



**CITY OF SUMMERVILLE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2022
5 pm**

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

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Harvey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Joe Money, Jr. led the pledge of allegiance.

SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS: Mayor Harvey announced the swearing-in of the newly elected officials would be held at this time. Council Member David Ford was absent.

City Attorney Albert Palmour conducted the swearing-in of Mayor Harry Harvey and Council Member Dana W. Mosley for a four-year term.

Mayor Harvey announced Council Member David Ford would be sworn in at a later time by City Attorney Palmour.

AGENDA: Mayor 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 Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

MAYORS COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey explained the next item of business is announcements and comments. Mayor Harvey welcomed visitors and requested everyone sign in, listing name, address, and reason for attending. Next, Mayor Harvey offered visitors the opportunity for visitors to address Council. Mayor Harvey requested comments be limited to three to five minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey thanked everyone for their participation in December and January events. Mayor Harvey asked visitor Earl Parris to provide information on the Christmas trees located in Dowdy Park.

EARL PARRIS: Earl explained the idea came from a town in Ohio with Christmas trees decorating their park. We thought it would be a good idea for us. Earl reported this year, there were about thirty-eight to forty trees displayed in Dowdy Park during the Christmas season. Earl commented it adds light and color to the park during the holiday and the opportunity to bring the community together. Earl thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him the opportunity to display the trees in the park.

Mayor Harvey announced the next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, February 14, 2022.

Mayor Harvey provided the current COVID case numbers and asked that everyone be cognizant of the recent surge.

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CITY MANAGER: Mayor Harvey announced City Manager Janice Galloway is absent due to sickness. Mayor Harvey reported the financial report would be available at a later time. Mayor Harvey reported Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) had completed its report concerning the drainage along Hwy 27. Mayor Harvey explained the report states it has adequate drainage for a two-year storm. Mayor Harvey explained funds are available for a ten-year storm plan. While some funds are available for a ten-year plan, it is a larger project, and GDOT and city staff is working together to see what is needed to move to a ten-year plan. Mayor Harvey reported the drainage study is almost complete, and the street department has been cleaning the city ditches and various places.

Mayor Harvey reported work continues on the water transmission line. Public Works Director Terry Tinney reported 2.5 miles of pipe had been placed in the ground. Mayor Harvey announced the permit had been issued for the freshwater well, and it would be posted for bids. Mayor Harvey noted a public hearing would be held at a later time. Mayor Harvey announced data was obtained from the Fish Hatchery meter, and the flow continues to be monitored. Mayor Harvey explained an agreement had been submitted requesting if any changes should occur to water flow, the Hatchery will have to prove the changes occurred due to the city's withdrawal of water.

Mayor Harvey reported the security cameras have not been completed. Trey Goble, IT Director, has not provided a report due to sickness.

Earl Parris asked for a time frame for the security camera installation. Mayor Harvey stated, "We are looking at those, and as soon as Mr. Goble determines what and how we need to do it, we will get them in." Earl commented the park needs them. Someone stole a Christmas Tree from the park, problems with the restrooms, and other mischiefs are going on. Mayor Harvey explained we have to consider the camera placement and type of camera not only in Dowdy Park but also in the recreation areas.

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked Terry how close the water transmission line is to the well site. Terry stated, "Probably about 5000 ft. We still have about a half of mile on Hwy 48." Council Member Money asked how long it would take to have a production well running? Terry stated, "Three to four months once they start. Hopefully, it will be up and running by the end of the year." Earl Parris asked if the city was looking to shut the water treatment plant down and just add chlorine to the water and send it out for distribution. Terry stated, "That is up in the air. The water is good quality." Earl asked if that could be a consideration. Terry stated, "It is. It could go right to the clear well and pump to the citizens." Mayor Harvey stated it's still up in the air, where and how we get it in the system.

NEW BUSINESS

MINUTES: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the approval of the minutes from the December 13, 2021 meeting. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes. Council Member Rickey Hughes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

SPENCER HOGG: Spencer Hogg, Vice President of the Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority and an affiliate of Top of Georgia provided handouts to the Mayor and Council. Spencer explained the Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority (JDA) and Top of Georgia are two separate entities that support each other. Spencer explained the Joint Development Authority is comprised of four counties and is publicly funded by those counties. Top of Georgia is housed in Walker County and is a public organization. Spencer reviewed the benefits of being a member of the Top of Georgia.

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SPENCER HOGG CONT: Spencer explained Top of Georgia is a separate entity and a 501 C 3 non-profit and is over 95% privately funded. Spencer stated several municipalities participate. Spencer explained Top of Georgia allows for more effective marketing and helps bring jobs to Northwest Georgia. Spencer explained Top of Georgia is the marketing arm for Northwest Georgia. Over the last nine to ten years, Top of Georgia has been directly involved in creating 4,000 jobs and 1.2 billion dollars of investment in real and personal property. Spencer stated we would love to partner with the City of Summerville and continue to help in any way we can. Spencer asked for questions from Council. Council Member Dana W. Mosley asked what the cost would be? Spencer stated, "We don't have a set cost. It is a partnership. Whatever you deem fit to give allows us to be more effective at our jobs." Mayor Harvey asked if the county is included in Top of Georgia. Spencer explained the counties do not give money directly to the Top of Georgia. The counties fund us via the Joint Development Authority Charter. The only government entities that are members of Top of Georgia are the municipalities, including Lafayette, Rossville, Fort Oglethorpe, Chickamauga, and Town of Trion. Council Member Rickey Hughes asked what type of financial contributions the municipalities give. Spencer stated, "I don't have that in front of me, but it ranges from \$1,500 to \$10,000." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if Summerville has ever been a member of the JDA. Spencer stated, "They would not have been a member of the JDA because that is just the four counties. But when it comes to the Top of Georgia, not to my knowledge." Mayor Harvey thanked Spencer for the presentation and stated, we will look at this and get back to you.

CHRYSAN THOMAS – AUDIT PRESENTATION: Chrysan summarized the revenues and expenditures for the general and propriety funds. Chrysan reported the water fund revenues had increased by \$716,000 due to the water rate increase, which is in line with the Carter & Sloope projections. Chrysan stated the amount that needed to be transferred to the general fund was less this year than the previous year. The full amount of the transfer came from the gas fund due to the water fund's lack of cash. Chrysan explained there is 7 million in total debt to be paid over the next fifteen years. Chrysan reported there were no findings and the only management points moving forward are the old receivables and deposits.

Mayor Harvey asked for questions concerning the audit. Mayor Harvey requested Council to review the audit information provided.

FIRST READING –FY 2020-2021 YEAR-END BUDGET: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the First Reading of the FY 2020-2021 Year-End Budget. Mayor Harvey announced the reading was advertised as required.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Harvey opened the meeting for questions or comments from the public concerning the FY 2020-2021 Year-End Budget.

Mayor Harvey read the FY 2020-2021 Year-End Budget and reviewed the changes to the revenues and expenditures in the general fund and confiscated drug fund. Mayor Harvey stated the second reading and approval would occur at the next regular meeting.

CHRYSAN THOMAS INVOICE: Mayor Harvey explained the next item of business to consider approving payment of \$11,300 to Chrysan Thomas, CPA, for audit services. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the payment to Chrysan Thomas for audit services. Council Member Dana W. Mosley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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BRENTAG MID-SOUTH: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving payment of \$6,782 to Brenntag Mid-South for aluminum sulfate for the water treatment plant. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin made a motion to approve the purchase of aluminum sulfate from Brenntag Mid-South for \$6,782. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

REIMBURSEMENT TO FLOYD COUNTY FOR POLICE OFFICE JACQUIS HUNT: Mayor Harvey announced the next item of business is to consider reimbursing Floyd County \$7,237.07 for the training of Police Officer Jacquis Hunt. Mayor Harvey stated a two-year employment contract with the City of Summerville would be required. Council Member Rickey Hughes asked if Mr. Hunt had passed his training. Mayor Harvey stated, "Yes." Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked how the city would recoup their money if Mr. Hunt left before the two-year contract was up? Mayor Harvey stated, "With the two-year contract, my understanding is it would be prorated." City Attorney Albert Palmour explained it would be the same contract Rome entered into. We would have to prepare the contract. Mayor Harvey asked Police Chief Harold Tucker if the contract had been prepared. Police Chief Tucker explained the contract had been prepared and would mirror other surrounding agencies' contracts. Mayor Harvey asked will we be reimbursed if Mr. Hunt leaves. Chief Tucker stated, "Yes, more or less." Mayor Harvey asked Chief Tucker to send the contract to City Attorney Palmour for review. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to approve the reimbursement of \$7,237.07 to Floyd County. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rickey Hughes and carried unanimously.

DRIVEWAY REPAIR-WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving payment to Randy Patty of \$6,500 for driveway repair at the wastewater treatment plant. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to approve the payment. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

RODNEY BRIGHT-BATTING CAGES: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to consider approving payment of \$28,928 to Rodney Bright Construction for the installation of two batting cages on the old tennis courts. Council Member Rickey Hughes asked if this would be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Mayor Harvey stated, "I don't know how they would work that out." A call was placed to Assistant Recreation Director Jeff Maddox for information concerning the batting cages. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if the current fencing would be removed and a new fence installed? Jeff stated, "No, we would we use the fence that is there, and additional fencing will be added to block the individual cages." Council Member Dana W. Mosley questioned if the batting cages would take up all five tennis courts or just the back two. Jeff stated, "It will just be the back two" Council Member Money asked if this was in the recreation budget. Mayor Harvey explained it would come out of the recreation budget or SPLOST. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin stated he would like to see a diagram of the cages. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to table the item. Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 to 1.

COX ROAD WATER LINE EXTENSION: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to discuss the possibility of extending the water line on Cox Rd to ten new customers with an estimated cost of \$150,000 to \$175,000. Mayor Harvey requested Utility Director Terry Tinney to provide more information on this item. Terry explained the residents had been promised a water line years ago, and they heard about the recent funding and had approached me about extending the line. Terry explained two of the customers have meters at the end of the road, but one water line crosses someone else's property, and the customer has had several leaks in the past. There are six houses on Cox Rd and a barn/apartment house, with three more homes fixing to be built.

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COX ROAD WATER LINE EXTENSION CONT: Mayor Harvey asked if we are furnishing water to the customers now. Terry stated, "Yes, the meters are located on Back Berryton Rd." Mayor Harvey asked how many feet are we talking about? Terry stated, "It is 3,600 ft." Mayor Harvey questioned if the customers were willing to provide some of the finances associated with the extension? Terry stated, "They didn't mention it. They would be glad to pay cut in fees." Council Member, Joe Money Jr, asked Terry if he would have the manpower to complete the extension. Terry stated, "I think this project would be in the future. In a year or two." Mayor Harvey stated I don't think we should do this at this time. But, we can do some preliminary figures.

WATER LINE EXTENSION FROM ECHOLS RD TO GARVIN RD: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to discuss a contribution from the City of Summerville to extend a two-inch water line to six yurts, with the possibility of twenty yurts from Echols Rd to Garvin Rd with an estimated cost of \$12,000. Mayor Harvey requested Terry Tinney to provide more information. Terry explained that the property owners asked If the city would consider contributing to a 6,000 ft of two-inch water line extension. It would require a two-inch meter that will cost the customer approximately \$2,000. City Attorney Albert Palmour asked if this would be a recreational place for people to stay in the county. Terry stated, "Yes." Mayor Harvey questioned if there would be something we could do to recover our cost within five years. Terry stated, "She is willing to pay all of it if she has to." City Attorney Palmour noted the city could make a contract and require a certain amount to be paid back in a certain period of time. Mayor Harvey requested to table the item until the next meeting. Mayor Harvey asked Terry to get additional information. Council Member Dana W. Mosley made a motion to table the item. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Zachary Martin and carried unanimously.

STORM SHELTER DISCUSSION: Mayor Harvey asked Council Member Joe Money, Jr. to provide more information on this item. Council Member Money discussed the most recent weather that had the possibility to be severe in the county. Council Member Money asked if there was a place for residents to go for shelter in case of storms. A church, city building, or a business basement for people to seek shelter? Mayor Harvey commented I am not aware of anywhere. Council Member Rickey Hughes asked if there was a fall-out shelter in the post office basement. Council Member Dana W. Mosley commented the old high school gym has a large basement. Council Member Money suggested discussing the idea with people in the community. Mayor Harvey suggested talking with EMA. Mayor Harvey asked for discussion from the public. No concerns were addressed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mayor Harvey asked for questions, comments, or concerns.

EARL PARRIS: Earl questioned, turning the tennis courts into batting cages. Mayor Harvey explained that the three upfront would remain tennis courts, and the two back courts would become batting cages. Earl asked if a committee had been put together to locate a new place for the tennis courts. Mayor Harvey explained we had that discussion and suggestions were made three years ago to find an area, and no one ever found an area, but we need to do that.

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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 6:10 p.m.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK