

**A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
OF THE
MANNING CITY COUNCIL**

Thursday, May 28, 2009
5:30 p.m.

Breedin Assembly Room
City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Johnson
Councilmember Davis
Councilmember Georgia
Councilmember Pack
Councilmember Witherspoon

Members Absent-

E=Excused/U=Unexcused:

Councilmember Welle – E

- I. Welcome/Introductory Remarks:** Mayor Johnson welcomed all present and stated that the media was notified. Mayor Johnson acknowledged the following:

News Media: Cathy Gilbert, *Manning Times*

II. Invocation: Councilmember Ervin Davis.

III. Pledge: Councilmember Clayton Pack.

IV. Discussion of the City's Health Insurance:

Mayor Johnson yielded the floor to Mrs. Rhodes.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she had reviewed information submitted by various health insurance carriers to provide coverage for the city's employees. Although their rates were a little lower, the savings would not offset the amount of funds that the city would have to put forth to leave the Municipal Association's insurance carrier. Next, Mrs. Rhodes stated that she had spoken with Mr. Harvey Mathias, Director of Risk Management Services, Municipal Association of South Carolina, and that he recommended that the city offer two plans to the employees. One would be a regular Preferred Provider Plan with a \$350 deductible, and the other plan would be a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) Enhanced program. Mrs. Rhodes stated that her goal would be to reduce the cost of dependent coverage to employees. In addition, Mrs. Rhodes stated that the Municipal Association (MASC) would need a response by June 1, 2009, whether the city would remain with them or go with another insurance carrier. If the city remains with MASC, there would be time to decide which plan the city would offer the employees.

Page 2. Minutes of a Special Called Meeting of Manning City Council, May 28, 2009.

Council discussed the following:

- The cost of dependent coverage to employees under the current plan.
- The possibility of increasing the deductible.
- How the HRA program works (which requires participating employees give a blood test and medical survey in which the MASC would pay \$300 toward the \$600 deductible).

Mrs. Rhodes stated that under the State Health Plan, the city would have to submit an application three months in advance and await approval. Participating governments must pay approximately \$626 monthly per employee for coverage, offer health care for dependents. In addition, if the city terminates coverage under the Municipal Association, two and one half months' premium (approximately \$75,000) must be set aside by the city to cover any outstanding claims that have not been paid as of July 1, 2009.

Mayor Johnson stated that Mr. Mathias had indicated could reduce the cost to the city and employees by changing from the MED 350 Plan to the MED 500 Plan with the city paying the difference in the deductible--\$150 per employee.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she would be meeting with Mr. Mathias to look at all options. Mayor Johnson stated that the proposed budget covers the current health plan as it now stands. In addition, Mayor Johnson asked the Administrator to look at all options offered by the Municipal Association and others to see what savings could be made.

V. Executive Session:

1) Public Works Department- Contractual Matter

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Davis to enter into Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter in the Public Works Department. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

After Executive Session, the following action was taken:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to authorize the Administrator to submit a bid to provide the operation and maintenance services to the Clarendon County Water System. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Following, Mayor Johnson noted that the upcoming Municipal Association Annual Meeting will be held August 6-8, 2009 in Hilton Head Island, SC. Mayor Johnson asked Council to adhere to the deadline for submitting their worksheets to the Clerk for housing reservations and conference sessions by June 15, 2009.

Page 3. Minutes of a Special Called Meeting of Manning City Council, May 28, 2009.

VI. Adjournment:

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

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daun Davis
Administrative Services Coordinator