

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
MANNING CITY COUNCIL**

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

Breedin Assembly Room
City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Georgia
Councilmember Pack
Councilmember Witherspoon

Members Absent:

Mayor Johnson-E
Councilmember Davis- E

- I. Welcome/Introductory Remarks:** Mayor Pro-tem Gordon welcomed all present and stated that the media was notified and Mayor Johnson and Councilmember Davis had an excused absence. Mayor Pro-tem Gordon acknowledged the following:

News Media: Eric Gould, Manning Times

Others: Todd Heldreth, Clarendon School District II
Mr. James Zimmerman, Election Commission Member
Attorney William Johnson
Larry Williamson, Manning Zoning Board of Appeals

- II. Invocation:** Mr. Larry Williamson.

- III. Pledge:** Councilmember Pack.

- IV. Minutes:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council, October 16, 2006.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to approve the minutes as presented. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

V. Citizens Comments: None.

VI. Committee Reports: None

VII. Mayor’s Report:

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon stated that the Mayor’s Report was included in Council’s packets as information.

VIII. Public Presentation:

Proclamation- Character Counts Week..... Clarendon School District II.

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon asked the Administrator to read the proclamation. Mayor Pro-tem Gordon presented the proclamation to Mr. Todd Heldreth proclaiming December 3, 2006 through December 10, 2006 as Character Counts Week through the Clarendon School District II.

Mr. Heldreth thanked Council for the proclamation and distributed to Council additional information concerning the activities that will be held during the week of December 3-10, 2006.

IX. Finance Director’s Report. The Finance Director gave the following report for October, 2006:

General Fund Unrestricted:

Accounts Receivable Checking	\$1,452,465.00
Cemetery Upkeep	\$ 9,750.00
Total Unrestricted	\$1,462,215.00

General Fund Restricted:

Fire Fund	\$ 13,611.00
Police Fines	\$ 40,180.00
Lola Clark Park (CD)	\$ 7,814.00
Total Restricted	\$ 61,605.00

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Interest Earned- General Fund:	\$ 6,766.00
Utility Fund Unrestricted:	\$1,090,620.00
Utility Fund Restricted/Reserved:	\$1,261,148.00
Interest Earned- Utility Fund:	\$ 5,015.00

Financial reports are unadjusted totals due to incomplete audits for 'FY 04/05 and 06/06. As of October 31, 2006 expenditures in all departments should be 33% into the budget year. The year-to-date balance spent for each department follows:

Legislative-	32%	Judicial-	29%
Administration-	23%	Non-Departmental-	7%
Police-	35%	Fire-	23%
Street-	28%	Utility-	28%

In addition, Mrs. Prince stated that she is continuing to assure proper assignment of account numbers, making necessary adjustments or reversals to insure proper booking of items, and monitoring expenditures in each department.

X. Administrator's Report. The Administrator gave the following report:

- **Lake Marion Regional Water Authority (TAG)** -will meet in December with agency members to discuss capacity subscription.
- **Have Faith Community Development Corporation-** have provided an itemized engineering cost. Recommend awarding \$50,000.00 to be paid to the engineer for the engineering cost.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to award \$50,000.00 to be paid directly to the engineer for their cost. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

- **Chamber Retreat-** The retreat will be held January 19-21, 2006 in Charleston, SC. Deadline for submitting registration forms is November 30, 2006. Mrs. Davis will submit registration forms by November 27, 2006.
- **Clarendon County Junior Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade-** scheduled for December 2, 2006.
- **City of Manning Employees' Appreciation Dinner-** scheduled for December 7, 2006, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- **First Community Prayer Breakfast-** will be held December 9, 2006 at 7:45 a.m. at Manning High School Commons Area. Tickets are available at City Hall,

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- Clarendon School District II and the Chamber of Commerce (free admission).
Master Plan- 65% completed. We have exhausted the city's match of \$18,500.00. Requested a transfer of \$2,600.00 from the General Fund to the RIF Account until a draw of funds from the Department of Commerce are received. As a point of information, the city has requested an obligation of \$5,000.00 from Clarendon County.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to transfer \$2,600.00 from the General Fund to the RIF Account and to reimburse the General Fund once the funds are received by the Department of Commerce. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

- **Market Analysis**- 85% completed. Currently reviewing the draft submitted.

XI. New Business:

A. Resolution to enter into a legal services agreement with Attorney William Johnson for the organization, financing, construction, and initial operation of an expansion and improvement to existing fire station facility.

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon asked Council's permission to include Item E on the agenda as part of this discussion and asked Attorney Johnson to come forward.

Attorney Johnson stated that the intention of the agreement is to provide bond counsel to sell bonds to finance the fire station project. Attorney Johnson stated that he has retained the firm of Haynesworth, Sinkler & Boyd and asked that Council authorize the Mayor and/or his designee to enter into the legal services agreement.

Following some discussion, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Witherspoon to authorize the Mayor and/or his Designee to enter into a legal services agreement with Attorney William Johnson for the organization, financing, construction, and initial operation of an expansion and improvement to existing fire station facility. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Attorney Johnson stated that the plans for the facility are to issue general obligation bonds (\$879,600) and obtain a grant (\$113,040) and a city match (\$100,000.99). However, municipalities are constitutionally limited to the amount of money that can be borrowed (8% of the assessed value). Attorney Johnson stated that based on the letters of condition from USDA Rural Development, and consultation with the city's auditor, the assessment would only allow the city to borrow up to \$704,000. Attorney Johnson stated that Council would have to either determine the source of funding or amend the scope of the project.

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Mayor Pro-tem Gordon asked Council what direction they would like to take concerning the agreement.

Councilmember Evans asked the Administrator to seek other sources/avenues of grant funding.

Mrs. Adger stated that she had contacted the architect to see if there was a possibility of scaling the project back but found that the project was at its minimal.

B. Resolution to enter into a Franchise Agreement with SCANA/SCE&G.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to enter into a Franchise Agreement with SCANA/SCE&G. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

C. Discussion of Clarendon County's request for the City to participate in a USDA Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI).

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon asked Mrs. Adger to speak concerning the request.

Mrs. Adger stated that Clarendon County has requested the City to participate in a program that would provide training for local government and non-profit agencies to increase their capacity to undertake housing, community facilities and community and economic development projects in rural areas where the median household income is at least 80% or less than the national household income.

Mrs. Adger stated that there was no cost involved to participate in this service, but authorization from Council was needed.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Pack and was seconded by Councilmember Witherspoon for the City to participate in the USDA Rural Community Development Initiative. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

D. Discussion of Holiday Leave for employees.

Mayor Pro-tem Gordon asked Mrs. Adger to speak concerning this discussion.

Mrs. Adger stated that every year it is requested that the City employees get an additional day of holiday leave for the Christmas Holiday. Mrs. Adger stated that a memo from Mayor Johnson had been distributed to Council in which he requested that December 26 be added to the holiday leave time for employees.

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Mayor Pro-tem Gordon stated that the City normally follows the state's guidelines for holiday leave time for Christmas.

After some discussion, a **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia that December 22nd, December 25th, and December 26th, 2006 be designated as the leave time for employees for the Christmas Holiday. There was no further discussion. All favored the motion.

E. Discussion of the Fire Department Building Project.

This was discussed under New Business, Item A.

XII. Councilmembers' Comments.

Councilmember Evans

Councilmember Evans stated that the street lights in the Pine Knoll subdivision were flickering and asked Mr. Rubin Hardy if he was aware of the problem.

Mr. Hardy stated that the lights belong to the developer of the property and they have been notified of the problem. In addition, Mr. Hardy stated that he would follow up with Progress Energy on the matter.

Councilmember Evans asked that she be added to the Agenda for the Employees' Christmas Appreciation Dinner which will be held December 7, 2006 to make a special presentation.

XIII. Executive Session.

- 1. Contractual Matter: Public Works Department**
- 2. Personnel Matter: Administration Department**

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Pack to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter in the Public Works Department and a personnel matter in the Administration Department. There was no discussion. All favored the motion.

Following executive session, the following action was taken.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Evans and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to waive impact fees on a small portion of Palmetto Air Plantation in lieu of impact fees being assessed on the back portion of the properties lying therein.

XIV. Adjournment.

A **motion** was made by Councilmember Witherspoon and was seconded by Councilmember Georgia to adjourn. All favored.

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Daun Davis
Interim Clerk**