

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

Monday, January 25, 2010  
6:30 p.m.

Breedin Assembly Room  
City Hall

**Members Present:**

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

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

News Media: Cathy Gilbert- *Manning Times*.  
Bobby Baker- *The Item*.

Others: Larry Williamson, Manning Zoning Board of Appeals.

- 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, December 21, 2009.**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, December 21, 2009 as presented. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

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**VI. Citizens' Comments:** None.

**VII. Committee Reports:** None.

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

**IX. Public Hearing:**

- 1) **A proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to re-zone a portion of property located at 301 Lee Street, Tax Map No. 170-13-04-039-00, owned by Jeffrey Black, from Residential-10 (RS-10) to Residential-6 (RS-6).**

Mayor Johnson asked those in favor or against the proposed amendment to come forward to speak and list their name on the sign-in sheet. No one came forward. Mayor Johnson brought the Public Hearing to a close.

**X. Finance Report:**

Mrs. Prince stated that the Finance Report was included in Council's packet as information and asked if there were any particular questions concerning the report.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Farmers Market expenditure line item was high.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that the Farmers Market expenditure line would be reimbursed through a grant and also gave Council an update on the following grant reimbursements:

- C.O.P.S. Grant- Chief Shaffer would be submitting a request for a reimbursement of \$8,000.00 which represents two months of the officer's salary.
- Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Grant- The City would be receiving a reimbursement on a quarterly basis under the police salary line item for their portion of the grant once the County's Grant Writer submits their report.
- Downtown Development- The downtown development line item will be reimbursed approximately \$120,000 once the SC Department of Transportation reviews the amended reimbursement requests that they have requested from the city.
- Clarendon County's CDBG Grant for the A&K Mulch Project- The Utility Fund has received \$13,000 of the \$15,000 the city is owed for engineering fees through this grant.
- Have Faith Community Development Corporation- \$50,000 was spend on engineering fees. This is reimbursable through the USDA.
- Paxville Water line Project- The USDA will reimburse the city for all engineering fees paid for this project.

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Following, Mrs. Prince stated that that \$324,000 was received in property tax revenue last week and noted that this figure is not reflected in Council's report. Next, Mrs. Prince stated the following:

- Total spending in the General Fund is \$2.1 million and is at 55%.
- Total spending in the Utility Fund is \$967,000 and is at 48%.

Bank Balances as of January 25, 2010:

General Fund checking account - \$973,889

Utility Fund checking account - \$456,406

Restricted Fund - \$1.1 million

Mrs. Rhodes stated that at the end of the Revenue and Expenditure Report for the General Fund and the Utility Fund, the Finance Department has listed the expenses for the big projects that Council approved to be paid out of Fund Balance - the Judicial Center Renovation, the New City Hall and the engineering fees and contractor payments for the I-95 water extension.

Mayor Johnson asked Mrs. Prince if she had any concerns. Mrs. Prince stated that right now the General Fund balance is \$1.4 million. Mayor Johnson stated that the city's expenditure level would go back to 50% once the grant reimbursements are received. Mrs. Prince stated that the city has begun receiving property tax revenues and the business license revenues would start coming in around the spring of the year.

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

**XI. Administrator's Report:**

Mrs. Rhodes thanked Council for allowing her to attend the Clarendon County Chamber of Commerce Retreat in Greenville, SC.

- 1) **USDA-** Mrs. Rhodes stated that she had spoken with Mr. Kent Evans about the projects the city is working on. He will bring a grant/loan package for all three projects at one time (Alcolu Water/Sewer line extension, WWTP Upgrade, Waterline to Paxville). This will be about \$24 million.
- 2) **New City Hall-** Mrs. Rhodes encouraged Council to visit the new location to see what is being done. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the elevator had not yet arrived and is expected soon.
- 3) **Parking Lot Funding-** The city did not get the funding for the parking lot and streetscape project for the property behind the new City Hall. Mrs. Rhodes stated that there were some feasibility concerns about obtaining lease agreements from so many property owners. The city could apply for funding through CDBG in the fall. The city

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may also be eligible for a “ready-to-go” project through CDBG because of the stimulus package. First Baptist Church has agreed to allow the City to use some of their property across the street from the new City Hall.

- 4) Ethics Forms-** Mrs. Rhodes reminded Council to complete their forms and to return them before April 15, 2010. Mayor Johnson stated that the fine for not filing on time is \$100.00 per day.

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

**XII. Old Business:**

- A. Zoning Ordinance No. 2009-06M (Second Reading). An ordinance to re-zone property located at 301 Lee Street, Tax Map No. 170-13-04-039-00, owned by Jeffrey Black, from Residential-10 (RS-10) to Residential-6 (RS-6).**

Mayor Johnson stated that the Public Hearing was held earlier on the Agenda and noted that the Planning Commission had recommended that Council approve the re-zoning request.

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.

**XIII. New Business:**

- A. Ordinance No. 2010-01 (First Reading). An ordinance to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manning, so as to increase the annual salary of the Mayor and Councilmembers.**

A **motion** was made by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon and was seconded by Councilmember Davis to approve the ordinance for first reading. In discussion, Mayor Johnson stated that this motion was made at the last Council meeting, then he was made aware that Council’s salary must be set or raised by ordinance. Mrs. Rhodes stated that the ordinance states that the salary raise would be effective the first payroll after the General Election and asked Council if that is correct. Mayor Johnson stated that it was. There was no further discussion. The vote was as follows:

**In Favor**

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon  
Councilmember Davis  
Councilmember Georgia  
Councilmember Witherspoon

**Opposed**

Councilmember Pack  
Councilmember Welle

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Therefore, the motion passed by a vote of 4 to 2.

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she would prepare information for next month's meeting for Council to decide where to move money within the Legislative Budget to cover the salary increase.

**XIV. Councilmembers' Comments:**

**Councilmember Welle**

Councilmember Welle asked Chief Shaffer for an update on the rash of crimes in the downtown area and how the statistics for the City of Manning compare with Sumter and other neighboring cities and towns.

Chief Shaffer stated that the City of Manning has had two incidents during the last month which resulted in one arrest. Chief Shaffer also stated that in December there were several break-ins in the downtown area and a suspect was arrested and charged with nine-counts of burglary. In addition, Chief Shaffer stated that there also have been reports recently of cars break-ins. The police arrested a suspect, who was later released. Once the suspect was released, the same crime started occurring again. Chief Shaffer stated that his department is working to catch the suspect. Next, Chief Shaffer stated that he is proud of the city in that the city has a small amount of incidents compared to other cities and towns.

Councilmember Welle stated that the merchants participating in the Main Street Manning round table discussions were concerned about the crimes in the downtown area and did not realize that there was an arrest for those crimes.

**XV. Executive Session:**

- 1) Personnel Matter: Consideration of Grievance Committee Recommendation.
- 2) Public Works Department: Contractual Matter.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to enter into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter in reference to a Grievance Committee Recommendation and 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 Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Davis to uphold the recommendation of the Grievance Committee. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Welle and was seconded by Councilmember

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Witherspoon that the request by Clarendon County to have rights of first refusal on future wastewater capacity be denied. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

**XIV. 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: 7:33 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

Daun Davis  
Administrative Services Coordinator/Clerk