

**REGULAR MEETING OF NEWBERRY CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, NEWBERRY, SC
December 11, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.**

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

Also Present: City Manager Matt DeWitt, Municipal Clerk Jennie O'Shields, Fire Chief Keith Minick, Police Chief Roy McClurkin, Division Director Tamra Tootle, Planning and Development Director Ward Braswell, Public Works Director Mac Bartley, PRT Director Scott Sawyer, Utility Director Tim Baker and Finance Director Shannon Smith.

Others Present: Katie Werts, Jim Headley, Barry and Bonnie Bishop, Ryan and Caroline Smith, Angela Summer, Ben Owen and others.

Media Present: Elyssa Haven

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MINUTES:

Councilman Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilman DuBose to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Newberry City Council held on November 13, 2018, and a special meeting held on November 26, 2018 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, 2018 and noted that the report would be attached to the minutes. City Manager DeWitt gave a summary of the financial report.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

Barry Bishop

Mayor Senn, City Manager DeWitt and Public Works Director Mac Bartley recognized **Barry Bishop** for his retirement from the City. Barry began working with the Public Works Department on March 17, 2008 and retired on September 21st as a Maintenance Worker.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Certificate of Financial for Excellence Reporting

Mayor Senn and City Manager DeWitt announced that for twenty-fifth year in a row, the City of Newberry has received a *“Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting”*. This award 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 and City Manager DeWitt presented the award to the Finance Director Shannon Smith.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

AWOP Award

Mayor Senn and City Manager DeWitt asked Utility Director Tim Baker and Water Superintendent Angela Summer to come forth and be presented the AWOP Award and a 16th year of Excellence Award.

Mayor Senn stated that the city was once again the recipient of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control’s (SCDHEC) award for their Area Wide Optimization Program (AWOP). He further stated that participating in and receiving the Area Wide Optimization Program demonstrates the City’s commitment to the goal of ensuring that the water delivered to the customers of the City of Newberry meets and exceeds all State and Federal drinking water standards. Receiving this award for the sixteenth-year places the City’s plant in an elite group of water treatment facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

2018 SCRPA Parks Excellence Award

The City of Newberry’s Oakland Tennis Complex was recently recognized at the “Overall Winner” of the South Carolina Parks and Recreation Association’s Parks Excellence Award for population under 30,000. This award is given to new, reinvented and revitalized parks that have shown to be exemplary. The City was recognized for the Oakland Tennis Center. The tennis center is the first of its kind for Newberry and one of the few of its caliber in the entire state. Jim Headley, Executive Director of SC Recreation & Parks Association presented the plaque to Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Scott Sawyer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

Ryan Smith

Ryan Smith, owner of Crossfit Bear Arms, has agreed to become the local coordinator for the Newberry half marathon. The half marathon (13.1 miles) began in 2013 and has used the same route since its inception. Smith aims to change the route to cover the downtown area. The event

will take place Saturday, April 27th and begin in Memorial Park and wind through the downtown district. Mr. Smith asked Council to help offset the cost of law enforcement and agreed to keep Council updated during the preparation of the event.

Mayor Senn suggested that Accommodations Tax money may be available to attract participants if the event is organized by a non-profit organization and follows the proper submission and presentation process.

FINANCE:

FY2017-2018 Audit

Mayor Senn introduced David Phillips, CPA with Greene Finney, LLC, who presented an overview of the FY2017-2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to members of Council. He explained that the audit report format continues to reflect GASB Accounting Standards and that his firm would be issuing an unmodified or clean opinion. Phillips highlighted to members of Council several key pages within the audit and summarized the various funds while stating that the Certificate of Achievement shows a level of excellence in recording and the City is in a favorable net position.

Phillips gave Council and staff recommendations and a set of goals to work towards to streamline the process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Goudelock made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a contractual matter related to the Utility Department, discussion of matters relating to the proposed location or expansion of industry in an area located within the City limits of Newberry and Discussion of appointments related to the Accommodations Tax Committee as outlined in the agenda. Councilmember Boyd seconded the motion which was carried by a unanimous vote of the City Council members.

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


APPOINTMENTS

A-Tax Committee


Councilmember Boyd made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Goudelock to re-appoint Steve Foulis (1 yr. term), Ambria Lanteigne (1 yr. term) and Paul Ringer (2 yr. term) to the Accommodations Tax Committee. Further, Frank Kelly (1 yr. term), Neville Glover (2 yr. term), Joy Sheppard (2 yr. term) and Debra Blizzard (2 yr. term) were also appointed to Accommodations Tax Committee. The motion was carried by a unanimous decision of City Council Members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before City Council, Councilman Goudelock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 P.M. Councilmember DuBose 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)