

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of  
Manning City Council**

Monday, June 16, 2008  
6:00 p.m.

Breedin Assembly Room  
City Hall

**Members Present:**

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

**Members Absent-**

**E=Excused/U=Unexcused:**

Councilmember Pack- E

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Mayor Johnson opened the Public Hearing for the Budget of the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009 welcoming all present. Mayor Johnson stated that before the budget is passed, Council must have first reading of the ordinance, conduct a Public Hearing, and have second and final reading of the ordinance.

Next, Mayor Johnson stated that the General Fund, which totals \$3.62 million dollars, was balanced using \$103,000 from the Fund Balance and that the Utility Fund, which totals \$1.955 million dollars, was a balanced budget with a small surplus of \$191.00. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that the total revenue for both the General Fund and the Utility Fund was \$5.2 million dollars and that the budget represents a 2.9% millage increase, which equates to approximately \$24,000 additional revenue to the city. Following, Mayor Johnson stated that although the local spending caps passed by the state legislature will limit the city's ability to raise revenue, there will be no additional burden to the taxpayers and the city will continue to provide the same services within the city's budget. Mayor Johnson asked if there were any questions concerning the budget. There were none.

Mayor Johnson commended Mrs. Rhodes, the city staff and Department Heads for presenting a balanced budget that would allow the city to continue to provide services to the citizens of Manning.

Mayor Johnson brought the Public Hearing to a close at 6:30 p.m.

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Councilmember Davis  
Councilmember Georgia  
Councilmember Pack  
Councilmember Welle  
Councilmember Witherspoon

**AGENDA**

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

News Media: Chris Bullard- Manning Times.  
Bobby Baker- The Item.

- II. Invocation:** Councilmember Ervin Davis.

- III. Pledge:** Councilmember Diane Georgia.

- IV. Approval of Agenda:**

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

- V. Minutes:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, May 20, 2008.

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

- VI. Citizens' Comments:** None.

**VII. Committee Reports:** None.

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

**IX. Public Presentation**

Plaque.....Mr. Thomas James, Jr.....Recognition of Service

Mayor Johnson stated that Mr. James had submitted a letter resigning from the Zoning Board of Appeals at the end of his term which expired June 30, 2008. Mayor Johnson stated that Mr. James was not able to attend the Council meeting and that he would present the plaque to him at a later date. Mayor Johnson read the inscription on the plaque. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that Mr. James was an outstanding member of the Board of Appeals who made important decisions during his term relating to the city's comprehensive land use plans.

**X. Public Hearing:**

- 1) **A proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to re-zone properties owned by R. Joel Taylor, Richard D. Taylor and Linda E. Taylor, located at Tax Map No. 187-04-04-03- 00 from General Residential-1 (GR-1) to General Commercial (GC) and Tax Map No.'s 187-04-04-005-00 and 187-04-04-009-00 from Residential-10 (RS-10) to General Commercial (GC).**

Mayor Johnson opened the Public Hearing and asked those in favor or against the proposed amendment to come forward and complete the sign-in sheet.

**Proponent**

**Attorney William Coffey- Coffey, Chandler & Kent, PA, 8 South Brooks Street, Manning, SC**

Attorney Coffey stated that the property was located at the corner of Hospital Street and Church Street. Attorney Coffey stated that the property was currently vacant and stated that there were three parcels requesting to be re-zoned. Attorney Coffey stated that the plans for the property are to expand the medical services of the hospital. In addition, Attorney Coffey stated that he was not sure of the long range plans for the property, but that the immediate plans are to use the property for parking and to expand the hospital campus.

**Opponents**

There were none.

Mayor Johnson stated that Council had first reading of the ordinance to re-zone the property. In addition, Mrs. Rhodes stated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the request and had recommended that Council approve the re-zoning request. Mayor Johnson asked Council if there were any questions. There were none.

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- 2) **A proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to re-zone property owned by Bessie R. Parker located at 118 W. Boyce Street, Tax Map No. 169-15-03-007-00 from Residential-20 (RS-20) to General Commercial (GC).**

Mayor Johnson asked those in favor or against the re-zoning request to come forward and to complete the sign-in sheet.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that the property was located almost directly across the street from NBSC Bank.

**Proponents**

**Brenda Keels, Johnson, McKenzie & Robinson, LLC, 2 North Brooks Street, Manning, SC**

Mrs. Keels stated that she was speaking on behalf of Pam Hickman, daughter of the property owner who has power of attorney to act on her mother's behalf. Mrs. Keels asked that Council to consider re-zoning the property to General Commercial.

Mayor Johnson stated that Council had first reading of the ordinance to re-zone the property.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the request and had recommended that Council approve the re-zoning request.

Mrs. Keels stated that the property was vacant and the house was deteriorating.

**Opponents**

None.

Mayor Johnson asked Council if there were any questions. There were none.

- 3) **A proposed amendment to the zoning text to amend Article 7 Supplementary Regulations by adding subsection 727- Tree Preservation Regulations.**

Mayor Johnson asked those in favor or against the re-zoning request to come forward and to complete the sign-in sheet.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that City of Manning Tree and Beautification Board and the Manning Planning Commission had reviewed the ordinance and recommended that Council approve the ordinance. In addition, Mrs. Rhodes stated that the ordinance addressed saving all trees that are six inches in diameter breast height (dbh) within a major site development such as subdivisions over 20 lots or more and major commercial development over 35,000 square feet. Next, Mrs. Rhodes stated that the ordinance did not pertain to single family development or small subdivisions. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the intent of the ordinance is to prevent a developer from clear cutting an entire lot and destroying trees.

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**Opponents**

None.

**Proponents**

None.

Mayor Johnson closed the Public Hearing.

**XI. Finance Director's Report:**

Mrs. Prince stated that the Finance Report was for the Month of May with the exception of the bank balances, which are the totals as of June 16, 2008.

<b>General Fund Unrestricted:</b>	\$2,051,168
<b>Total Unrestricted GF</b>	<b>\$2,051,168</b>
<b>General Fund Restricted:</b>	\$ 45,462
<b>Total Restricted GF</b>	<b>\$ 45,462</b>
<b>Interest Earned (GF):</b>	\$ 3,188
<b>Utility Fund Unrestricted:</b>	\$ 799,555
<b>Total Unrestricted UF</b>	<b>\$ 779,555</b>
<b>Utility Fund Restricted/Reserved:</b>	\$1,312,564
<b>Total Restricted/Reserve UF</b>	<b>\$1,312,564</b>
<b>Interest Earned (UF)</b>	\$ 1,664
<b>Special Fund:</b>	\$ 50,584
<b>Total Special Fund</b>	<b>\$ 50,584</b>

We are 11 months into the budget year which is 91% with a remainder of 9%.

Mrs. Prince stated that although the budget this fiscal year is a little larger than the new fiscal year budget and \$295,000 of fund balance was proposed to be used this fiscal year, the city is still in good financial standing and the \$295,000 has not had to be used or transferred.

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**REVENUE  
(As of May 2008)**

	<b><u>YTD Spent</u></b>	<b><u>Percent Collected</u></b>
<b>YTD GF Revenue</b>	<b>\$2,838,806</b>	<b>79%</b>
<b>YTD UF Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,726,830</b>	<b>97%</b>

**EXPENDITURES**

**General Fund**

	<b><u>YTD Spent</u></b>	<b><u>Percent Collected</u></b>
<b>Legislative</b>	<b>\$ 70,083</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Judicial</b>	<b>\$ 90,191</b>	<b>82%</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$ 348,069</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Non-Departmental</b>	<b>\$ 192,959</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>Police</b>	<b>\$1,043,126</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>\$ 388,235</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Street</b>	<b>\$ 748,984</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>YTD GF</b>	<b>\$2,881,647</b>	<b>80%</b>

**Utility Fund**

	<b><u>YTD Spent</u></b>	<b><u>Percent Collected</u></b>
<b>Utility Fund</b>	<b>\$1,469,253</b>	<b>83%</b>

Mayor Johnson stated that Council appreciates how well the departments wisely manage the city's funds. Mayor Johnson stated that even though the proposed budget is very tight, the city normally comes under budget and is also able to provide the services to the citizens.

**XII. Administrator's Report:**

1) **Purchase of buildings for the Public Works Department-** Mrs. Rhodes stated that the closing date for the purchase was rescheduled. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the city will "pay itself back", once the city receives the funds from the Town of Summerton.

2) **Budget Transfer Requests-**

a) **New Vehicles-** Mrs. Rhodes stated that the Street Department had budgeted \$25,000 for the purchase of one street vehicle in the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the city would be able to purchase two new vehicles for a total cost of \$32,000.00. Next, Mrs. Rhodes asked Council's approval to transfer \$1,225.00 from the Street ARS Commercial line item, and \$6,200.00 from the Street Workers Comp. line item to the Street vehicle line item to cover the cost to purchase two vehicles.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Davis to approve the transfer. In discussion, Mrs. Rhodes stated that the budget for fiscal year 2008-2008 did not include any vehicle purchases. There was no further discussion. All favored the motion.

b) **Lola Clark Park-** Mrs. Rhodes stated that she had met with the Tree and Beautification Committee and the Get Weldon Going! Committee. Mrs. Rhodes stated that The Get Weldon Going! Committee would like to apply for a SC Department of Transportation Grant to enhance the lighting at the Weldon Auditorium, and install a brick walkway connecting to the Lola Clark Park. Next, Mrs. Rhodes stated that an estimate to replace the gravel in the walkway at the Lola Clark Park with cement sidewalks was submitted by the contractor currently working on the city's streetcaping project. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the estimate received was \$9,000.00. In addition, Mrs. Rhodes also stated that she had also received another estimate from another company totaling \$9,300.00. Mrs. Rhodes stated that there are enough funds within the non-departmental line items to cover the cost to install cement sidewalks. Next, Mrs. Rhodes also stated that the funds in the Lola Clark Park fund totaled \$9,000.00.

Mayor Johnson asked Mrs. Rhodes why the funds in the Lola Clark Fund would not be used.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that after meeting with members of the Tree Board, her understanding was that there was some question about the donor's intent for the use of the property.

At this time, Councilmember Welle asked Mrs. Rhodes about the status of a park in her district.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that the cost to purchase equipment for a park would be

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approximately \$100,000.00, which was not included in the budget for the fiscal year 2008-2009.

Mayor Johnson stated that although Councilmember Welle had been an advocate for a park in her district for some time, Council had decided in their budget deliberations that the funds were not available to develop a park in Councilmember Welle's district.

After some discussion, Councilmember Welle asked Mrs. Rhodes to continue to look for ways to erect a park in her district.

Mrs. Rhodes asked Councilmember Welle to meet with her to come up with a way to develop a park in her district.

Next, Councilmember Davis asked what else would be placed in the Lola Clark Park besides the sidewalks.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that the reason she suggested sidewalks in the park was that it would be to make the park more pedestrian friendly and would tie into the plans of the Weldon Auditorium.

At this time, Attorney Coffey stated that he was involved when the money for the park was given. Attorney Coffey stated that the funds were earmarked for the park and that there was a reversion in the agreement that stated if the City did not maintain the park, then the property reverts back to the donors.

Mrs. Prince stated that the funds are currently held in a Certificate of Deposit which expires October 26, 2008.

After further discussion, Council authorized Mrs. Rhodes to install the sidewalk in the Lola Clark Park using the funds in the General Fund and to replace those funds when the Certificate of Deposit set up for the Lola Clark Fund matures in October.

**4) Water and Sewer Projects-**

- 1) Franchise Extension for Hwy. 260- The application had been submitted. The Clarendon County Planning Commission would be meeting and would then make a recommendation to Clarendon County Council whether to approve the request.
- 2) Water line extension to the Town of Paxville – The PER and the Environmental Report for the USDA should be complete anytime now.
- 5) **I-95/ Exit 119 water line extension-** Mr. Hardy had been working with the engineers from the Town of Summerton and have identified a route to be used for the extension. The engineer would be meeting with property owners to get easements.

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Mrs. Rhodes stated that the water and sewer revenue should increase in the new budget year with the addition of the new water projects.

Mayor Johnson commented on the benches placed in the downtown area.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that Clarendon Memorial Hospital donated four benches to the City of Manning.

Mayor Johnson asked Mrs. Rhodes whether the Street Clock could be placed on a pedestal.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that a pedestal could be placed under the clock and that she would have the contactor working on the city's streetscape project to do the brick work around the clock.

A) Departmental Reports. In Council's packet as information.

Councilmember Welle commended Mrs. Rhodes for the great job she has done.

**XIII. Old Business:**

**A. Ordinance No. 2008- 05 (Second Reading). An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance to raise revenue and levy taxes for the City of Manning, South Carolina for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2009.**

Mayor Johnson thanked Mrs. Rhodes and her staff for their work in presenting a balanced budget. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that the General Fund Budget of \$3,264,584,000 was balanced using \$103,405 of the General Fund Balance and the Utility Fund Budget of \$1,900,000 was balanced leaving a surplus of \$191.00. Mayor Johnson stated that the budget included a \$2.9% millage increase and that the total budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 would be \$5,323,278.00.

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

**B. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-04M (Second Reading). An Ordinance re-zoning properties owned by R. Joel Taylor, Richard D. Taylor and Linda E. Taylor, located at Tax Map No. 187-04-04-003-00 from General Residential-1 (GR-1) to General Commercial (GC) and Tax Map Nos.187-04-04-005-00 and**

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**187-04-04-009-00 from Residential-10 (RS-10) to General Commercial (GC).**

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

- C. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-05M (Second Reading). An Ordinance re-zoning property owned by Bessie R. Parker located at 118 W. Boyce Street, Tax Map No. 169-15-03-007-00 from Residential-20 (RS-20) to General Commercial (GC).**  
A **motion** was made by Councilmember Georgia and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to approve the ordinance for second reading. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

- D. Zoning Ordinance No. 2008-02T (Second Reading). An Ordinance to amend Article 7 Supplementary Regulations by adding subsection 727- Tree Preservation Regulations.**

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

- E. Discussion of Council Appointments to Boards.**

Zoning Board of Appeals                      Term Expiring June 30, 2008  
Thomas James, Jr. (Replacement needed)

Mayor Johnson stated that Mr. James had decided not to serve as a member of the Manning Zoning Board of Appeals after his term expires June 30, 2008. Mayor Johnson asked Council to seriously consider a replacement for this position, keeping in mind someone who will be able to be able to take into consideration the implementation of the city's land use plan. Mayor Johnson asked Council to bring recommendations to the next meeting of those that would be willing to serve on this board.

**XIV. Councilmembers' Comments**

**Mayor Pro-tem Gordon**

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon stated that he had received complaints about the difficulty of traffic coming from Barfield Street and Depot Street to enter into East Boyce Street.

Mayor recommended that the citizens contact SCDOT about the traffic problems so that they would have a record of each individual complaint.

**Councilmember Welle**

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Councilmember Welle commented about the timers on the traffic lights coming from the beach into the city limits that do not create a break in traffic.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she would contact SCDOT concerning the traffic problems.

**XV. Executive Session**

Judicial Department: Personnel Matter.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Welle and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to enter into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter in the Judicial Department. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Following Executive Session no action was taken.

**XVI. 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: 7:45 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Daun Davis  
Administrative Services Coordinator/Clerk