REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, NEWBERRY, SC February 21, 2017 – 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, Councilman Edwin E. Wicker and Councilman R. LeMont Glasgow

Also Present: City Manager Matt DeWitt, Municipal Clerk Jennie O'Shields, Utility Director Marc Regier, Finance Director Shannon Smith, Fire Chief Keith Minick, PRT Director Scott Sawyer, Police Chief Roy McClurkin, and Public Works Director Mac Bartley.

Others Present: Elyssa Haven, Ben Hughes, Debra Shaw, Carter Jones, Bob Jones, Rick Richardson, Michael Parker, Andrew and Kara Morris, Tim Baker, Kathy Buchanan, Kevin Whitesides, Jared Long, Liz MacDonald and others. News representative: Kelly Duncan

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MINUTES:

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Goudelock to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Newberry City Council held on January 10, 2017 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 January 31, 2017 and noted that the report would be attached to the minutes. City Manager DeWitt gave a brief summary of the financial report highlighting the increase in electric usage, while sewer usage was down and water sales were flat.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES:

Mayor Senn and City Manager DeWitt recognized Ben Hughes for his ten years of service with the City's Utility Department. Ben began his employment on January 22, 2007 and holds the position of Water/Sewer Crewmember D. Ben received a certificate and gift commensurate with his years of service.

AWARD:

Silver Palmetto Award

Mayor Senn stated that the City of Newberry was recently given the honor of being named the Silver Palmetto Award Winner for 2016. The City was nominated by the Newberry County Disabilities and Special Needs Board for the outreach of our departments, staff and elected officials to those with life-long disabilities along with participation events and creation of the all-inclusive play areas in the City parks.

Director Bob Jones, Chairman Rick Richardson and Board member Kathy Buchanan were on hand to show their support for the City.

Director Jones came forward to personally express his gratitude and highlight several employees and departments for their efforts. He gave a list of upcoming events in which the Board would be hosting and invited the public to attend.

FIRE

Special Projects Coordinator Carter Jones with the SC State Firefighters Association came forward to give an overview of the history of the Newberry Fire Department. He recognized Andrew and Kara Morris and Michael Parker for their video "In a Time of Peace, Prepare for War". He highlighted the history of the first Newberry Fire Department formed in 1877 and "Old Joe" the award winning fire horse that served the City until his retirement in 1927. Mr. Jones also spoke of the brave men and animals that selflessly served the Newberry Fire Department throughout its history. He asked that Newberry consider erecting a statue of "Old Joe."

PRT:

Irish Fling - Allowing Alcohol in Designated Area

Mayor Senn remarked that the PRT Department was requesting authorization from City Council to allow alcohol consumption within a designated area for the Irish Fling event scheduled for March 17th. He stated that the beverages would have to be in plastic event cups being provided by PRT to the merchants and the designated area boundaries would be: Harrington and Martin Streets to the North; Friend Street to the South; Livingston's Station and the old Transmission shop on Main Street to the East; and Nance Street to the west. He reported that appropriate markings would be in place to identify the area as well. He added that the PRT Department would be assisting in the advertising campaign for the participating local restaurants to provide information on the food & drink specials and entertainment offered at each location.

Councilmember Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Boyd to approve the request for alcohol consumption within the designated area for Irish Fling as presented. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council members present.

PRT:

Consideration to allow alcohol at Pork in the Park

As in past years, Pork in the Park is held the third Saturday of April. (Saturday, April 22th) from 11:00 A.M to 3:30 P.M. in downtown Newberry. The event will be coordinated by the City's Parks, Recreation and Tourism (PRT) Department.

The Newberry Chamber of Commerce requested permission to serve alcoholic beverages during the event and have them served by designated event venue staff, using pre-approved plastic cups. The beer cart would be set up on Boyce Street between Memorial Park and the Newberry Opera House. This would allow for event patrons to travel the event space with an alcoholic beverage, by foot, if they are carrying the beverage in the pre-approved plastic event cups and are wearing an over 21 wristband provided by the event organizers.

The event area includes Main Street from Nance to Caldwell Streets, Boyce Street from Nance to Caldwell Streets, McKibben from Boyce to Main Streets, and Caldwell from Boyce to Main Streets.

Councilmember Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Boyd to allow alcohol in designated areas during Pork in the Park. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Council present.

APPOINTMENTS:

Architectural Review Board

Mayor Senn advised that Sean Pomeroy, Beth Hipp and Luevester Davis' terms on the Architectural Review Board were set to expire at the end of the month. The City staff has indicated that all members have served in a respectable capacity and desired to be reappointed.

Councilman Wicker made a motion, seconded by Councilman Glasgow to re-appoint Sean Pomeroy, Beth Hipp and Luevester Davis for 2 year terms, expiring in February 2019, to the Architectural Review Board. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

UTILITIES:

Annexation Agreement - 42 Railroad Ave.

Mayor Senn reported that the property owner, Amanda Kaitlin Waters, of 42 Railroad Ave. had executed an Annexation Agreement in order to receive water and sewer service from the City of Newberry. He advised that a water line to serve the property was in place and to provide service would only require a water tap.

Councilmember Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Wicker to table the item until the March meeting. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

UTILITIES:

Annexation Agreement – 5848 SC Hwy 34-121

Mayor Senn indicated Wade Shugart, property owner of 5848 SC Hwy 34-121 had executed an Annexation Agreement in order to receive water service from the City of Newberry. He advised that a water line to serve the property was in place and to provide service would only require a water tap.

Councilmember Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilmember DuBose to accept the Annexation Agreement signed by Wade Shugart and to extend water and sewer service to the property at 5848 SC Hwy 34-121. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

AGREEMENT

Mutual Aid

Mayor Senn stated that due to recent changes regarding the authorization it would be necessary to re-execute a Mutual Aid Agreement with the Newberry County Sherriff's Department. The contract period would last for two years.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Goudelock to approve a mutual aid agreement between the City of Newberry and the Newberry County Sheriff's Office. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

AGREEMENT

Statewide Mutual Aid

Mayor Senn stated that as in years past, the City has executed the statewide mutual aid agreement which allows state resources to be utilized for catastrophic events or in the case of a state of emergency. This agreement also allows for the request of funds through FEMA and other applicable organizations based on the need. The agreement currently presented to Council is merely an update to the one already in place.

Councilman DuBose made a motion, seconded by Councilman Boyd to approve the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

RESOLUTION

Newberry County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mayor Senn commented 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 and that the adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is a requirement in order to receive financial assistance following a disaster.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Goudelock to adopt the Newberry County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried following a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

ORDINANCE

Mayor Senn offered for first reading Ordinance #2017-1001 to authorize police officers to perform off duty support to outside entities during their off hours. The City bills the entity for these services and compensates the officers accordingly. Due to the rising costs of labor and insurance, the Police Department finds it necessary to adjust the fees slightly to cover the liability and worker's compensation costs and allow officers to continue to perform these duties.

Councilman Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Boyd to adopt the first reading of Ordinance #2017-1001 to authorize police officers to serve businesses and schools during their off duty hours. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Boyd made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal matters related to security and the City Judge as well as a contractual matter related to the Utility Department as published in the agenda. Councilmember Force seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council members.

Councilmember DuBose made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Boyd to return to open session. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before City Council, Councilman Goudelock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 P.M. Councilmember DuBose seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.

Foster Senn MAYOR

A LEDI.

Jennie O'Shields, City Clerk

Newberry, South Carolina

(SEAL)