



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DEWEY HOSKINS GYM
JUNE 8, 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 Joe Money, Jr. led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked if there are any changes needed to the meeting agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member David Ford 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 welcomed visitors to the meeting, and offered the opportunity for visitors to speak. Mayor Harvey requested visitors limit their remarks to three to five minutes. No visitors attending the meeting online or in-person addressed the Mayor and Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey gave the following announcements:

- City buildings will be re-opening soon
- Project updates will be given during the meeting
- Discussion will be held concerning the budget and budget activities
- Two informational meetings will be held for the public concerning the water situation, budget, re-opening of facilities, and projects on Thursday, June 11, 2020, at the Summerville Recreation Department at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

PAGE 2
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020

CITY MANAGER: Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide the monthly financial report. Janice reviewed the expenses and revenues for the month. Janice reported a balance of \$2,781,796.70 in the operating account at month-end. City Manager Galloway provided highlights for the month from each department in the absence of department heads. A copy of the financial report and departmental reports are attached and becomes part of the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

DATE AND LOCATION FOR ANNUAL FIREWORKS: Mayor Harvey stated the first item of old business is the discussion of dates and locations for the fireworks display. Zach Hughes, with Chattooga County Fair Council, addressed the Mayor and Council requesting the City of Summerville and the Fair Council partner with the annual fireworks display. Zach explained the Fair Council would make a donation of \$5,000 to the city for the fireworks. Zach stated the Fair Council agreed to offer free gate admission on Saturday, August 29, beginning at 8:00 p.m. for visitors wishing to watch the fireworks. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to approve August 29th as the date, and the Chattooga County Fair as the location for the annual fireworks display. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

DEPOT RENTALS: Mayor Harvey stated discussion is needed concerning Depot rentals in July. Mayor Harvey explained at this time, and rentals are not being accepted. Mayor Harvey stated sanitizing and cleaning is still a concern, even with social distancing. Mayor Harvey asked City Manager Janice Galloway to provide additional information concerning the Depot. City Manager Galloway explained the Depot would need to be cleaned and sanitized before and after use, and an estimate had been obtained from Serv Pro for \$980. Mayor Harvey suggested any charges for cleaning be passed on to the individual renting the Depot. Mayor Harvey made a recommendation not to rent the Depot until a price can be obtained and waivers are in place. The item was tabled.

RE-OPENING SCHEDULE: Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway and Recreation Department Supervisor Bo Chamlee to provide more information on the re-opening schedule of city facilities. Bo explained he received a lot of calls concerning the tennis courts and playgrounds, and his recommendation would be to open these activities on June 15th. Bo suggested offering the basketball courts in two-hour blocks, and no more than six people would be allowed on the courts at one time. Bo stated the restrooms at the park will be open between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and they will be cleaned twice a day.

**PAGE 3
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020**

RE-OPENING SCHEDULE CONT: City Manager Janice Galloway reviewed the precautions the employees in city hall will be taking when re-opening, including wearing masks, sanitizing between customers, and encouraging social distancing between customers. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the re-opening schedules for city facilities. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford, and carried unanimously. A copy of the schedules is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

DISCUSS FY 2020-2021 BUDGET: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the discussion of the FY 2020-2021 budget. Mayor Harvey reviewed the water rate increase that is included in the budget and asked for discussion from the Council concerning the budget. Council Member David Ford asked if a senior rate is included in the budget. Mayor Harvey stated, "That can be put in the budget now or later, but it is not included in the budget that has been presented." Mayor Harvey noted some changes were made to the budget, but they were not substantial changes. Mayor Harvey requested Finance Director Carla Rutledge to review the changes. Finance Director Carla Rutledge explained travel and training was reduced 25% in every department with \$3,000 or more, Downtown Development was increased by \$3,000, Recreation Department travel and training were reduced by \$3,000, employee salary increase due to reclassification, created IT full-time position and benefits, removed the part-time data analyst position and IT retainer, and reduced recreation dues and registration. Mayor Harvey stated the Downtown Development Authority had requested a total of \$20,000 to continue DDA development. Mayor Harvey noted the DDA presented City Manager Galloway with a report, but his recommendation would be to have a list of specific projects they wish to do. Mayor Harvey noted the budget would need to be published, and once it is published, the changes would be limited, or it would have to be advertised again.

NEW BUSINESS

MINUTES: Mayor Harvey stated the first item of new business is the approval of the previous meeting minutes. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PAGE 4
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - MECHANIC AND MOTORIZED FLEET REPAIR: City Attorney Albert Palmour opened the Request for Proposal from Trucktown, Inc for mechanic and motorized fleet repair and maintenance of city vehicles. City Attorney Palmour stated the bid submitted is a yearly bid of \$29,500, with a monthly installment of \$2,458.34. Mayor Harvey requested staff review the bid before making a decision.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS-CITY FIRE TRUCKS: City Attorney Albert Palmour stated no bids were submitted.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – OIL CHANGES AND SERVICING OF CITY VEHICLES: City Attorney Albert Palmour stated only one bid was submitted for oil changes and servicing of city vehicles. City Attorney Palmour stated the bid was from the current provider White’s Alignment. City Attorney Palmour stated the bid was broke down based on the amount and type of oil needed for each vehicle, including a standard five-quart oil change, synthetic oil, and diesel oil changes. Mayor Harvey recommended staff review the bid before making a decision.

ELECTION STAFF CHANGES: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve changes to the election staff. Mayor Harvey explained an election would be held Tuesday, June 9. Mayor Harvey noted it has been difficult to find workers for the election due to COVID-19. Mayor Harvey reviewed the list of election staff:

- Election Superintendent: Angie White
- Poll Manager: Jeanne Lonas
- Assistant Poll Manager: Vickie Dawson
- 2nd Assistant Poll Manager: Jessica Keith
- Poll Workers: Nicki Alexander
Brooke Stoner

Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve changes to the election staff. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PAGE 5
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020**

APPROVE PAYMENTS TO THE FOLLOWING: Mayor Harvey stated approval of payments is needed to the following for water usage:

- Chattooga County Water in the amount of \$16,042.59 – well #7 water usage
- Town of Trion in the amount of \$12,434.80 – Hays State Prison water usage

Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve payment to Chattooga County Water and Town of Trion for water usage. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

TEST WELL #2: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving a payment up to \$100,000 to drill test well #2. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide additional information on this item. City Manager Galloway explained the Geologist would like to move forward with drilling test well #2, once the chemical analysis is received from test well #1. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve up to \$100,000 to proceed with the drilling of test well #2. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

GAC PILOT STUDY: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the consideration of payment up to \$ 100,000 for the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) pilot study. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway provide more information on this item. City Manager Galloway explained the GAC would be a trial, and an exact cost is unknown, and it will be a temporary fix for the water problem. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked what the purpose the filters serve if the city is going to wells. City Manager Galloway explained the goal is to remove the chemicals from the creek water until the wells can be developed and get the water from the wells back to the filter plant, and at that time, it is possible the GAC would not be needed. City Attorney Albert Palmour provided a comparison in cost and scenarios of PAC and GAC for Mayor and Council. Mayor Harvey asked for a time frame on developing the wells. Public Works Director Terry Tinney stated, "Nine months to a year." Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve payment up to \$100,000 for a GAC pilot study at the water treatment plant. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**PAGE 6
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020**

MUNICIPAL GAS AUTHORITY CONTRACT: Mayor Harvey requested City Attorney Albert Palmour to provide more information on this item. City Attorney Palmour explained this is a bonded indebtedness, and it is considered an Ordinance that will require two readings. City Attorney Palmour explained MGAG purchases gas from different providers and buys in a portfolio, and there are changes to the portfolio from time to time. City Attorney Palmour explained members of the Municipal Gas Authority can purchase gas at a certain percentage, and hedge against higher rates. City Attorney Palmour noted it had worked very well for the city, and this contract will continue until 2050. Mayor Harvey stated the first reading would be held at the next council meeting.

2007 CHEVROLET 3500 SERVICE TRUCKS: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider purchasing two 2007 Chevrolet 3500 service trucks for the water and gas departments from 2014 SPLOST in the amount of \$26,000 from North Georgia Sales, LLC. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of two 2007 Chevrolet Trucks from North Georgia Sales, LLC in the amount of \$26,000, The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

FACE COVER RESOLUTION: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the discussion of a Face Cover Resolution. Mayor Harvey read the Face Cover Resolution. Mayor Harvey noted face coverings are not mandatory in city facilities, but it is encouraged to protect staff and customers. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the Face Cover Resolution. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey announced he would present a veto to City Clerk Angie White regarding a pay increase for a recreation department employee that was approved at a previous meeting. Mayor Harvey explained the procedures in which the Council could override his veto if they so desire. Mayor Harvey stated he does not feel it is in the best interest of the city to grant a raise. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked which raise the Mayor is going to veto. Mayor Harvey stated, " The one that is excessive, the other one there was a change in duties." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked what the procedure is to override the veto. City Attorney Palmour responded, stating the Council can override the veto at the next Council meeting. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked if there has to be a reason to veto. Mayor Harvey stated, "For financial reason and the financial situation."

**PAGE 7
CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 8, 2020**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council Member David Ford made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously. The regular meeting was closed at 6:25 p.m. for an Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED: Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to close the Executive Session and re-open the regular meeting. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The regular meeting was re-opened at 6:54 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey asked for public comments.

JASON ESPY: Jason Espy with *The Summerville News* asked if they are aware the City of Summerville has the highest sewer rate in Northwest Georgia. Mayor Harvey stated, " I have not looked at that." Jason commented once the new rate structure is passed, it will affect the elderly, sick, and poorest members of the community the hardest. Jason stated his bill would increase to around \$70.00 a month due to the new rate structure. Jason asked if they are aware that the city is collecting more than the last two years. Mayor Harvey stated, "Yes, but we also have higher expenses." Mayor Harvey encouraged everyone to review the University of North Carolina water rate study and make comparisons.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK

