



CITY OF SUMMERVILLE SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 28, 2022 5:00 p.m.

CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Harvey called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Harvey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Rickey Hughes led the pledge of allegiance.

AGENDA: Mayor Harvey asked for changes to the agenda. With no changes requested, Council Member David Ford made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Joe Money, Jr. and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Harvey reported a bid opening was held for the FY 2019 CDBG Sanitary Sewer Project on February 24, 2022, and the engineers and staff are evaluating the bids. Mayor Harvey explained \$750,000 was budgeted for the project, but the lowest bid was \$1,232,825.00. Mayor Harvey announced the regular council meeting would be held on March 14, 2022. Mayor Harvey requested visitors to introduce themselves and offered them the opportunity to address any concerns.

CITY MANAGER: City Manager Janice Galloway provided an updated balance in the operating account.

NEW BUSINESS

UTILITY AID REQUEST DISCUSSION: Mayor Harvey explained the first item of business is to discuss a utility aid request from GDOT for relocation of water & gas lines on Hwy 48 due to bridge widening. As presented, the city would be responsible for \$391,688, which is 80% of the cost, and GDOT would pay the remaining 20% of the cost, which is \$97,922. Mayor Harvey requested City Manager Janice Galloway to provide additional information on this item. City Manager Galloway explained the city would need to relocate water and gas lines on Hwy 48 due to a bridge widening project that GDOT will be doing. City Manager Galloway explained negotiation had taken place with GDOT, and they are now willing to pay \$146,883, which is 30%, and the city would be responsible for the remaining 70% of \$342,727. Mayor Harvey asked, once the gas and water lines are moved, will the lines still be in the right-of-way. City Manager Galloway stated, "That is correct." City Manager Galloway explained GDOT would like an answer as soon as possible and noted the city would be responsible for the preliminary engineering cost. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if this was the bridge at Wire Tech. City Manager Galloway stated, "Yes." Terry Tinney explained the new bridge would be built on the Filter Plant Rd side of the existing bridge. They are trying to straighten out the curve, and they are currently acquiring right-of-way from landowners. The city's line will be 5 ft from the new right-of-way. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if anyone had talked with Senator Jeff Mullis. Mayor Harvey stated, "We can. They would like to have a response. They have things they want to do."

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UTILITY AID REQUEST DISCUSSION CONT: Council Member Money asked if someone would reach out to Senator Mullis. City Manager Galloway stated, "I will call him." Mayor Harvey asked for a motion concerning the utility aid request. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. made a motion to table the item. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rickey Hughes and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF THE ALCOHOL ORDINANCE: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is the discussion of the alcohol ordinance and noted everyone should have a copy. Mayor Harvey explained the changes to the ordinance would amend Chapter 4 of the ordinance. Mayor Harvey announced input is needed from the Council on the changes, and any areas of conflict need to be clear. Mayor Harvey requested City Attorney Albert Palmour to provide a brief synopsis. City Attorney Palmour explained a Referendum to allow package sales of distilled spirits passed, requiring the current alcohol ordinance to be amended. The changes to the ordinance would be to allow liquor stores with exclusions as to where they could be located, zoning classifications, the type of store, either stand-alone or in a strip mall, how many licenses are allowed, and the method of granting the license. City Attorney Palmour explained the ordinance has the standard language for the statutory prohibition from churches and schools. City Attorney Palmour noted the city's current ordinance has the least restricted distances and requirements that the state allows. City Attorney Palmour discussed other changes that are more restrictive than what is in the current ordinance. City Attorney Palmour discussed the proposed lottery system included in the proposed ordinance if more than two applicants should apply. City Attorney Palmour explained he would like a directive from Council on the zoning classification, size and structural requirements, inventory value, and license fees. City Attorney Palmour stated, if you have a lottery system, it does not look like you are giving preferential treatment to someone over someone else. City Attorney Palmour stated Council could email him with any questions about the provisions, and he would be glad to provide the answers. Council Member Joe Money, Jr. questioned if, using the lottery system, someone from out of town meeting the qualifications could be awarded a license. City Attorney Palmour explained that someone who owns the property but did not live here could make an application and be awarded. Council Member Joe Money Jr. asked if they have to own the property. City Attorney Palmour stated, "They have to own the property. Correct." City Attorney Palmour explained it should be a nice place, a nice location, visible to the public, and should be professionally run. Council Member Dana W. Mosley asked if it had to be a brick and mortar building. City Attorney Palmour stated, "We haven't really specified completely other than make a minimum of 5,000 sq ft, which is recommended, and a minimum inventory of \$500,000." Council Member David Ford asked if the 5,000 sq ft includes a storage area, not just the showroom. City Attorney Palmour stated, "You haven't completely told me. It could include a storage area, or it could not. Whatever you want it to be." Mayor Harvey stated we are looking to have something firmed up by April. City Attorney Palmour explained a public meeting would be needed, advertise in the paper, and then have a first and second reading. City Attorney Palmour stated if you come to a census on what you want, I can make the changes. Mayor Harvey encouraged Council to review the ordinance and changes that it may include. Council Member Rickey Hughes stated he would like to have a discussion at a future meeting on the possibility of establishing a downtown entertainment zone to allow open containers if purchased from the local restaurants. Council Member David Ford asked haven't we done that before? City Attorney Palmour noted in the past, a local provider served alcohol at an event in a designated area, not out of their restaurant. Mayor Harvey stated, "We can discuss this, be thinking about how it can come about."

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Mayor Harvey explained some revisions are being discussed concerning mobile homes. Both City Attorney Palmour and Code Enforcement Joey Norton are reviewing the zoning, but Council needs to make some decisions concerning mobile homes. We are supposed to have a zoning board for mobile homes. City Attorney Palmour interjected, explaining there is a zoning board/zoning board of appeals is not for mobile homes. The Council is the zoning board, and the Mayor starts the process by making appointments. Mayor Harvey explained these items will be brought before Council until we get the process set up. City Attorney Palmour stated Joey and I have been working on redoing the map, not on changing zoning. The map needs to consistently reflect the actual use the property is being used for. City Attorney Palmour explained periodically, a review is needed to see what property is being used for, and changes need to be made to the map based on what the property is being used for.

MID-YEAR BUDGET DISCUSSION: Mayor Harvey stated the next item of business is to discuss the mid-year budget. Mayor Harvey stated we will review the highlights of the budget. We will look at areas that may need to be changed. Mayor Harvey stated I would like to hold the first reading at the March meeting if we are ready.

Mayor Harvey reviewed the amended revenues and expenditures on page 5 of the budget, noting an increase in most categories. Mayor Harvey reported the FY 2021-2022 beginning budget was \$18,569,428.79, and the amended budget will be \$20,847,693.38, with most of the increase in revenues due to grants and money received. Mayor Harvey discussed the expenditures listed on the budget amendment summary on pages three and four. Mayor Harvey explained the mid-year budget includes a \$750.00 bonus for all full-time employees and a \$350.00 for part-time employees. The total amount for bonuses, including the city's portion of Social Security, will be \$71,533.43.

Mayor Harvey reviewed the FY 2021-2022, 2020 SPLOST items, pointing out the items with stars beside them have been completed, but there are still several items to complete. Mayor Harvey asked for questions or comments from the Council. Council Member Rickey Hughes asked if additional money from the American Rescue Plan would be deposited into the same fund? Mayor Harvey stated, "Yes, that is the plan right now. It was tentatively agreed to use it for the ongoing projects." Council Member Dana W. Mosley asked when the bonus would be paid. Mayor Harvey stated, "Once we do the mid-year budget. The last of March, first of April."

Mayor Harvey suggested comparing the 2019-2020 budget and 2021-2022 to see the changes. Mayor Harvey cautioned when looking at the categories, some items are seasonal and received at different times within the year. Council Member Dana W. Mosley asked if the train would be returning. Council Member David Ford explained the Tennessee Valley Railroad has a tentative schedule for Santa rides, but they are still negotiating the repair of the track with Norfolk Southern. So we might have a train in June.

Mayor Harvey noted the employee bonus would come out of each department's budget. Mayor Harvey reviewed the different department line items.

Council Member Joe Money, Jr. commended the staff on their job over the past two years.

Mayor Harvey asked for questions or concerns from staff. No concerns were addressed.

Mayor Harvey announced the FY 2020-2021 audit has been submitted to the state.

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Council Member Joe Money, Jr. asked if another meeting would be scheduled after the City Manager speaks with Senator Jeff Mullis. Mayor Harvey stated, "We are going to meet in two weeks."

City Manager Janice Galloway announced there would be a meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 3, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. concerning the downtown flooding.

ADJOURN: With all business concluded, Council Member David Ford made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Dana W. Mosley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

HARRY HARVEY – MAYOR

Attest:

ANGIE WHITE – CITY CLERK