

**REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, NEWBERRY, SC  
DECEMBER 8, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Mayor Foster Senn, Councilman Zebbie D. Goudelock, Councilman Thomas Louis Boyd, Councilman David E. DuBose, Councilman David T. Force, and Councilman Edwin E. Wicker, Councilman R. LeMont Glasgow

Also Present: City Manager W. A. Harvey, Assistant City Manager Matt DeWitt, Municipal Clerk Jennie O'Shields, Fire Chief Keith Minick, Finance Director Shannon Smith, Utility Director Marc Regier, HR Director Tamra Tootle, Public Works Director Mac Bartley, Police Chief Roy McClurkin, Others Present: Leslie Ammons, Sheryl Medders, George and Agnes Routon, Andy Abate, Teal Odell, Adam Teseniar, Michael Kennedy, Arnold Hiller, Ted and Bev Smith, Officer Jacob Huffstetler and family, Bob Shirey, Lisa Toland, Michael O'Connell, Boris Alvarado, Jason Stuhr, Mollie Fortune, Micah Decker and others. News representatives: Carson Lambert and Sami Truong

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Senn called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Goudelock gave the invocation.

**MINUTES**

Councilman Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Boyd to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Newberry City Council held on November 10, 2015 as presented. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mayor Senn advised that members of City Council had received a copy of the Financial Report and Financial Summary for the period ending November 30, 2015 and noted that the report would be attached to the minutes. City Manager Harvey gave a brief explanation of the financial statement highlighting a credit to the general fund for dash cameras that were returned due to unsupported technology.

## **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Mayor Senn and City Manager Harvey recognized Jacob Huffstetler for his five years of service with the City's Police Department and Leslie Ammons for his twenty years of service with the City's Public Works Department. Both received a certificate and gift selection packet commensurate with their years of service.

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

### **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**

Mayor Senn announced that for twenty-three years in a row the City of Newberry has received a "*Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting*" which is presented annually by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States to those governments that have achieved the highest standards of perfection in their accounting procedures. He stated that there are very few municipalities in the entire United States which achieve this level of competency.

Mayor Senn deferred to City Manager Harvey who presented the award to the Finance Director.

## **PROCLAMATION:**

### **Recognizing Ted Smith**

Mayor Senn presented Ted Smith with a proclamation recognizing him for his many accomplishments during his time as Executive Director of the Newberry Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Smith is retiring at the end of December 2015.

## **ORDINANCE:**

### **Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance (#2015-1012) to Amend the Rental Fees for the Newberry Firehouse Conference Center**

Mayor Senn indicated that last month Council gave first reading to an Ordinance to increase the rental fee charged for "Wedding Day Event" rentals at the Newberry Firehouse Conference Center. The increase of \$100 would make the rate for these events \$1050. It was stated that "Wedding Day Event" rentals are offered for a period of 12 hours and require more work hours for full and part-time staff, as opposed to standard rentals which include 8 hours. The "Wedding Day Event" rental fee has not increased since the building opened in 2007, but with the increase the rates remain very competitive within the marketplace

Councilman Force made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wicker to approve the second reading and adoption ordinance to amend the Rental Fees for the Firehouse Conference Center. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

**FINANCE:**

**FY2014-2015 Audit**

Mayor Senn introduced Ms. Sheryl Medders, CPA with McKinley, Cooper and Company, LLP, who presented an overview of the FY2014-2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to members of Council. She explained that the audit report format continues to reflect GASB Accounting Standards and that her firm would be issuing an unmodified or clean opinion. She highlighted to members of Council several key pages within the audit, summarized the various funds and the 2015 utility revenue bond issue.

**NEWBERRY OPERA HOUSE:**

**New Year's Champagne Toast**

Mayor Senn advised that the City had received a request from the Newberry Opera House Foundation to allow the consumption of a champagne toast in conjunction with its annual New Year's Eve celebration at midnight to welcome in 2016.

Councilmember Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Glasgow to grant the request by the Newberry Opera House as presented. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

**COUNCIL:**

**Jury List for 2016**

Mayor Senn advised that State Law requires that City Council annually approve the jury list for the City's Municipal Court. He noted that the jury list is comprised of the registered voters within the City and that the Court Clerk had requested that the list be provided to the City in an electronic format for the purpose of jury selection in 2016.

Councilmember Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wicker, to approve the jury list for 2016 from the registered voters list provided by the S. C. Election Commission. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

**RESOLUTION:**

**Newberry County Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Mayor Senn advised that Newberry County and the municipalities in the County are required by FEMA to develop a hazard mitigation plan to address the need for regulations to minimize the loss of property caused by natural events such as flooding. The adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is a requirement in order to receive financial assistance following a disaster. FEMA also requires local governments to periodically update the plan.

Councilmember Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Glasgow, to adopt the resolution as presented. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

**UTILITIES:**

**Update on Capital Projects**

Mayor Senn deferred to City Manager Harvey for an update on the Capital Projects currently underway in the city including the progress on the new warehouse on Louis Rich Road and the new clearwell.

City Manager Harvey gave an overall report then asked the Utility Director to come forward and lay out the specifics regarding all ongoing projects.

Utility Director Regier gave details on the dates for completion, bid awards to contractors and the particulars on the College Street Bridge project.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Mayor Senn advised that Mrs. Genell Ruff (Chairman) and Mr. George Burk's terms on the Board of Zoning Appeals will expire on December 31, 2015. Both individuals previously indicated that they desired to be considered for reappointment of an additional 3 year term.

Councilman Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Boyd to re-appoint Mrs. Genell Ruff (Chairman) and Mr. George Burk to the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 3 year term. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members present and voting.

**COUNCIL:**

Before a motion could be made to enter into Executive Session, Councilman Goudelock asked that the staff address some issues with the parking at the police department. The City Manager indicated that he would consult with the staff to address the issues and report to City Council at the January meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

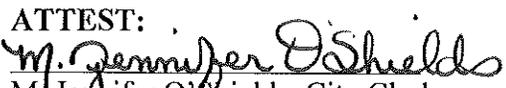
Councilman Glasgow made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a legal matter as outlined on the agenda. Councilman Boyd seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of City Council.

Following the Executive Session, Councilman Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wicker to return to open session. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before City Council, Councilman Goude-lock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 P.M. Councilman Boyd seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of City Council.

  
Foster Senn  
MAYOR

ATTEST:  
  
M. Jennifer O'Shields, City Clerk  
Newberry, South Carolina

(SEAL)