

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF
MANNING CITY COUNCIL**

Monday, March 17, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Breedin Assembly Room
City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Johnson
Councilmember Davis
Mayor Pro-tem Gordon
Councilmember Georgia
Councilmember Pack
Councilmember Welle
Councilmember Witherspoon

- I. Welcome/Introductory Remarks:** Mayor Johnson welcomed all present and stated that the media was notified. Mayor Johnson stated that due to a delay on a return flight, Mrs. Rhodes, City Administrator, may not be able to attend the meeting. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that in the event that Mrs. Rhodes would not be able to attend the meeting, some items listed on the Agenda for discussion would have to be tabled for the next meeting. Mayor Johnson also stated that Chief Garrett and Chief McElveen had excused absences. Next, Mayor Johnson acknowledged the following:

News Media: Cathy Gilbert, Manning Times.

- II. Invocation:** Councilmember Ervin Davis.
- III. Pledge:** Councilmember Sherry A. Welle.
- IV. Approval of Agenda:**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Welle and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to approve the agenda as presented. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

- V. Minutes:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, February 18, 2008.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon and was seconded by Councilmember Welle to approve the minutes as presented. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

VI. Citizens' Comments:

Ferrellyn Bryant, 6263 Alex Harvin Hwy., Manning, SC

Mrs. Bryant stated that she maintains property in the city limits of Manning. Mrs. Bryant stated that she works with several businesses and that she is currently associated with a professional wrestling entertainment group, Christian Wrestling Alliance and that she had asked to perform in Manning.

Next, Mrs. Bryant stated that the group had agreed to perform in Manning; however, she incurred a problem in advertising the event. Mrs. Bryant stated that the company had a advertising sign mounted on a wheeled trailer that they use to advertise their events. Mrs. Bryant stated when someone attempted to apply for a permit to place the sign on property at the corner of W. Boyce Street and S. Boundary Street (with the owner's permission), they were told that the property was zoned as Office Commercial and that the temporary sign was not allowed. In addition, Mrs. Bryant stated that she had intended the sign to be placed temporarily on the property for approximately 8-10 days to advertise the wrestling event. Mrs. Bryant stated that after she was denied the permit, she had asked to place smaller temporary signs within the city limits along Highway 261 and Highway 301 and was informed that those signs were not allowed. Mrs. Bryant asked Council the reason their requests were denied.

Mayor Johnson stated that he understood that she had spoken with the city's Codes Enforcement Officer, Mr. Billy Clemmons, and the Administrator, Mrs. Rhodes who is also the Zoning Administrator and that Mrs. Rhodes had informed her that those particular signs were in violation of the zoning ordinance.

Mrs. Bryant stated that the signs would be placed temporarily within the city limits and would help promote Manning, and bring people and revenue into Manning. Mrs. Bryant stated that she did not understand why the signs would not be allowed temporarily.

Mayor Johnson stated that although he understood what she was trying to do, the Zoning Administrator was enforcing the Zoning Ordinance passed by Council.

Mrs. Bryant asked Mayor Johnson to read the Zoning Ordinance.

Mayor Johnson read section 717.5 of the Zoning Ordinance concerning signs on public property.

Mrs. Bryant stated that the signs would be placed on private property with the owner's written permission.

Next, Mayor Johnson read section 717.6 of the Zoning Ordinance concerning temporary signs.

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After further discussion, Mayor Johnson stated that he would check with Mrs. Rhodes for the reason that Mrs. Bryant's request was denied and that he would get an answer this week.

VII. Committee Reports: None.

VIII. Mayor's Report: Included in Council's packet as information.

IX. Public Hearing:

A proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to re-zone property located at 122 North Boundary Street, owned by Henry A. Lucas and Deborah M. Lucas, from General Residential-1 (GR-1) to Office Commercial (OC), Tax Map No. 169-15-08-003.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing and asked those in favor or against the proposed amendment to come forward.

Proponent: None.

Opponent: None.

Mayor Johnson brought the Public Hearing to a close.

X. Finance Director's Report:

March 2008

General Fund Unrestricted:	\$ 2,010,292.00
Total Unrestricted GF	\$ 2,010,292.00

General Fund Restricted:	\$ 57,818.00
Total Restricted GF	\$ 57,818.00

Interest Earned (GF):	\$ 3,652.00
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Utility Fund Unrestricted:	\$ 1,279,839.00
Total Unrestricted UF	1,279,839.00

Utility Fund Restricted/Reserved:	\$ 1,312,559.00
Total Restricted/Reserve UF	\$ 1,312,559.00

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Interest Earned (UF)	\$	2,574.00
Special Fund:	\$	64,417.00
Total Special Fund	\$	64,417.00

We are 8 months into the budget year which is 66% with a remainder of 34%.

REVENUE

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Percent Collected</u>
YTD GF Revenue	\$ 2,092,892	58%
YTD UF Revenue	\$ 1,275,807	72%

EXPENDITURES

General Fund

	<u>YTD Spent</u>	<u>Percent Collected</u>
Legislative	\$ 53,003.00	56%
Judicial	\$ 63,337.00	57%
Administration	\$ 258,668.00	58%
Non-Departmental	\$ 119,692.00	40%
Police	\$ 779,536.00	68%
Fire	\$ 282,206.00	54%
Street	\$ 549,101.00	56%
YTD GF	\$ 2,105,543.00	58%

Utility Fund

	<u>YTD Spent</u>	<u>Percent Collected</u>
Utility	\$ 904,186.00	51%

Mayor Johnson asked Mrs. Prince about the status of the collection of Business License fees that were due at the end of February. Mrs. Prince stated that the city has collected business license fees, but that the biggest bulk of fees would be collected by the Municipal Association in June and forwarded to the city.

XI. Administrator's Report:

Mayor Johnson stated that Mrs. Rhodes would not be able to attend the meeting. Mayor Johnson stated that if there was any action that needed to be taken for the items of discussion listed on the Agenda, then a Special Called Meeting would be held.

A) Departmental Reports: Included in Council's packet as information.

XII. Old Business:

- A. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-02M (Second Reading). An Ordinance re-zoning property owned by Henry A. Lucas and Deborah M. Lucas located at 122 North Boundary Street from General Residential -1 (GR-1) to Office Commercial (OC), Tax Map No. 169-15-08-003.**

Mayor Johnson stated that the Public Hearing was held earlier on the Agenda. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that the Ordinance was approved for first reading during the meeting held February 18, 2008 and that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the re-zoning request.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Councilmember Welle to approve the ordinance for second reading. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

XIII. New Business:

- A. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-03M (First Reading). An Ordinance re-zoning property owned by South Brooks Properties located along Richburg Street from General Commercial (GC) to General Residential-1 (GR-1), Tax Map No. 169-06-07-022 and 169-10-02-053.**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to approve the ordinance for first reading.

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In discussion, Councilmember Georgia asked if there was split usage of the property.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Planning Commission had recommended that the property be re-zoned.

Councilmember Georgia wanted clarification of the property lines.

Following further discussion, Mayor Johnson asked that Council forward to the Administrator any questions concerning the property before second reading.

There was no further discussion. All favored the motion.

B. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-01T (First Reading) An Ordinance to amend Article 6 District Regulations, Section 612: Table of Permitted Uses (Table 1) by amending Section 2.24, Subsection 2.25 to delete the operation of Churches and Related Facilities in the Core Commercial District as a Special Exception.

A **motion** was made by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon and was seconded by Councilmember Witherspoon to approve the ordinance for first reading. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Mayor Johnson asked that Council forward to the Administrator any questions they might have concerning the ordinance.

C. Funding for I-95 Water Line Extension.

Mayor Johnson stated that in the absence of the Administrator he would ask that Item C and D be tabled for the next meeting.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to table Item C & D until the next meeting. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

D. Discussion of Joint Water and Sewer Authority in Southern Clarendon County.

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

XIV. Councilmembers' Comments:

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon stated that he had concerns about several pot holes within the city limits and asked what could be done to correct the problem.

Mayor Johnson stated that those concerns would have to be directed to the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the agency responsible for the roads. In

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addition, Mayor Johnson stated any issues dealing with roads, sidewalks or ditches should be forwarded to the Administrator so that she may contact SCDOT.

Mr. Rubin Hardy stated that SCDOT had begun working on patching some of the pot holes.

Councilmember Witherspoon

Councilmember Witherspoon stated that a couple years ago Council talked about extending the sidewalk on the right side of W. Huggins Street near the Bellewood Community and asked what was the status.

Mayor Johnson stated that SCDOT had been contacted about that area as well as the area on Alfred Henry Drive along Manning Garden Apartments. Mayor Johnson stated that studies have been done by SCDOT and that Council could continue to present their concerns in hopes that they are addressed.

Councilmember Witherspoon asked if another letter can be sent to SCDOT.

Mayor Johnson stated that it would not hurt to send another letter, but reiterated that Council forward those concerns to the Administrator so that she may contact SCDOT on Council's behalf.

In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that Councilmember Georgia had been an advocate since the beginning of her term on Council for getting sidewalks along Alfred Henry Drive.

Councilmember Georgia stated that the sidewalks are a great need for the safety of the children and that the absence of sidewalks are a hazard.

Councilmember Welle

Councilmember Welle stated that she had raised concerns at the last meeting concerning the cars and the parking situation at the car dealership on Winfield Street and asked for an update.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Administrator and Police Chief would be meeting and would provide an update at the next meeting.

Councilmember Welle also asked about the status of a park in District 6.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Administrator would be looking into her concern.

Councilmember Pack

Councilmember Pack had concerns about the undeveloped lot located on Alfred Henry

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Drive, next to the Manning Gardens Apartments that needs cleaning and asked that the Codes Enforcement Officer contact the property owner.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Apartment Complex Manager should also be contacted to determine if the residents are dumping trash on the lot. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that the Codes Enforcement Officer could search the trash to identify those who are littering and cite them.

In addition, Councilmember Pack stated that the fence recently erected at the Bellwood Park looks good.

Councilmember Welle

Councilmember Welle asked about the counter offer on the building for the Public Works Department.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Administrator would report her findings to Council as soon as possible.

Next, Ms. Cathy Gilbert, The Manning Times, stated that this week is Government Sunshine Week across the state of South Carolina. In addition, Ms. Gilbert stated that she wanted to salute the City of Manning for being the most open government in the county. Ms. Gilbert stated that on behalf of The Manning Times, she appreciates the city's willingness to be so cooperative.

Mayor Johnson stated that the city understands how important it is to have a good relationship with the media and noted that the city and media work well together.

XV. Adjournment:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Welle and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to adjourn. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Time: 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daun Davis
Administrative Services Coordinator/Clerk