

**REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, NEWBERRY, SC  
January 21, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.**

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

Absent: Councilman Thomas Louis Boyd

Also Present: City Manager Matt DeWitt, Utility Director Tim Baker, Division Director Tamra Tootle, Public Works Director Mac Bartley, Fire Chief Keith Minick, Assistant Utility Director David Eldridge and Police Chief Roy McClurkin.

Others Present: David Eldridge, Kevin Goodman, Boris Alvarado, Liz Alvarado, Steve Coleman, Lisa Toland, Wayne Pratt Jr., Rev. James Caldwell Jr. and Patrick Shelton.

Media Present: Elyssa Haven

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**MINUTES:**

Councilman Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Force to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Newberry City Council held on December 10, 2019, 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 December 31, 2019 and noted that the report would be attached to the minutes. City Manager DeWitt gave a brief summary of the financial report highlighting the steady decrease in water receipts due to the reduction of Saluda usage and an increase in expenditures in the General Fund to help pay for a training facility for the fire department.

**UPDATE:**

**Fiber Deployment Update**

Assistant Utility Director David Eldridge gave Council and the public an update on the Fiber Network build out highlighting that Zone 3 was expected to be release for installation to the service provider by the end of February with the help of an extra installation crew. Zone 3 includes the West End area. Zone 4 is expected to be completed in the estimated timeframe of April originally presented to council.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**Fire Chief Keith Minick appointed President of the SC State Firefighters Association**

Mayor Senn announced that the South Carolina State Firefighters' Association transferred command from President Charlie King of Oconee County to incoming President Keith Minick of the City of Newberry on Thursday, January 2, 2020. The ceremony was held at the Newberry Firehouse Conference Center. Mayor Senn congratulated Chief Minick on his 18-month term as President of the Association as well as being the fifth president from Newberry. Newberry has had more presidents of the association than any other municipality in the state.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**Mac Bartley recognized by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District**

Mayor Senn announced that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the Charleston District extended their appreciation for the outstanding performance of the non-Federal sponsor's Operation and Maintenance responsibilities and cooperation with the District's Inspection of Completed Works Program. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the Scotts Creek Small Flood Control Project was a model of how commitment to regular and storm-related maintenance could help ensure the integrity of the project. City Manager Matt DeWitt said each year when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers came to visit, they were impressed with Mac's work to maintain the Scott's Creek channel widening project that began in 1988.

**UPDATE:**

**Model Academy Program through Piedmont Technical College**

Steve Coleman made a presentation to City Council on MODELS Academy, a mentoring and personal development program that addresses the social, academic, career and cultural development of African American males in elementary, middle and high school students. The group serves five counties, Coleman said to include Greenwood, Abbeville, McCormick, Newberry and Saluda, has 3387 students in the program, serving 22 schools. However, they currently do not serve Newberry County schools. Councilman

Glasgow made a motion, seconded by Councilman Force that the city support MODELS Academy and meet with Coleman at a later date to see what they could do to get the program off the ground in Newberry.

**ORDINANCE: Ordinance #2020-1001 so as to provide for amendments to the revenue and expenditure appropriations in the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget – First Reading**

Mayor Senn said that City staff saw the need to amend the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget due to various unknown factors when submitting the original budget requests. These factors included the need for public restrooms at Marion Davis and Wise Street parks, West End demolition (reimbursable through CDBG grant), several recreation complex items budgeted for the last fiscal year that carried into this year, completing the fiber project in FY2020 instead of FY2021, water/sewer line replacements on King, Queen and Devine Streets, complete substation ties down Wilson Road to eliminate delivery 2, adding a public restroom to City Hall, purchasing right of way equipment, and legal fees associated with the City of Newberry vs. Rock Hill case.

DeWitt said while the restroom at Wise Street park was originally anticipated, the one at Marion Davis Park was inaccessible to visitors and needed to be brought to ground level. Both projects are expected to be completed within the current fiscal year.

Other projects included funds for the Planning and Development department for a new property maintenance program, as the current program became obsolete unexpectedly. Also in that department, came the upfront cost for the work in the West End area to dilapidated housing. While the city is only responsible for a 10 percent match, they were asked to cover the upfront cost which will be reimbursed, DeWitt said.

In the recreation complex fund, amendments are needed to carryover costs from the last fiscal year that were not completed. The funding, DeWitt said will be coming from the Capital Project Sales Tax, however needed to be allotted in the appropriate fiscal year.

Under utilities, DeWitt said with the accelerated completion date of the fiber roll out project, amendments were needed to the current budget along with the project to complete the substation ties down Wilson Road, eliminating the city's rental of the Duke substation. Water and Sewer lines are also planned to be replaced on King, Queen and Divine Streets, DeWitt said as the County Transportation Committee will not repave the areas until the lines are replaced.

Other changes included additional legal fees due to an ongoing contractual issue with Piedmont Municipal Power Association (PMPA).

Lastly, a public restroom is planned for City Hall, DeWitt said as well as a few minor changes like the addition of plexiglass to the customer service counter. One of the building's current restrooms will be changed to a family restroom and more access will be limited to the building's hallways.

Motion was made by Councilman David DuBose and seconded by Glasgow for first reading to amend the ordinance.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilmember Goudelock made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a contractual matter related to utility billing, a contractual matter related to PMPA, a personnel matter related to a comprehensive employment study, and discussion of several appointments to city boards and commissions as outlined in the agenda. Councilmember DuBose seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council members.

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

#### **8A- Discussion of a contractual matter pertaining to utility billing**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8B – Discussion of a contractual matter related to PMPA**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8C – Discussion of a personnel matter related to a comprehensive employment study**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8D – Discussion of appointments to the Architectural Review Board**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8E – Discussion of appointments to the Planning Commission**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8F – Discussion of appointments to the Accommodations Tax Committee**

Information was received and no action was taken.

#### **8G – Discussion of appointments to the Miss Newberry Scholarship Board**

Information was received and no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before City Council, Councilman Gudelock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 P.M. Councilmember Wicker seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.



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Foster Senn  
MAYOR

**ATTEST:**

  
Elyssa Haven, Acting City Clerk  
Newberry, South Carolina



**WITNESS:**

  
Matt DeWitt, City Manager  
Newberry, South Carolina