



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 09, 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, Dana W. Mosley, 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.

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 Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey welcomed everyone to the regular council meeting. Mayor Harvey asked visitors to state their name, address, and reason for attending the meeting. Mayor Harvey offered visitors the opportunity to speak and requested visitor's limit comments to three to five minutes. Mayor Harvey thanked visitors for wearing masks and following CDC guidelines.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey made the following announcements. Regular Council Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held Monday, December 14, 2020. Mayor Harvey reviewed the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas activities and noted hopefully, by Spring, activities would be back to normal in the city.

PRESENTATION DR. PHILOSSAINT: Dr. Philossaint provided the Mayor and Council with information on Mind Care and a brief overview of her work in mental health. Dr. Philossaint explained Mind Care, a childhood trauma therapy program, offers a 12-day counsel based program to serve ages 12-99. The program offers counseling for individuals, groups, and life and health coaching. Dr. Philossaint explained the program's hours are 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., four days a week, for three weeks, and the cost is \$900, and insurance will be accepted, but it will not cover the full amount. Dr. Philossaint explained the program is a 501 3(C) and is tax-deductible. Dr. Philossaint stated she is asking for referrals, participation, prayers, and support. Dr. Philossaint explained the program would open in Summerville at 9991 Commerce St., and an online program is also available. Council Member Dana Mosley asked if Mind Care is open now. Dr. Philossaint stated, "No, we will not begin until we have ten people because it is a community-building approach." Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin asked Dr. Philossaint if there would be different age groups. Dr. Philossaint explained research shows it is good to have various ages in groups to learn from each other. Mayor Harvey thanked Dr. Philossaint for the presentation.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

CITY MANAGER: Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide the monthly financial report. Janice reported monthly expenditures of \$1,823,338.09 and revenues of 1,255,692.35. Janice reported a balance of \$3,046,507.84 in the operating account at month-end. A copy of the financial report is attached and becomes part of the minutes. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked City Manager Galloway when the pipe purchase approved in October will show on the financial numbers. Terry stated, "We should receive the bill by the end of the month."

NEW BUSINESS

MINUTES: Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed for the October meeting minutes. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

FLEGAL INSURANCE – CINDY MORGAN: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is a presentation from Cindy Morgan with Flegal Insurance to discuss the city's health insurance plan and rates. Cindy explained GMA had dropped the rate increase to 10% vs. a 28.5% increase based on the claim and loss ratio from the last two years, and she is waiting on a call from GMA to confirm the figures. Cindy explained in 2019, information was provided, stating there was no increase, but Anthem had a glitch in their system, and corrections had to be made. The loss ratio and increase in percentages were off last year, but they did not go back and bill the city for the difference, and that is what they were trying to do in July when they sent the 28.5% increase. Cindy explained after Flegal received the 28.5% increase in July, they have worked with Anthem and GMA on the claims ratio, and it is now a 10% increase instead of a 28.5%. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if the loss ratio is from not being charged last year. Is that where that comes in. Cindy stated, "It does." Cindy explained the loss ratio for January through September 2020 is 96.83 for the year, and it may affect the rates for the following years, but based on the previous loss ratio, the 2021 increase will be 10%, and that is overall for family, spouse, children, and employees. Mayor Harvey asked if the 2021 rates provided to Council reflect the 10% increase. Cindy Explained the revised rates she has reflects the ten percent increase. City Manager Galloway thanked Cindy for her presentation.

INCREASE TO THE CITY'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN: Mayor Harvey explained the next item of business is to consider approving a ten percent increase to the city's health insurance plan. Mayor Harvey reviewed the proposed rate increase to the city and the employee's health insurance plan. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. stated city employees have good insurance, and he hopes they have a good understanding they are blessed with good insurance. Mayor Harvey noted the employee contributions are very low. Mayor Harvey explained the increase would be approximately \$90,000 per year at a ten percent increase. Mayor Harvey explained two rate scenarios had been provided to the Council, and if an increase is not passed on at this time, it will need to be discussed later. Mayor Harvey stated his recommendation would be to pass a portion of the ten percent to employees with the HMO 90 plan, and the city would pick up the portion on the POS 80/60 plan. Council Member David Ford asked if the ten percent would be added to the HMO 90 plan and leave the other plan the same. Mayor Harvey stated, "Yes." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked for a figure on employee's paychecks with the ten percent increase. Mayor Harvey stated, "On the HMO 90 plan, it would increase about \$1.50." City Manager Janice Galloway explained the current employee contribution percentage on the HMO 90 plan would be the same for the 2021 increased rate amount. City Manager Galloway noted that the rate is the same in each category, but the difference is in the amount of the increase.

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INCREASE TO THE CITY'S HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN CONT: Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve a ten-percent increase from GMA to the city health insurance, with the employee being responsible for a portion of the ten percent increase on the HMO 90 plan, and the city will pick up all of the increase on the POS 80/60. Council Member Dana W. Mosley seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 to 1, with Council Member David Ford voting in opposition. A copy of the rate sheet with increased rates is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

APPROVE HEATHER CASEY AS A BOARD MEMBER FOR THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA): Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve Heather Casey as a DDA Board Member to fill the remaining five years of a six-year term of Sylvia Keziah. Heather stated she appreciated the opportunity, and she was looking forward to it. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve Heather Casey to fill the unexpired term of Sylvia Keziah as a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Member. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OATH OF OFFICE-HEATHER CASEY: Mayor Harvey administered the Downtown Development Authority Oath of Office to Heather Casey. A copy of the Oath of Office is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

APPROVE CANDI SPEARS AS A MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve Candi Spears as a Main Street Board Member to fill the remaining one year of a two-year term of Sid Gowens. Ms. Spears thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to represent Main Street. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve Candi Spears to fill the unexpired term of Sid Gowens. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVE CATHY JO WILLIAMS AS A MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER: Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed to appoint Cathy Jo Williams as a Main Street Board Member to fill the remaining five years of a six-year term of Council Member Dennis. Cathy Jo stated it is an honor to be asked to serve. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made the motion to approve Cathy Jo Williams as a Main Street Board Member, to fill the unexpired term of Council Member Dennis. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford, which carried unanimously.

OATH OF OFFICE – CANDI SPEARS AND CATHY JO WILLIAMS: Mayor Harvey administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Main Street Board Members Candi Spears and Cathy Jo Williams. A copy of the Oath of Office is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

REPAIR OF FIRE ENGINE 91: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving \$11,502.03 in repairs for Engine 91. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway and Fire Chief Robbie Lathem provide more information on this item. Robbie explained after having the lifters on the truck adjusted; they discovered the camshaft needed to be replaced. Council Member David Ford asked the age of the truck. Robbie stated, "It's a 98, twenty-one or twenty-two years." Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the repairs to Engine 91 in the amount of \$11,502.03. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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PARTS AND FITTINGS-WATER TRANSMISSION LINE: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving the purchase of parts and fittings in the amount of \$18,775.29 for the water transmission line. City Manager Janice Galloway explained these items are additional parts and fittings for the pipe that has already been ordered. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of \$18,775.29 for parts and fittings for the water transmission line. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dana W. Mosley and carried unanimously.

EQUIP FIVE POLICE CARS: Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed to equip five police cars in the amount of \$48,183.45. Mayor Harvey requested Police Chief Stan Mosley provide more information on this item. Stan explained he did not have the equipment needed to install in the recently purchased police cars, so the list provided to Mayor and Council is the items needed. Council Member Kristy L. Dennis asked Chief Mosley how much was initially allotted to equip the cars. Stan stated, "The total cost was \$66,000 to buy and equip the cars." Council Member Dennis asked how much was spent on the cars. Stan replied, right at the \$66,000. Mayor Harvey asked Chief Mosley if the police department would have take-home vehicles now. Chief Mosley stated, "Yes, and it will be a lot safer due to COVID." Mayor Harvey asked if there is a plan in place for the take-home vehicles. Chief Mosley stated, "We do not have the plan approved yet." Council Member David Ford made a motion to equip five police cars for \$48,183.45. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously. A copy of the equipment list is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

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

- Chattooga County Water in the amount of \$14,466.36 – well #7 water usage
- Town of Trion in the amount of \$18,162 – Hays State Prison water usage

Council Member David Ford asked if the city is still paying about the same each month. City Manager Galloway stated, "The prison is up some, but the county is about the same." Council Member Joe Money, Jr., asked how long it will take to get the results from the samples taken from the water distribution plant. City Manager Galloway stated, "I asked for a rush, and I hope to get the results this week. If not, it will be next week." Council Member Money asked if Carter & Sloope will be ready to begin when the city gets the go-ahead on the well. City Manager Galloway replied, the last time I talked to them, they were not finished with the engineering. Terry explained they hope to have EPD approval to drill by the end of December and start the bid process in January. Council Member Money asked how long it will take for the project to be completed. Terry stated, "March or April." Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the payments to Chattooga County Water for \$14,466.36 and to the Town of Trion for \$18,162. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kristy L. Dennis and carried unanimously.

ETHICS RESOLUTION: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve a letter of request and Resolution for the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) City of Ethics Program. Mayor Harvey explained the City of Ethics Program has to be renewed every four years. Mayor Harvey read the Ethics Resolution. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve a letter of request and Resolution for the GMA City of Ethics Program. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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CHRISTMAS BONUSES: Mayor Harvey explained consideration and approval is needed for a \$325 Christmas bonus for full-time employees and \$100 for part-time employees, including firefighters. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin asked if the money was included in the budget. Mayor Harvey stated, "It was budgeted." Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve a \$325 Christmas bonus for full-time employees and \$100 for part-time employees, including firefighters. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide information on the employee Christmas activities. City Manager Galloway stated the Christmas lunch would be held on December 4 at 2:00 p.m., at Dewey Hoskins Gym. City Manager Galloway explained it would be a seafood boil, and individual plates would be made and passed out to employees, due to COVID.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – OPEN: Mayor Harvey stated an Executive Session is needed to discuss personnel, possible litigation, and land acquisition. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The regular meeting was closed at 6:01 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED: Mayor Harvey closed the Executive Session and re-opened the regular council meeting at 6:51 p.m. Mayor Harvey stated no action was taken in the Executive Session.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey asked for public comments. No comments, questions, or concerns were addressed.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, Council Member Kristy L. Dennis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dana W. Mosley and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK