

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

Monday, March 20, 2006
6:30 p.m.

Breedin Assembly Room
City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Johnson
Mayor Pro-Tem Gordon
Councilmember Davis
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Gaymon
Councilmember Pack
Councilmember Witherspoon

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
Kathy Gilbert and Brian Jarvis, Manning Times

Others: Rebecca Rhodes, Administrator, Town of Summerton
Beth Phillips, Mayor, Town of Summerton
Ellen Ardis, Councilwoman, Town of Summerton
James Darby, Executive Director, Santee Lynches RCOG
Kathy , Deputy Director, Santee Lynches RCOG
Larry Williamson, Board of Appeals
Diane Georgia, Planning Commission

II. Invocation: Councilmember Davis.

III. Pledge: Councilmember Pack.

IV. Approval of Agenda:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to amend the agenda to include a resolution for water and wastewater, a resolution for Fair Housing Month, an offer of a lot to the City, and a request of a local contractor. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

V. Minutes:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, February 20, 2006. A motion was made by Councilmember Gaymon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to approve the minutes. No discussion followed. All favored the motion.

VI. Citizens Comments: None.

VII. Committee Reports: None.

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

IX. Public Presentation

Public Presentation

**Summerton / Manning.....Rebecca Rhodes, Administrator
Wastewater Proposal Town of Summerton**

Mrs Rhodes shared with Council the need of Summerton to partnership with the City of Manning to help resolve its wastewater dilemma by creating a more regional wastewater service. Mrs. Rhodes stated the following:

- Town was under a consent order since 2002 that forbids construction of new pipelines.
- Received over \$3.7 million in grants from the United States Department of Agriculture and the Department of Commerce, but the lowest bid received so far comes around \$5.6 million (Town has until May 15 to accept or reject the offer.).
- Alternatives:
 1. Construct additional spray fields and upgrade lagoons and pump stations.
 2. Form partnership with City of Manning that will allow construction of a pipeline along Highway 301 from Manning to Summerton in order to treat extra wastewater while allowing Summerton to purchase additional capacity as well as help fund the City's equipment upgrades.

During the discussion that followed Mayor Johnson asked Council if it would give the City Administrator (Paul Bjorkman) permission to have our engineers study the proposal and costs from Manning's perspective. However, Mayor Johnson asked Mrs. Rhodes if it was reasonable for the Town of Summerton to hold the City of Manning harmless and pay the \$12,000 for the PER?

Mrs. Rhodes stated that she would have to take the information back to her council to see if the would agree to absorb the cost.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to allow the Administrator to work with Mrs. Rhodes and her attorney along with the engineer to bring back a report depending on covered the cost. All favored the motion.

Mrs. Rhodes thanked Council for their time.

X. Public Hearing:

Proposed amendment to the City of Manning Zoning Ordinance to zone property located on West Boyce Street/South Carolina Highway 261, Tax Map# 169-10-01-001-00, to General Commercial (GC).

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing; however, there were no proponents nor opponents that came forward to speak.

Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing.

XI. Finance/Administrator's Report: Mayor Johnson stated that the Administrator provided detailed weekly reports and his Administrator's Report would be shorten.

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

<i>General Fund</i>	<u>\$1,475,580</u>	Total Restricted Funds	\$ 48,241.00
<i>Utility Fund</i>	\$1,172,325.00	Total Restricted Funds	\$1,140,957.00
		Total Reserve Funds	\$ 31,130.00

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

- 1. Fraud & Abuse Policy.** Implemented a flow chart that shows procedures and would like to have it entered into the official records (attached).
- 2. Independent Grant Writer.** Next month, Mary Jo Thomas, grant writer coming from a Council of Governments background as an independent writer would be coming to write grants for the City.
- 3. Zoning Amendment / Signs.** An amendment to increase signage for large retailers.
- 4. Donald Morris / PUD.** Submitted application for PUD and will be coming before the Planning Commission next month (April).

Mayor Johnson announced that Council had a good budget workshop and look forward to having their first reading on the budget in April and perhaps the public hearing and

second reading in May. In addition, Mayor Johnson stated that the City will be utilizing a portion of its fund balance and may experience a tight year.

C. Departmental Reports: Enclosed as information.

XI. Old Business

A. Nomination of a five member selection committee to Review for Qualifications (RFQs) of responses from engineering firm on the Ditching Grant implementation of Santee Lyches Regional Council of Governments advertisements.

Mayor Johnson asked Council if they had any nominees for the Committee.

Mr. Bjorkman stated that the main task of the Committee would be to read and rank the proposals.

Councilmember Witherspoon recommended Pamela Clavon-Brunson.

Councilmember Sherry Evans recommended Larry Williamson.

Mayor Johnson recommended Kathy Gilbert.

Councilmember Gaymon recommended Janet Reed Corley.

Following, Council agreed to allow Mr. Bjorkman to check with someone from the Planning Commission to participate.

XII. New Business:

Items added to agenda: (1) Fair Housing Resolution, (2) Offer of Lot, and (3) Request of Local Contractor.

- (1) Fair Housing Resolution.** A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Evans to passed a resolution acknowledging April as Fair Housing Month. All favored the motion.
- (2) Offer of Lot (13 Harvin Street).** A **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to accept the property. During the discussion Council agreed to obtain the deed if the City was going to clear the property. Following the discussion, all favored the motion.
- (3) Request of Local Contractor.** Mr. Bjorkman stated that Mr. Morris requested for the current tap and impact fees apply now and in the future within the city.

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Following some discussion, Mayor Johnson asked Council what was their desire regarding the matter.

No action was taken; however, Council agreed that the whatever the current fees are should be charged.

- A. Zoning Ordinance No. 2006-1M. An Ordinance Zoning a portion of County Tax Map #169-10-01-001-00, approximately .072 acres, located on West Boyce Street, South Carolina Highway 261, recently annexed into the City to General Commercial. A motion was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to accept first reading of the ordinance. All favored the motion.**
- B. Zoning Ordinance No. 2006-1T. An Ordinance to amend (text) Article 7 Supplementary Regulations: Section 717 - Sign Regulations the Zoning Ordinance (in title only).**

Mr. Bjorkman stated that the purpose of amending the ordinance was to develop language to include large retail stores.

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

- C. Resolution for CDBG local match of \$50,000 for ditch clearing.**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Gaymon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to approve the resolution. During the discussion, Mayor Johnson stated that the LMI (Low to Moderate Income) Survey was \$3,000 and that if the grant was approved (if not the City would absorb the costs). Clearing and cleaning of city ditch one through five in the previous study.

- D. Discussion of a budget adjustment to fund gasoline, painting and purchasing of vehicles.**

Mayor Johnson stated that there were several items listed for budget adjustments (gasoline, painting/repairing of a wall, purchasing of vehicles, inspection of manholes in Ox Swamp and additional \$3,000 for GPS, demolition of buildings, and repairs to fire engines) and asked Council if it would approve the request to allow the line item to run over and make the necessary budget adjustments at the end of the budget year (June).

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Gaymon and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to authorize the administrator to go ahead with expenditures and do the necessary budget adjustments in June. The Mayor asked if the money was there and if it was known how much would have to be transferred at the end. Mr. Bjorkman responded favorably. Following, all favored the motion.

- E. Discussion of a budget adjustment to fund inspection of manhole in the Ox Swamp. See Item D.**
- F. Discussion of a budget adjustment to fund Fire Engine repairs. See Item D.**

- G. **Discussion of a budget adjustment to fund building demolitions.** See Item D.
- H. **Discussion of Clarendon School District Two's request to waive or discount fees for new teachers.**

Mayor Johnson stated that the District was interested in putting together incentive packets for teachers and that recruiting good quality teachers were very competitive.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Gordon to waive the connect fee of \$50 for new teachers. During the discussion, Mayor Johnson stated that the cost would be no more than \$200 to \$300 for the year. Following, Councilmember Evans inquired if it had been cleared with the attorney if it was proper to waive the fee.

Mayor Johnson responded that the fee was a fee imposed by Council and was unlike a tap and impact fee. Following, all favored the motion.

- I. **Discussion of funding for RTA.**

Mayor Johnson stated that funding for RTA was a budget item and should be consider as part of the budget.

XIV. Council Members Comments:

Councilmember Ervin Davis

Councilmember Davis inquired about the length of curbing in various locations and that it appeared to be more extreme some areas.

There was much discussion following this matter; however, Mayor Johnson stated that individuals could contact the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to voice their concerns or they could contact the City Administrator. In addition, Mayor stated that Mr. Bjorkman would be meeting with a Methodist Church Council representative.

XV. Executive Session.

- A. **Contractual and Legal Matters**
- B. **Personnel Matters: (1) Administration Department
(2) Public Works / Utility Department**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Pack to enter into an executive session to discuss a personnel matter in the finance department. All favored the motion.

No action was taken following executive session.

XVI. Adjournment:

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to adjourn.
All favored.

Time: 7:47 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary G. Adger, Clerk