the next few months, refund the individuals, and review this item at the June meeting. Council Member Joe Money, Jr asked who would monitor the individual events held at the Depot. Mayor Harvey stated, "That would be another issue, and would the city be responsible." City Attorney Albert Palmour explained the risk assessment is the Depot is a city-owned building and what is in the building stays in it. City Attorney Palmour explained you could require them to have an insurance policy and guidelines to follow, but there would be other venues to use that would be cheaper instead of imposing the requirements on the people wishing to use the Depot. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin suggested shutting it down until things get better. Mayor Harvey stated new rules and regulations still need to be considered. City Manager Janice Galloway noted the first event scheduled is a wedding on June 20 and a Birthday party on June 27. Mayor Harvey recommended canceling the June events and revisit this item at the June Council Meeting.

**FIVE MINUTE BREAK**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

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**DEPOT RULES AND REGULATIONS DURING COVID-19 CONT:** Mayor Harvey explained new rules and regulations need to be considered when the Depot is opened, including social distancing, waivers, and cleaning expenses. Council Member David Ford made a motion to cancel June events at the Depot and review upcoming July events at the June Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey encouraged everyone to review the CDC guidelines concerning COVID-19. Mayor Harvey stated steps should be followed as things are opened.

**DISCUSS UPCOMING EVENTS, FESTIVALS, AND FIREWORKS DISPLAY:** Mayor Harvey asked for a discussion concerning the Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Mayor Harvey noted train arrivals might be postponed until the fall. Mayor Harvey explained a deposit was needed for the fireworks, but he did not want to subject staff or Council to the normal celebration, and it would be difficult to request donations from businesses for the annual celebration. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin stated, in his opinion, it would be difficult to keep people in their cars to follow social distancing guidelines to watch a fireworks display. City Manager Janice Galloway stated the Chattooga County AG center would be available on Labor Day, Monday, September 7, if everyone is in favor of the celebration on that day. Mayor Harvey stated that would be an option, but it all depends on circumstances and conditions. Mayor Harvey noted one option would be to recognize essential workers before the fireworks display with a packaged dinner that can be handed out. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked what the protocol for canceling events was. Mayor Harvey stated, "Usually, it would be a council decision, but a deposit was needed to be paid for the fireworks, and I did not want to send a deposit and then cancel the event." Mayor Harvey stated the Council should have been told. Council Member Dennis responded, stating her concern was she did not find out about the cancellation until Saturday. Council Member Dennis stated, "The Council voted for the fireworks, and they should have had a say in canceling the event." Council Member David Ford commented Labor Day would be a great idea.

**JASON ESPY-** Jason Espy with *The Summerville News* asked if the fireworks display could be combined with the Chattooga County Ag Fair in August. Mayor Harvey explained that it might be something to look at, but he is not sure what will happen with the fair. City Manager Janice Galloway noted it would be a larger gathering.

Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked if a deposit would be needed for the fireworks in September. City Manager Janice Galloway stated, "Yes, and they would need to be ordered far enough ahead so that we are sure we get them." Mayor Harvey explained he would hate to commit money and be unable to hold the celebration. Mayor Harvey noted the city has \$8,500 from the Tillotson Grant, but others may not contribute because of the economy.

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if anyone has reached out to the businesses that usually donate to the event. Mayor Harvey stated, "Not yet."

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Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if the event is held on Labor Day would it be a full event or just fireworks. Mayor Harvey responded, stating plans would need to be made. A discussion was held between Council Member Money and Mayor Harvey concerning the fireworks display and leaving the decision to the public to decide if they would as individuals gather or not to watch the fireworks. Mayor Harvey explained he does not want the city to sponsor an event that would create a situation that could affect the public or city staff.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**ZACH HUGHES:** Zach asked who made the decision to cancel the fireworks. Mayor Harvey stated, "The Council said we would look at doing something in September." Zach stated, "Council Member Dennis stated she was not notified, she found out on Saturday after the decision was made." Mayor Harvey stated, "I made the decision." Mayor Harvey stated a decision was just made, that something would be done in September, circumstances permitting.

**ADJOURN:** With all business concluded, Council Member David Ford made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey noted a budget meeting would be held before the regular June meeting. Mayor Harvey reminded everyone to wear a mask and continue to social distance.

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**HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR**

Attest:

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**ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK**