



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 14, 2021
5 PM**

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

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Harvey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Dana W. Mosley led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked Council to review the meeting agenda. Mayor Harvey requested the resignation of Council Member Kristy L. Dennis be added to the agenda under new business. No other additions or deletions were requested. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the meeting agenda with the addition of the resignation of Council Kristy L. Dennis. The motion was seconded by Council Member David Ford and carried unanimously.

WELCOME: Mayor Harvey welcomed guests. Mayor Harvey announced visitors would have an opportunity to speak. He requested visitors give their names, the reason for attending and limit their comments to three to five minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey made the following announcements

- Regular Council Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.
- Several events are planned, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

LYNN ROWLAND: Lynn Rowland with Summerville Main Street stated she wanted to acknowledge Summerville Main Street. Lynn explained one of her favorite events was the recent Brag rest stop in Downtown Summerville. People came from all over for this event, and one of the riders talked about Summerville in an article on June 12 in the LaGrange Daily News. Lynn encouraged everyone to look at the Brag Facebook page and read the comments. Lynn thanked Council Member David Ford for his help. Council Member David Ford thanked the ladies for their hard work and participation.

CATHY JO WILLIAMS: Cathy Jo explained one of her most memorable events as a Main Street Member was the relocation and dedication of the Dough Boy in Dowdy Park. Cathy Jo recognized Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and Council Member David Ford for attending the dedication ceremony.

MICHAEL HALL: Mr. Hall introduced himself and explained he lives in Snuffyville and works in Dowdy trailer park. Mr. Hall reported the road is in bad shape around the area, and the trash truck is causing the road to break. Mr. Hall addressed concerns about the speeding in the trailer park and asked about the city installing a speed breaker. Mayor Harvey asked Mr. Hall to provide his contact information to City Manager Janice Galloway for follow-up. Mr. Hall explained the city would no longer pick the debris up when he trims trees in the trailer park. Mayor Harvey explained the city does not pick up for commercial property. The city will pick up for a residential homeowner, but the City Manager Galloway can provide more information on that. Mr. Hall also voiced concerns about the speed on Martin St and not being able to see the lines on the road.

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JOSEPH EUSTACE: Mr. Eustace voiced concerns about the speed and tractor-trailer trucks on Spring Creek Rd. Mr. Eustace stated he had called the Commissioner and State Patrol to voice concerns. Mayor Harvey advised Mr. Eustace that the area would be in the county, but we can pass the information along to the county.

HEATHER CASEY: Mrs. Heather Casey stated she is attending the meeting to support the new Downtown Development Authority (DDA) member, Lorraine Roberts, and any questions the Council may have about the Freedom Fest planned for July 3rd.

CINDY RIVERS MCGRAW: Mrs. Cindy McGraw with the Chattooga County Chamber of Commerce agreed with Mrs. Rowland and Mrs. Williams that Brag was a great event. Mrs. McGraw stated she is also attending in case anyone has questions concerning Freedom Fest.

ZACH HUGHES – CHATTOOGA COUNTY FAIR COUNCIL: Mr. Hughes explained he is attending the meeting to provide an update on the 2021 Chattooga County Fair. Zach announced Small Town Rumor would be doing an Eagles Tribute on Friday night, Babes Bayou and Blackstone Cherry will be the bands for Saturday night, and gospel music is in the lineup for Sunday. In addition, Zach discussed other Fair highlights, including a petting zoo, magic shows, photography, and a livestock show. Zach asked for the city's consideration in donating to the fair. Zach explained in the past, and the city had done a \$5,000 sponsorship. Mayor Harvey requested Zach send sponsorship information, if possible, for review. Council Member David Ford asked if individual advertising or sponsorship was available. Zach stated, "Sure." Council Member Ford asked if pricing was available. Zach explained they will do a large sign with sponsors' names on one sign, and the cost for that is \$100.

CITY ATTORNEY: City Attorney Albert Palmour explained Hancock Timber has requested to extend the contract on the two well sites and close on the property on August 4, 2021. City Attorney Palmour stated we were a little late getting the survey to them, and they would like time to review it.

CITY MANAGER: City Manager Janice Galloway reported \$960,273.41 in revenues and \$813,068.11 in expenditures for May. City Manager Galloway provided account balances for the restricted fund, water, and sewer fund. City Manager Galloway reported a total fund balance for all city accounts as \$4,507,333.98.

RESIGNATION OF COUNCIL MEMBER KRISTY L. DENNIS: Mayor Harvey read the resignation letter for Council Member Kristy L. Dennis, seat #3. Mayor Harvey thanked Ms. Dennis for the dedication and work she has put forth. Mayor Harvey stated at this time, Council Seat #3 is vacant. A copy of the letter is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING OF THE BROADBAND READY ORDINANCE: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the second reading and adoption of the Broadband Ready Ordinance. Mayor Harvey explained this Ordinance is needed to receive funds and to be able to work with Chattooga County on expanding broadband services.

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PUBLIC HEARING - OPEN: Mayor Harvey opened the public hearing for questions, comments, or concerns regarding the Broadband Ordinance. Mr. Eustace addressed the Mayor, asking if the Council is for concerns of the city proper, not County issues. Mayor Harvey explained to Mr. Eustace he is welcome to attend a meeting to ask questions or address concerns, and we will try to point you in the right direction. In addition, Mayor Harvey explained Ordinances would apply to the city proper, but the city has a water and gas system that extends beyond the city.

Mr. Michael Hall asked if the broadband would be for the city. Mayor Harvey explained it is a Federal effort, but the State is spearheading the program. It will focus on rural and poorly served areas.

PUBLIC HEARING – CLOSED: Mayor Harvey closed the public hearing. Mayor Harvey read the BroadBand Ready Ordinance in its entirety. Then, Mayor Harvey asked for a discussion from Council concerning the Ordinance. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the Broadband Ready Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin, which carried unanimously. A copy of the Ordinance is attached and becomes part of the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

MINUTES: Mayor Harvey stated the first item of new business is to consider approving the minutes from the May 10th and May 18th. With no changes requested, Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Council Member David Ford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVE LORRAINE ROBERTS AS A DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEMBER (DDA): Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving Lorraine Roberts as a DDA Board Member for a two-year term. Mayor Harvey asked for comments. DDA Board Member Heather Casey stated, "We are excited to have her and welcome her past experience." Lorraine stated, "I appreciate the opportunity to serve the city." Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve Lorraine Roberts as a DDA Board Member. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OATH OF OFFICE –LORRAINE ROBERTS: Mayor Harvey administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Lorraine Roberts. A copy of the oath is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

FREEDOM FEST COLOR RUN: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving a request from Dirt Design to hold a 4k Freedom Fest Color Run downtown on Saturday, July 3, 2021. Mayor Harvey requested Heather Casey to provide more information on this item. Heather explained Freedom Fest would be held in the Dirt parking lot. It will consist of live music, vendors, activities, and a color run. This event will be used to raise money for Transforming Chattooga, a non-profit organization. Chattooga County Chamber Director Cindy Rivers reviewed the route the runners will follow for the color run. City Manager Janice Galloway explained she had discussed the event with Police Chief Stan Mosley and Police Captain Harold Tucker, and they are in the process of securing help. Cindy asked if she needed to contact CERT or ask for volunteers. City Manager Galloway stated, "They need to wear safety vests." Council Member David Ford commented the biggest problem would be crossing Hwy 27. Cindy explained people would be at the red lights to be sure they use the crosswalk. Council Member Ford commented the runners could not cross unless they use the lights. Cindy explained their biggest concern is the traffic on Martin and First St. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the 4k Freedom Fest Color Run. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

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FIRST READING FY 2021-2022 BUDGET: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the first reading of the FY 2021-2022 Budget. Mayor Harvey commented the budget is balanced and commended the staff on their efforts.

PUBLIC HEARING –OPEN: Mayor Harvey opened the public hearing for questions, comments, or concerns. No questions or concerns were addressed.

PUBLIC HEARING –CLOSED: Mayor Harvey closed the public hearing. Mayor Harvey read the FY 2021-2022 Budget Ordinance. Mayor Harvey reported the budget is balanced, and he reviewed the proposed revenues and expenditures. Mayor Harvey explained the second reading, and a public hearing is scheduled for June 28, 2021. A copy of the Budget Ordinance is attached and becomes part of these minutes.

CHATTOOGA COUNTY JOINT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RESOLUTION: Mayor Harvey explained the next item of business is to consider authorizing the Mayor to sign a Resolution to adopt the Chattooga County Joint Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Harvey read the Resolution. Council Member David Ford made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Chattooga County Joint Comprehensive Plan Resolution. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is attached and becomes part of the minutes.

WILLIAM D PATTY: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve payment of \$24,883.57 to Willaim D. Patty Construction for hauling and laying asphalt. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve payment to Willam D. Patty Construction. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

BLOUNT CONSTRUCTION: Mayor Harvey stated approval is needed for payment to Blount Construction in the amount of \$7,489.54 for the 2021 LMIG. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve payment of \$7,489.54 to Blount Construction. Council Member Dana W. Mosley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

BLOUNT CONSTRUCTION: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve payment to Blount Construction in the amount of \$17,318.96 for the 2021 LMIG. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve payment to Blount Construction in the amount of \$17,318.96. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dana W. Mosley and carried unanimously.

CONSOLIDATED PIPE: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve the purchase of 16" pipe from Consolidated Pipe in the amount of \$21,635.36 for the water transmission line. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide more information on this item. City Manager Galloway explained the metal pipe is needed when crossing the creek with the water transmission line. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the purchase of a 16" pipe from Consolidated Pipe in the amount of \$21,635.36. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

PURCHASE OF 5.367 ACRES FROM HANCOCK TIMBERLAND FOR WELL SITES #3 AND #4: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to approve the purchase of 5.367 acres from Hancock Timberland for well sites #3 and well sites #4 in the amount of \$53,670. City Attorney Albert Palmour noted well sites two and three adjoin each other, and the other one, the city, is purchasing an easement for it. City Attorney Palmour asked City Manager Janice Galloway to have Public Works Director Terry Tinney contact Patrick Gibson, with Hancock Timberland, to request to extend the contract from June 18th to August 4th.

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PURCHASE OF 5.367 ACRES FROM HANCOCK TIMBERLAND FOR WELL SITES #3 AND #4 CONT: City Attorney Palmour explained the lawyers requested thirty days to review the Platt and legals. Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the purchase of well sites #3 and #4 from Hancock Timberland in the amount of \$53,670. Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) DISCUSSION: Mayor Harvey stated he would like a discussion from Council concerning the American Rescue Plan Act. Mayor Harvey explained the city had received a good bit of correspondence on drawdowns and how to do drawdowns. Mayor Harvey reported the city is supposed to get \$750,000 in the first round, but some guidelines will need to be followed. Mayor Harvey explained the money would be spent on infrastructure and improvements within the city. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Galloway provide additional information. City Manager Galloway reported the bank account is set up, and we are just waiting to hear from them. Mayor Harvey stated we will be prioritizing the needs in the next few months. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin asked if it is just certain things the money can be spent on. Mayor Harvey stated, "Yes. We have to be mindful of what we spend it on and how much." It is pretty broad, but you have to be able to justify it.

Heather Casey asked that Mayor and Council consider a Main Street Grant Application to rehab the buildings. Heather explained she has eight entrepreneurs ready to open businesses downtown if buildings were available. Lynn Rowland asked if the buildings are privately owned. Heather stated, "I'm sure that they are. Some are not. Some are for sale. In general, it could be a private or public owned application" City Attorney Albert Palmour explained the city could not use the funds for improvements on privately owned properties. However, the city could give money to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and the DDA could give out low-interest grants, but it would have to be approved.

ALCOHOL REFERENDUM DISCUSSION: Mayor Harvey explained before Senate Bill 145, a petition was required for a Referendum to allow distilled spirits sales. The petition needed a percentage of names based on the population within a jurisdiction. The Legislature changed that requirement in the last session, and Government entities and Council can now pass a Resolution to have a Referendum. Mayor Harvey explained a Referendum and a vote are still required. It just does not require a petition. Mayor Harvey requested City Attorney Albert Palmour to provide more information on this item. City Attorney Palmour explained Senate Bill 145 changed the laws in two ways; it reduced the number of signatures required to have a Referendum from thirty-five percent of the people voting in the last election to twenty percent. Or the majority of the Council can vote to allow a Referendum. It reduced the number of people and added the option of having the Council to have a Referendum. Either way, it requires fifty percent plus one of the voters to approve. City Attorney Palmour explained if the Council decides to approve a Referendum, amendments to the alcohol ordinance would be needed to provide zoning information and how many stores would be allowed. City Attorney Palmour explained his recommendation would be to allow two locations based on the size of the city. Mayor Harvey explained research would be done, and the city will work with the City Attorney. Mayor Harvey asked for comments from visitors. Michael Hall asked if that would allow package stores to open in the city. Mayor Harvey explained the Referendum would allow the citizens to vote to see if they want to allow the sell distilled spirits in the city.

Susan Locklear reminded visitors about the upcoming concert and fireworks on July 3. Gates will open at 6:30 p.m., and the concert will begin at 8:00 p.m. On July 31st, a Friendship Festival will be held, and on August 7th, a Jazz Festival will be held.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS: No comments, questions, or concerns were addressed by online or in-person guests.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK