

**REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, NEWBERRY, SC
August 10, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Mayor Foster Senn, Councilmember R. LeMont Glasgow, Councilmember Edwin E. Wicker, Councilmember Carlton L. Kinard, Councilmember David T. Force, Councilmember Jackie Holmes, and Councilmember David E. DuBose

Also Present: City Manager Matt DeWitt, City Clerk Jeff Wicker, Chief of Police Kevin Goodman, Director of Utilities Tim Baker, Assistant Director of Utilities David Eldridge, PRT Director Scott Sawyer, PRT Events Coordinator May Alex Kopp, City Attorney Robert Lake, audience members

Media Present: Elyssa Haven and Andy Husk

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Senn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Glasgow gave the invocation.

MINUTES:

Councilmember DuBose made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Holmes to approve the minutes of the meetings of Newberry City Council held on July 13, and July 28, 2021, as presented. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

City Manager DeWitt advised that members of City Council received a copy of the Financial Report and Financial Summary for the period ending July 31, 2021, and, noted that the report would be attached to the minutes. City Manager DeWitt gave a summary of the financial report highlighting that when comparing units sold this month to July 2020, the City saw increases in all systems.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Juneteenth Resolution from Rep. Rick Martin

Rep. Rick Martin was in attendance to present council with a resolution from the SC House of Representatives for Juneteenth. He praised the City of Newberry's efforts regarding the Juneteenth festival, highlighting Councilmembers Holmes and Kinard for their work on the committee.

UPDATE:

Municipal Association of SC Annual Meeting Update

Council attended MASC's annual meeting in Hilton Head, SC on July 22-24, 2021. Highlights of the trip included receiving the Joseph P. Riley award for the "Fiber to the Home" project. Mayor Senn also noted the presentation urging municipalities to promote the things you're successful at, hopefully being able to claim to be the world's greatest at some point. Councilmembers pointed to the City of Newberry possibly being an arts capital. Mayor Senn also noted the update on the business license and noted the City of Newberry has been ahead of the curve and has completed the process of being in compliance with the new law.

UPDATE:

Newberry Recreation Update

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Scott Sawyer provided an update for Council on the Newberry Recreation Complex and other Parks, Recreation and Tourism endeavors. He noted the master plan for the Newberry Recreation Complex is being finalized. The splash pad will remain open through Labor Day. City Manager DeWitt noted the splash pad has received over 7,700 patrons since opening in May.

PRT hopes to receive word on the LWCF grant for Wise Street Park in the next two-three months.

The ponds are taking shape at Wells Japanese Gardens. The liner is installed, and concrete has been poured.

Finally, the bathrooms at Marion Davis Park are nearing completion.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Consideration of an Outside Water Request for a Property
(TMS 399-99-2) Located on Johnstone Street**

Mayor Senn indicated that the property owner on Johnstone Street submitted a request to receive out-of-city water service. The owner has agreed to execute an annexation covenant indicating a willingness to annex the property if Council determines it is in the best interest of the City to annex the property. With the property being contiguous to the city, Council expressed a desire to proceed with the annexation process.

This property is located adjacent to an existing water line, so no bore will be required to tie the property into the city system. The customer will pay for the outside tap connection.

Councilmember Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilmember DuBose to allow out-of-city water service for the property on Johnstone Street. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a 6-1 vote of the Council members present, with Councilmember Holmes voting in opposition.

NEW BUSINESS:

**Consideration of an Authorization to Allow Alcohol in
Designated Areas of the Main Street Shop and Dine Nights**

Main Street Shop & Dine Nights are the monthly first Friday promotional nights for the downtown district. The monthly event takes place from 4pm to 9pm when Main Street is closed to vehicular traffic and open to pedestrians only.

The Newberry Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department requested permission to allow beer and wine ONLY, served and sold from inside downtown businesses with a current alcohol license ONLY, using plastic cups to be no larger than 16 ounces, to be taken from said businesses into the outdoor event area. This would allow for event patrons to travel the event area with an alcoholic beverage of beer or wine

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only, by foot, if they are carrying the allowed beverage in a plastic cup. Liquor consumption is NOT to be permitted in the event area.

The event area includes Main Street from Nance to Holman Street ONLY.

PRT staff requested approval of Council to allow alcoholic beverages to be within the event area as described above in conjunction with the Main Street Shop & Dine event nights for September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3, from 4pm to 9pm.

Councilmember Force made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wicker to approve the request. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of an Authorization to Allow Alcohol in Memorial Park for Shriner's Weekend

The Hejaz Shrine Temple will be holding their ceremonial weekend in Newberry during the month of October. This year's event will occur on Friday, October 15th and run through Sunday, October 17th. Jamie Smith is coordinating this year's event. He anticipates that 300 to 400 Shriners from all over the Upstate will converge on Newberry that weekend. The Hampton Inn and Holiday Inn Express hotels are at almost at complete capacity for the event.

The festivities will begin with a reception on Friday, October 15th in the Newberry Opera House lobby. As in previous years the Newberry Opera House will serve beer and wine inside the building. Because of the number of participants, the Hejaz have requested the ability to overflow into Memorial Park.

Mr. Smith was present and spoke of the excitement surrounding the event. He stated that the parade will be held Saturday, October 16 at 10:00 a.m., and that he is hoping for community participation.

Councilmember Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Holmes to approve the request. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Kinard made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of a discussion of matters as outlined in the agenda. Councilmember Holmes seconded and Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of the Council members present.

There was a call of the chair (Mayor Senn) to return to open session. With no objections, council entered open session.

7A- Discussion Related to Property Acquisition

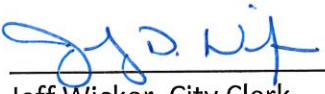
Councilmember DuBose made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Force to allow City Manager DeWitt to enter into contract to purchase property on behalf of PRT. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a 5-1-1 vote of the Council members present, with Councilmember Holmes voting in opposition and Councilmember Glasgow recusing himself. Councilmember Glasgow's recusal statement is attached to the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before City Council, Councilmember DuBose made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M. Councilmember Holmes seconded and Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of the Council members present.


Foster Senn
MAYOR

ATTEST:


Jeff Wicker, City Clerk
Newberry, South Carolina





CITY OF NEWBERRY

SOUTH CAROLINA

CITY COUNCIL

RECUSAL STATEMENT

Member Name: R. Lemont Glasgow

Meeting Date: 8-10-21

Agenda Item: Section 7A Number: 7A

Topic: Discussion Related to Property Acquisition

The Ethics Act, SC Code §8-13-700, provides that no public official may knowingly use his office to obtain an economic interest for himself, a family member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated. No public official may make, participate in making, or influence a governmental decision in which he or any such person or business has an economic interest. Failure to recuse oneself from an issue in which there is or may be conflict of interest is the sole responsibility of the council member (1991 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 91-37.) A written statement describing the matter requiring action and the nature of the potential conflict of interest is required.

Justification to Recuse:

☐ Professionally employed by or under contract with principal

☐ Owns or has vested interest in principal or property

☒ Other: The company I represent as a real estate agent
represents the seller of the property the city is purchasing

Date: 8-20-21
10- R. Lemont Glasgow
Member

Approved by Parliamentarian: F. J. Senn

"City of Friendly Folks"