

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

**Monday, January 23, 2006
6:30 p.m.**

**Breedin Assembly Room
City Hall**

Members Present:

Mayor Johnson
Councilmember Davis
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Gaymon
Councilmember Pack
Councilmember Witherspoon

Members Absent / Excused (E):

Mayor Pro-Tem Gordon -E

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

News Media: Sharon Haley, Item
Mike Gellatly, Manning Times

Others: Larry Williamson, Board of Appeals
Jim Darby, Executive Director, SLRCOG

- II. Invocation:** Councilmember Ervin Davis.

- III. Pledge:** Councilmember Sherry Evans.

- IV. Approval of Agenda:** A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Gaymon to approve the agenda. All favored the motion.

- V. Minutes:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, December 19, 2005. A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to approve the minutes. No discussion followed. All favored the motion.

- VI. Citizen Comments: None.
- VII. Committee Reports: None.
- VIII. Mayor's Report: Included in Council's packets as information.
- IX. Public Presentation:

Auditor's 2004-2005 Report.....Dean Richardson
 McGregor & Company

Mr. Richardson gave a brief overview of how the audit was developing. He stated that it was 60% completed and a draft would be ready by the next meeting of Council and that an unqualified opinion was expected.

X. Finance/Administrator's Report:

A. Financial Report to Council. The Administrator gave the following report:

General Fund:	Total Checking	\$1,159,327.00
Utility Fund:	Total Checking	\$1,313,250.00

Reserve Funds/Lolo Clark Memorial Park \$7,525; Capital Additions Reserve, Major Repair and Replacements are \$425,072.00 each.

Grand Total: \$3,628,173.00 (General Fund/Utility Fund and CDs)

SPECIAL FUND ACCOUNTS

CDBG	\$ 11,094.00
Victim Rights	36,975.00
Water Tower	759.00
Ditch Mapping	<u>11,736.00</u>
Total	\$ 60,564.00

<i>Interest earned in December</i>	General Fund	\$3,913.00
	Utility Fund	<u>4,434.00</u>
		\$8,347.00

B. Administrator's Report. The Administrator reported the following:

1. **Reimbursement/Police Officers.** In view of Officer Cheek's departure, the City does get a reimbursement on officers after six months.
2. **Direct Deposit.** Getting software ready.
3. **Vehicles / Fire Department.** (1) Fire Truck #7 - battery / alternator (cost: \$1 thousand); not budgeted, (2) Fire Truck #6 - transmission (cost: \$ 4 thousand); not budgeted. Will have to come back and augment budget.
4. **SCDOT.** Yellow striping of all intersections 30' through out city and First Baptist Church across from Fire Department.
5. **Sidewalk (Weinfield, Manning Garden, West Huggins and Memorial Streets.** Sent letter to SCDOT.
6. **WEB Site.** Will be up at 10:30 am, Jan. 24th at cityofmanning.org.

Following, Mayor Johnson asked to have vendor come before Council to give a presentation.

Councilmember Evans inquired if the site will have posted the approved minutes and agenda? Mr. Bjorkman responded that the Clerk will put the material on the site.

7. **LMRWA Management Plan.** The plan was presented to the Board for their approval. Technical Advisory Group is rewriting bylaws and customer contracts.
Agenda / Berkley County has applied to be a member.
8. **Million Gallon Water Tank.** Previously borrowed \$70 thousand from the Utility Fund to pay bill. Were reimbursed. Now have \$194 thousand worth of bills. Request to pay out of utility funds. These moneys will be replaced upon Federal reimbursement.

Mayor Johnson inquired if the funds were in the budget (Utility Fund Balance). Mr. Bjorkman responded that the funds were there.

Following, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to utilized funds out of the utility fund balance.

9. **Pre Construction Meeting / Painting of water tower.** Cost: \$73,470. Notice to proceed given to contractor with sixty days to complete. To place city logo on water tank located on Highway 301 is an additional cost of \$2 thousand.

Councilmember Gaymon inquired if the funds were available. Mr. Bjorkman responded that the funds were available.

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Following a **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to proceed with putting the city logo on the water tank. During the discussion, it was stated that the lettering would be black and the tank would be beige (warm sun). All favored the motion.

Next, Mr. Bjorkman asked Council if they desired to change the name on the Alcolu water tower because the current name on it reads "Clarendon."

After some discussion, Council asked Mr. Bjorkman to check with the painter on the cost.

10. **Water Main / East Boyce Street.** The road will be resurfaced. Lines need to be replaced to the north side of street, thereby reducing the cost to \$30 thousand, verse \$90 thousand to replace in center of roadway.
11. **Raccoon Road / Highway 301 - Line Replacement.** The intersection will be changed and water lines will need to be moved. This will be in another budget year and at the city's expense. In the future, comparison studies should be done on cost on any new lines and the options should be considered.
12. **Wastewater - Manning meeting with City of Sumter.** Mr. Bjorkman presented Council with four options from the Consortium, which the City of Manning needed to choose regarding the waste water involving Sumter County, City of Sumter, Town of Summerton and Clarendon County. Members were asked to make its decision independently from the other entities. Of the four options that were presented Council discussed, and considered the recommendation of the Administrator as well as hearing from Mr. Jim Darby, Executive Director of Santee Lynches, Council approved Option #2:

"To have a waste water discharge line from the City of Sumter, Pocotaligo plant on US 521, down to the City of Manning. Allowing Manning to connect with their plant to the discharge line and continue the line down SC 260 to the Santee River. Te river will be the point of final discharge. This will also include another sewer line with pump stations from Summerton/St. Paul area along the lake to include Taw Caw Creek, Potato Creek, and the Wyboo area to a new small waste water plant somewhere area the Randolph area to connect into the discharge line. This section will serve the southern part of Clarendon County along the lake where the current and projected growth is. As for the Turbeville area, which will include the new industrial park on US 527, a discharge line will be constructed down US 301 to connect with the discharge line coming from Sumter. This should cover the major areas of Clarendon County."

13. **South Carolina Federal Credit Union.** Soil stabilization - The contractor obtained a DHEC permit to control runoff and will clear the lot.
14. **Lighting.** A light will be placed at the end of Commerce Street.

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15. **Nelson Circle.** The Code Enforcement Office is reviewing the control of liter in this area.
16. **Charitable Groups / Core Commercial Districts.** A situation arose with yard sales in the core commercial area (through mis-communication). Need to know if it is Council's desire to change the current zoning.

Mayor Johnson responded that the City needed to enforce its ordinance unless Council wanted a change.

17. **Statement of Economic Interest Forms.** Forms sent out in Council's weekly packets. Due April 15, 2006.

Mayor Johnson asked Council to keep in mind that the Clerk cannot help Council prepare forms.

18. **MASC Hometown Legislative Action Day.** February 22, 2006.
19. **MASC Training.** March 2, 2006 (Hometown Network).

20. **Property Taxes.** Legislature looking at doing something with property taxes.

Mayor Johnson stated that points are being well made by the Municipal Association and that Howard Hunter of the State Chamber of Commerce did a good job explaining items during the Clarendon County Chamber Retreat. Then, Mayor Johnson asked Council to keep up with the Legislative Alerts.

- C. Departmental Reports: Enclosed in Council's packets as information.

XI. New Business:

- A. **Ordinance No. 2006-01. (First Reading) An ordinance pertaining to the municipal election process for the City of Manning.** Councilmember Witherspoon made a **motion** to approve first reading of the ordinance. Councilmember Gaymon second the motion. No discussion followed. All favored the motion.
- B. **Ordinance No. 2006-02. (First Reading) An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinance for the City of Manning Chapter 66, Utilities.** Mr. Bjorkman stated that the matter came up by notifying commercial businesses of delinquency and possible service interruption/disconnection, but did not include the *moms and pops*. Found this practice to be unfair and determined that all should be notified to be fair. Also, the City would put out a disclaimer to the effect that its not responsible for undelivered mail by the U. S. Postal Service.

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Following, Mayor Johnson inquired about the additional fee. Mr. Bjorkman responded that the City wanted to leave its option open if needed. Next, the Mayor inquired about if the information would be available on the City's WEB-site too. Mr. Bjorkman stated that the customer may not get the bill, but are still obligated. The policy can be posted on the website.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Gaymon and was seconded by Councilmember Evans to approve first reading of the ordinance. All favored the motion.

- C. Ordinance No. 2006-03. (First Reading) An ordinance to annex portions of County Tax Map #169-10-01-001-00 owned by Boom, Inc., located along West Boyce Street / South Carolina Highway 261.** Mr. Bjorkman shared that a 14' wedge was not annexed into the city. Now the property owner desired to have it annexed.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to approve the ordinance for first reading. During the discussion, Mayor Johnson inquired if it was 10% or 100% of the land owners who were petitioning Council for annexation. The Administrator was unsure. The Mayor asked him to have this information available for the next meeting of Council. All favored the motion.

- D. Resolution approving the application of Berkeley County's admission to Lake Marion Regional Water Authority.** Mr. Bjorkman stated that Berkeley said that they would buy 2.5 million gallons of water a day if they were allowed to participate. They have made application and each Council must approve Berkeley in order for it to come in.

Mayor Johnson stated that Counties have to be unanimous decision, but the County has stated that they will not vote on it.

Sumter and Turbeville have not acted on it. The County wants them to consider the other two request first. And, Dorchester has said that nobody is coming aboard until Berkeley. All favored.

- E. Discussion of use of voting machines during 2006 General Election.** Councilmember Evans made a **motion** to use the Municipal Election voting machines on election day. All favored the motion.

- F. Date for Budget Workshop.** Mayor Johnson stated that Council decided that all Department heads meet with Council on Monday, January 30th, at 6:30 pm.

Next, Mayor Johnson announced that Council had until the end of June to balance the budget and asked the Clerk to send notification in the mail to remind everyone of the workshop.

- G. Planning Commission recommendation - Implementation of the Drainage Ditch Project.** Training is required for all associated with planning. More things should be taken to the Planning Commission. The completion of the drainage ditch project was presented. The Commission said that the Council should consider the Plan and put it in the budget. The Plan can be in phases. The total cost is \$650 thousand.

Following, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to make application. All favored the motion.

Next, Mayor Johnson asked Council to set a starting time for the budget workshop and inquired time frames from each department head for scheduling.

Concluded that the workshop would start at 6:30 pm and begin with the Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works and end with the Administration Department at 15 to 20 minute intervals.

XII. Councilmembers' Comments:

Councilmember Ervin Davis

Councilmember Davis mentioned that people were ignoring the no parking and yellow lines on Church Street; however, areas including the Methodist Church and Chinese Restaurant are getting better.

Mr. Bjorkman responded that SCDOT marked areas with yellow lines, but are not going to post any no parking signs.

Councilmember Evans inquired about funeral services in the area.

In response, Mr. Bjorkman stated that SCDOT has procedures/guidelines that funeral directors should follow. The white boxes are the only places to park that are designated by SCDOT.

Councilmember Davis then inquired if an accident occurred and cones are out who is responsible.

Mr. Bjorkman responded that person who put the cones out would be the responsible party.

Following the discussion, Mayor Johnson asked the Administrator to check with the attorney to see where liability lies.

XIII. Executive Session:

Administrator's Evaluation. A **motion** was made by Councilmember Davis and was seconded by Councilmember Evans to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter with DOT, building, water lines and the administrator's evaluation. No discussion followed. All favored the motion.

No action was taken following executive session; however the Mayor stated that he would meet with the Administrator to discuss his evaluation.

XIV. Adjournment: A **motion** was made by Councilmember Gaymon and was seconded by Councilmember Evans to adjourn. All favored.

Time: 9:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary G. Adger, Clerk