

**REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, NEWBERRY, SC
January 10, 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, HR and Risk Management Director Tamra Tootle, Fire Chief Keith Minick, Police Chief Roy McClurkin, and Public Works Director Mac Bartley.

Others Present: Elyssa Haven, Terry Jones, Tim Baker, Margaret Brackett, Sue Hiller, Joe and Suzanne Elston, Dr. Sandra Rouse, Sean and Christina Pomeroy, Christie Gardner 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 Goudelock made a motion, seconded by Councilman Glasgow to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Newberry City Council held on December 13, 2016 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, 2016 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 of water and electric services used and the sale of unserviceable equipment facilitated by Public Works Director Mac Bartley.

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES:

Mayor Senn and City Manager DeWitt recognized Terry Jones for his retirement for the City. Terry began his employment on May 7, 1990 and held the position of Heavy Equipment Operator with the City's Public Works Department. Terry received a certificate and gift commensurate with his years of service.

PROCLAMATION:

Christina Pomeroy

Mayor Senn presented a proclamation to Mrs. Christina Pomeroy for her fundraising efforts with the Main Street Lights Campaign, noting that not only did she exceed this year's fundraising goal, but met with donors, traveled to North Carolina to personally select the 2016 Christmas Tree and signed over 400 letters for the mail campaign.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Senn announced that the City of Newberry Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department was presented with a check in the amount of \$1847.00 by Megan Grubbs and Kori Kunkle, for their efforts to benefit the all-inclusive play areas in the City Parks.

APPOINTMENTS:

Accommodations Tax Committee

Mayor Senn advised that it was necessary to fill the vacancies of two members of the Accommodations Tax Committee before the Committee convenes later this month. City Manager DeWitt stated that both Paul Ringer and Barbara Miller had agreed to serve on the committee for 2 year terms which would expire January 2019.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wicker to appoint Paul Ringer and Barbara Miller for 2 year terms, expiring in January 2019, to the Accommodations Tax Committee. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Councilmembers present and voting.

BOARD:

Miss Newberry Scholarship Committee

Mayor Senn stated that for the past two years at the Annual Municipal Association Meeting, The Miss South Carolina Scholarship Program has asked Newberry to consider holding a local scholarship pageant as part of the Miss South Carolina Program. Mayor Senn stated that staff was asked to research the program it was determined that the city could properly run a respectable program under the guidance of a committee appointed by the city.

Newberry College would be interested in joining the City's efforts to produce the Miss Newberry Scholarship program.

The plan is to have an annual scholarship pageant, starting in the fall of 2017. That winner would compete in the 2018 Miss South Carolina Scholarship pageant. Plans call for contestants in Miss Newberry to be residents of Newberry County or students at Newberry College.

Mayor Senn requested that City Council set-up a committee that will conduct an annual scholarship

pageant. A committee of interested and experienced citizens will handle the organizational duties. The funds for the program would be handled by the City's financial department raised through the committee's /ad sales and sponsors. The City of Newberry would own the local franchise. The Committee members would serve 3 year staggered terms.

Mayor Senn made a motion, seconded by Councilman DuBose to establish The Miss Newberry Scholarship Committee. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.

APPOINTMENTS:

Miss Newberry Scholarship Committee

Mayor Senn recommended that since the Miss Newberry Scholarship Committee is formally established, it would be necessary to appoint inaugural members to serve. Mayor Senn nominated Christie Gardner and Wanda Crotwell to serve 2 year terms on the committee with their terms set to expire in January 2019. Mayor Senn also nominated Margaret Brackett, Tamra Tootle and Dr. Sandra Rouse to serve a 3-year term with their terms expiring January 2020. All members would be eligible for reappointment once their term had expired.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman DuBose to appoint Christie Gardner, Wanda Crotwell (2 year terms), Margaret Brackett, Tamra Tootle and Dr. Sandra Rouse (3 year terms) to the Miss Newberry Scholarship Committee. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

COUNCIL:

Approval of Personnel Manual

Mayor Senn introduced for Council Approval recent changes that were made to the City's Personnel Handbook. One of the major changes to the policy is the introduction of a no-tobacco/no-smoking policy for all city employees and the implementation of a social media policy. He further stated that the last time the employee manual was updated in 2009 it was a good practice to review the policy every 5 years.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wicker to approve the changes made to the city's personnel policy. 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 a negotiation related to Willowbrook Park, a contractual matter related to the City Attorney, legal matters related to the City Judge and a security matter related to the Police Department as published in the agenda. Councilmember Glasgow seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council members.

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Councilmember Goudelock 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.

CITY COUNCIL:

Once in open session, Mayor Senn informed the public that during executive session City Attorney Robert Lake's contract was discussed and it was necessary to vote to renew his contract.

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wicker to renew City Attorney Robert Lake's Contract. Mayor Senn declared the motion carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.

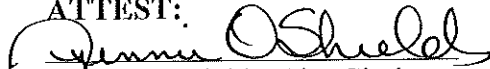
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before City Council, Mayor Senn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 P.M. Councilmember Force seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of City Council members.



Foster Senn
MAYOR

ATTEST:



Jennie O'Shields, City Clerk
Newberry, South Carolina

(SEAL)