

**Minutes from January 11, 2022**  
**Hanahan Council Meeting - 6:30PM**  
**Debbie Lewis Municipal Chambers**  
**1255 Yeamans Hall Road Hanahan, SC 29410**

A City Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 6:30pm. The meeting was advertised in the Post and Courier. The agenda was posted on the City of Hanahan webpage, the City's Facebook page and a copy of the agenda was posted on the lobby bulletin board at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Mayor Rainwater presided. Council Members that were present at tonight's meeting were – Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth, Council Member Sally, Council Member Boggs, and Council Member Spurlock, Council Member Chandler & Council Member Dyson. We had a quorum for tonight's meeting.

Staff members that were present were: Mike Cochran - City Administrator, Courtney Soler – Finance Director, Bo Bowers – Fire Chief, Danny Stewart – Parks & Recreation Director, Jon Ellwood – IT, Larry Sturdivant – Building & Codes, Dennis Turner – Police Chief, Gale Dollar – Clerk of Court, Wynette DeGroot – HR Director, Allyson Driggers – Accounts Payable, and Emily Huff – Clerk of Council.

The sign-in sheet has been included with the minutes.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rainwater called the Tuesday, January 11, 2022, City Council Meeting to order at 6:33pm.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was led by Pastor Cameron Smith of Yeamans Park Presbyterian Church.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Dyson led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. **Citizen of the Month** – Mayor Christie Rainwater introduced and invited up our Citizen of the Month, Ms. Lieu Stoddard and some of her students who also were in attendance. Lieu Stoddard is well known in the community, as she oversees the Beta Club and the National Honors Society at Hanahan High School. Courtney Soler nominated Lieu for Citizen of the Month, as she has been a huge help to Courtney and the city, for many years, with her assistance in coordinating her Beta and National Honors Society students with being volunteers at our annual Red, White, and Blue Festival. The students that she refers us are top notch and so very polite and helpful. They are willing and eager to help at the different booths, jump castles, and the concession stand throughout the day. They help everything run smoothly. This year, the Red, White and Blue Festival had to have some activities cancelled due to inclement weather. The cancellations meant that we would not need Lieu and her students this

year. Instead of her students just having a free day, or waiting until the following year to help again, they took it upon themselves, and hand wrote thank you cards to each of our Hanahan Veterans, that we would have recognized at the festival. Those handwritten letters were then mailed to each of the Veterans. We thought that was such a sweet gesture on their part and we thanked Lieu and her students. A certificate of appreciation and a gift card was presented, and pictures were taken with Council.

2. **Employee of the Month** – Mayor Rainwater asked for Mike Cochran, City Administrator and Police Chief Turner to come up so they could recognize and award the January 2022 Employee of the Month, Officer Johnny Knight. Officer Knight was nominated by Chief Turner and Mike Cochran, as he facilitated the “Shop with a Cop” program last month, which is a program to help give under-privileged children an enjoyable Christmas. Officer Knight solicited donations from area businesses and with assistance from the community, he was able to raise nearly \$6K. In turn, we were able to provide the kids with a breakfast at the Exchange Club and then the children were taken to Target, where they were able to “Shop with a Cop” and purchase \$400 of whatever they wished. Chief Turner said that the two Elementary Principals also came to shop with the children. Chief Turner said that some of the children picked out gifts for their family members, who may not have had any gifts otherwise. He said it is so humbling to watch them. They were also able to give each family a \$250 gift card for groceries at Piggly Wiggly. This was the first time in the agency’s history, that they were able to provide this. A certificate of appreciation and a gift card was presented, and pictures were taken with Council.
  
3. **National School Choice Week Proclamation** – Mayor Rainwater called on Council Member Spurlock to read the National School Choice Week Proclamation. The Proclamation stated that all children in Hanahan should have access to the highest-quality education possible. Hanahan recognizes the important role that an effective education plays in preparing all students to be successful adults. Quality education is critically important to the economic vitality of Hanahan. Hanahan is home to a multitude of high-quality public and nonpublic schools, from which parents can choose, in addition to families who educate their children in the home. Educational variety not only helps to diversify our economy, but also enhances the vibrancy of our community. Hanahan has many high-quality teaching professionals in all types of school settings who are committed to educating our children. School Choice Week is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, schools and organizations to raise awareness of the need for effective educational options. January 23-29, 2022, will be recognized as National School Choice Week, in the City of Hanahan.
  - *A motion to approve National School Choice Week Proclamation, was made by Council Member Sally.*
  - *A second was made by Council Member Boggs.*
  - *There was no further discussion.*
  - *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no citizen comments.

There were no comments/questions that were submitted online either. There being no further input, Mayor Rainwater closed this segment of the meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent Agenda items are adopted with a single motion, second, and a vote unless a request for removal is heard from a Council Member. Items on the January 11, 2022, Consent Agenda were:

1. Approval of the Minutes from the December 14, 2021, City Council Meeting
2. Approval for Emergency Trash Truck (2009 Freightliner Truck) Repair by Palmetto Quick Repair (suspension and DPF system repair, in the amount of \$10,714.77).
  - *A motion to approve the items on the January 11, 2022, Consent Agenda, was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
  - *A second was made by Council Member Spurlock.*
  - *Council Member Sally asked Joe Gill, Public Works Director what the issue was with the trash truck, to which Joe Gill replied, a diesel part failed on the 2009 truck and needed repair.*
  - *There was no further discussion.*
  - *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Rainwater asked Courtney Soler, Finance Director and Mike Cochran, City Administrator to come up for the Second Reading of Ordinance **#7-2021** – An Ordinance Amending the City of Hanahan’s Budget for FY 2021-2022 (Amendment #1). There weren’t any questions or comments from Council.
  - *A motion to approve the Second Reading of **Ordinance #7-2021** – An Ordinance Amending the City of Hanahan’s Budget for FY 2021-2022 (Amendment #1), was made by Council Member Sally.*
  - *A second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
  - *There was no further discussion.*  
*The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

2. Mike Cochran remained up front for the Second Reading of **Ordinance #8-2021** – An Ordinance Providing Emergency Procedures for Public Meetings of the City of Hanahan During the Continuance of the Coronavirus Epidemic. Mike Cochran, City Administrator stated that this is the Ordinance that we had earlier in the year, that expired. We are just trying to be proactive with the new Variant and with the recent uptick in the Coronavirus. This will allow us and other boards the ability to host emergency meetings if necessary. This Ordinance was previously #10-2020, which expired in May 2021. The only changes to it are the numbering from #10-2020 to #8-2021 and the dates. This new Ordinance is good for 60 days, starting today (December 12, 2021) and we will keep it on the agenda, so it doesn't expire again. There weren't any questions or comments from Council.

- *A motion to approve the Second First Reading of **Ordinance #8-2021** - An Ordinance Providing Emergency Procedures for Public Meetings of the City of Hanahan During the Continuance of the Coronavirus Epidemic, was made by Council Member Sally.*
- *A second was made by Council Member Chandler.*
- *There was no further discussion.*
- *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Rainwater then introduced and invited up David Irwin of Mauldin & Jenkins CPA for his Financial Presentation/ Audit Report for the City. David said that this is their first year working with us and looks forward to it.

### Overview of Financial Statements

#### City's Financial Statements Include Three (3) Components

- Government-Wide Financial Statements
  - Provides board view of City's operations
  - Both of City's funds are combined under a Governmental Activities column.
- Fund Level Financial Statements
  - What you typically see throughout the year
  - Focuses on individual funds of the City
  - Reports City's operations in more detail
- Notes to the Financial Statements
  - Disclose City's accounting methods
  - Provides expanded explanation of operational and financial results

Government Wide Financial Statements

- \$55 Million = total assets and deferred outflows
- \$19.5 Million = capital assets, net of A/D
- \$34 Million = total liabilities and deferred inflows
- \$21 Million = net position (*or equity*)
- \$15.1 Million = revenues
- \$13.6 Million = expenses
- Increase in Net Position of \$1.5M vs \$1.3M decrease in PY

General Fund Revenue – Fiscal Year Ended June 20, 2021

- Taxes 6,863,549
- Intergovernmental 1,689,583
- Licenses & Permits 2,415,141
- Charges for Services 1,098,362
- Misc. 23,746
- Interest 12,076

General Fund Expenditures – Fiscal Year Ended June 20, 2021

- General Government 4,023,045
- Public Works 1,284,000
- Public Safety 4,537,698
- Recreation & Parks 1,225,123
- Debt Service 106,042
- Capital Outlay 1,155,560

Required Communications

- Clean Opinion and No Audit Findings
- No Difficulties in Dealing with Management
- No Disagreements with Management
- No Uncorrected Misstatements
- We are Independent of the City as required by Government Auditing Standards

In closing Mr. Irwin praised Courtney and her team for their diligence and accommodating their needs. He said that there were no audit findings to report. He was happy to say that they are giving a clean, unmodified opinion.

- Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth asked what the City's percentage was for Public Safety and David Irwin replied, 37%, in comparison to other cities at 45%. He said that was great.
- Mayor Rainwater thanked Courtney and her team, as well as the Department Heads for all of their hard work on the audit. She praised them for such an amazing audit report.

## **REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

### **A. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

1. Stephen Allen – 5736 Oleander Drive – Said that his street did receive a makeshift street sign. It's a handmade sign duct taped to a Stop sign pole. Mike Cochran, City Administrator said that their new street sign has been ordered and SCDOT has a work order on this already. The city did not make or post that sign, so we assume a neighbor on that street did so. Additionally, Stephen wished to express his concern about his drainage. He said that he had an issue with his hot water heater a few weeks ago and when he took the expansion tank off the pipe, there was rust buildup and it was in his water. Mike Cochran replied that Charleston Water System owns that, so that would be for them to address. Fire Chief Bowers chimed in and said that there will always be some rust in the water, in every pipe. He said that they do fire hydrant testing yearly on each hydrant in the city and that is a common occurrence. He said to always run your water to flush it. Stephen stated that he doesn't even have a hydrant on his street, to which Chief Bowers replied there is a hydrant within 1,000ft and their hose adds another 200ft.

There were no additional citizen comments/questions.

### **B. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mike Cochran, City Administrator then presented his monthly report.

1. **Flooding at Turkey Creek** – The grant through the SC Emergency Management Division received pre-approval and staff is working on the final application.
2. **Downtown Revitalization** – The holidays slowed the removal of the pole attachments. I have met with Dominion, Wow, and Comcast on site and additional lines need to be removed. This is in queue but in progress.
3. **Phase 3 Tanner Trail** – This is awaiting the COG reallocation of funding for SCDOT projects not completed. Last month the COG expected to have the information by the end of December, and it has not happened yet. Our COG liaison has not received the information back yet.
4. **Parks Bond** –
  - 53-Acre Park** – This is progressing on schedule. We meet with the project crew regularly to go over the progress. Lights are being put up this week.
  - Steward Street Park** – Permits have been applied for and we are meeting with the architect tomorrow. This is moving forward.
  - Manor Park** – Slide is installed and being used. Fall surface material has been installed.
  - Roma Park** – The frames are in, awaiting the seats themselves. Fall surface material has been installed. Swings are being installed this week.
  - Spell Field** – The playground equipment has been installed. Fall surface material has been installed. Swings are being installed this week.

**5. COVID** – The Fire Department continues to operate the Covid Clinic Monday – Friday 8:30am-3:30pm. The reason they only operate those days/hours is because they must have the tests shipped off for the results, via FedEx daily by 3:30. The lab where the tests are run, only operates Monday-Friday as well.

- Staff is getting the necessary documents together so that we can get the bathroom and fountain renovations and upgrades in queue.

**6. CSX** – After last week’s issue with the train blocking Hanahan Road, Mike Cochran spoke with the county on having a camera put up at the library that points to the tracks. This will feed to the web so that people can see if the tracks are blocked. This should be done this week. The WAZE app now notifies users of RR tracks, and the idea is to get RR closure information fed to the app service as well. We will start with the webcam concept.

Notes/Dates:

- City offices will be closed on Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.
- City Council Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, January 22, 2022, at 9:00am.
- Our next regular monthly City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 6:30pm.
- Our next Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 6:30pm.

### **C. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Council Member Sally said that he thinks the WAZE app idea is cute, but it isn’t an answer or a fix to the problem. He went on to say that this isn’t a new issue. He thinks that we should arrest the train engineers who keep stopping on the tracks or boot the tracks. His other idea was to put up signs with CSX John Dillard’s phone number and tell people to call him, if the train doesn’t move within its 15-minute timeframe. Council Member Sally said that he doesn’t feel that we ever get anywhere with John Dillard of CSX. He says what you want to hear while you’re on the phone, but then that’s it. Nothing ever comes of his conversations.
- Mayor Rainwater asked for an estimate on when we will break ground for Steward. Mike Cochran replied June 30 award bid, so he thinks probably May or June for the groundbreaking event.
- Mayor Rainwater asked if we could do another social media post for our COVID Clinic hours/info. She also asked with the recent uptick, is there a way that we can do COVID testing on the weekends as well. Chief Bowers replied no, we can’t. Once we take the test, they must be submitted within 24-hours of taking for results, and the labs are closed on the weekends.

- Council Member Boggs said that he wanted it to be reiterated, that the Hanahan COVID Clinic is open for testing/vaccines for anyone; not just Hanahan residents. Mike Cochran and Chief Bowers replied, yes, that is correct. It is open to anyone.
- Council Member Boggs said in reference to the frustration of CSX, he thinks the WAZE app idea that Mike Cochran, City Administrator shared is the best workaround yet, but it is just that, a workaround. We need a solution, and we need to bring it to State and local politicians' attention. Like Mayor Tem Hedgpeth stated earlier, when the train is sitting on the track, it is blocking access to the VA Hospital.
- Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth praised Courtney and her team on the outstanding audit report. He said that is amazing that there were no deficiencies.
- Mayor Rainwater also thanked Courtney and the Department Heads for their hard work on the audit. She also wished to send our best, to the guys working the COVID Clinic. She knows it's been busy again at the Clinic.

There were no additional Council Comments.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- *There being no further business to discuss tonight, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Sally.*
- *A second was made by Council Member Boggs.*
- *There was no discussion.*
- *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*
- *Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.*

Our next regular monthly City Council Meeting will be February 8, 2022, at 6:30pm.