

Minutes from August 10, 2021
Hanahan Council Meeting - 6:30PM
Debbie Lewis Municipal Chambers
1255 Yeamans Hall Road Hanahan, SC 29410

A City Council Meeting was held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 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, Member Sally, Council Member Dyson, Council Member Boggs, Council Member Spurlock, and Council Member Chandler. We had a quorum for tonight's meeting.

Staff members that were present were: Mike Cochran - City Administrator, Bo Bowers – Fire Chief, Drayton Hancock – FD, Danny Stewart – Parks & Recreation Director, Jon Ellwood – IT, Larry Sturdivant – Building & Codes, Dennis Turner – Police Chief, Jason Barbare – PD, Samantha Barbare – Dispatch, Gale Dollar – Clerk of Court, Jeff Hajek – Building & Codes, Joe Gill – Public Works Director, Wynette DeGroot – HR Director, Tyler Dempsey – Building & Codes, and Emily Huff – Clerk of Council.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rainwater called the Tuesday, August 10, 2021, City Council Meeting to order at 6:32pm.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Pastor Craig Tuck of Remount Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Chandler led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITIONS

- 1. Employee of the Month** – Mayor Christie Rainwater and City Administrator, Mike Cochran called up Tyler Dempsey, from Building and Codes as recognized him as the August Employee of the Month. It was stated that Tyler has a very tough job, playing the bad guy most days. Most recently, he has been playing double duty as he has also been covering Animal Control, while Karen has been out. Additionally, Tyler has helped get the Building and Codes Department more up to date with their files being electronic. He was a huge help to getting that project completed. Tyler was thanked profusely and was awarded a certificate of appreciation and gift card. Pictures were taken with Council.

- 2. Hanahan Exchange Club Police & Firefighter of the Year Nominees** – Mayor Rainwater and Mike Cochran invited up Mr. Larry Cobbs from the Hanahan Exchange Club for the formal nominating of Lieutenant Jason Barbare and Firefighter/EMT Drayton Hancock. Also, in attendance from the Hanahan Exchange Club was Bobby Cook, President, Michael Knight, and Tommy Crammer.

Engineer/EMT Drayton Hancock was also nominated, as the Firefighter of the Year, and his nomination letter from Chief Bowers stated that over the past year, Drayton has exemplified the traits that are, and have been the hallmark of the fire service for almost two centuries. Through his dedication, perseverance, service, and integrity to the citizens of our city, Drayton has truly earned this award. He came to the city of Hanahan from North Carolina and worked fervently to learn and master skills needed to become an Engineer. Drayton has worked tirelessly to improve himself and his department through training of not only himself, but by also ensuring those around him benefit from his knowledge. Drayton has spent the last 18 months serving a dual role during the COVID-19 pandemic. He has served as the department's logistic officer, a role which is responsible for ordering needed supplies to respond to calls arising from COVID. He has also been responsible for securing supplies needed to perform testing and vaccinations for residents of the low country. He has helped to ensure not only our safety, but the safety and health of our citizens was not impacted by the strain placed on our department's responses to COVID. Drayton is a consummate professional who has the heart of a servant and is willing to give his all every day for the team.

Lieutenant Barbare's nomination letter from Chief Turner stated that he began his employment with the city in 2000 and has consistently proven himself to be an asset. He started as a patrolman, worked his way up through the ranks, and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 2019. As a new lieutenant, he was assigned to the agency's Office of Professional Standards and the role of training officer. Based on the nature of these two positions, he was tasked with an immense workload, which involves critical time constraints and matters that are sensitive and potentially volatile in nature. Lieutenant Barbare recently investigated an officer involved shooting resulting in a death, while being tasked with conducting internal investigations into allegations of misconduct. During this incident, he demonstrated the ability to lead thorough and in-depth investigations that were impartial and unbiased, thus preventing disruption within the workplace. Along with performing his duties as a member of our Command staff, Lieutenant Barbare has assisted the patrol division by working patrol shifts when needed to ensure minimum staffing requirements were met. He also assisted the Criminal Investigations Divisions with investigative duties during homicides and other serious incidents. He has improved the professional image and reputation of the Hanahan Police Department and, because of policies and procedures he has implemented, has reduced the city's exposure to civil liability.

Tommy Crammer presented each of them with a plaque and pictures were then taken with the Exchange Club Members in attendance.

3. National Get Ready for Kindergarten Month Proclamation – was read by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth. The Proclamation states that this is a program developed by South Carolina First Steps to support the vision of ensuring a South Carolina where all children start school ready to succeed. In partnership with Berkeley County School District, they are preparing high-risk children in South Carolina for school success. These organizations work together with families and community partners to promote the importance of school readiness for all children in Berkeley County. It is fitting and proper to recognize the importance of high-quality early childhood experiences that prepare our youngest citizens for success in school, work, and life. City Council heard the Proclamation to declare August 2021 as National Get Ready for Kindergarten Month in the City of Hanahan.

- *A motion to declare August 2021 as National Get Ready for Kindergarten month was made by Council Member Sally.*
- *A second was made by Council Member Boggs.*
- *There was no discussion.*
- *The motion was called; no one opposed. The vote was 7-0.*

4. Mike Cochran, City Administrator then came back up to recognize Randy MoneyMaker one final time, on his retirement. Randy retired on July 30, 2021, after 17 years here with the city and 33 years in the field overall. A retirement party was held for him on July 28 at the Senior Center, and it was very well attended. A photo frame was placed out at the retirement party, for all in attendance to sign and/or write Randy a heartfelt note. Tonight, the signed photo frame was presented to Randy. He thanked everyone for their support over the years and said that he enjoyed his years here, it's a great city.

CITIZENS COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEM ONLY

Mayor Rainwater opened the meeting for Citizens comments regarding agenda items only. She then took a moment to thank State House Representative, Mark Smith for coming out tonight and asked if he had anything to share with us. State House Representative, Mark Smith said that he was there as he wished to see Randy off for his retirement as well. Additionally, he said that he would be attending a meeting shortly at Trident Technical College, in regards to redistricting.

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 August 10, 2021, Consent Agenda were:

1. Approval of the Minutes from the July 13, 2021, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of the EMS Contract for 2021-2022
3. Approval of Turnout Gear Financing
4. Approval of Steward Street Park Construction Renovations
 - *A motion to approve the items on the August 10, 2021, Consent Agenda, 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.*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There wasn't any Unfinished Business to discuss this evening, so we moved on to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Rainwater asked for City Administrator, Mike Cochran to come back up for the introduction of our new Parks and Recreation Director/Department Head. Mike Cochran stated that the retirement of Randy Moneymaker created a vacancy for the position of Director. After assessing the talents and skills of our internal staff, consulting with members of council and obtaining unsolicited feedback from members of the community, it is my recommendation that Danny Stewart be named as the new Director of Recreation and Parks. Danny has done an outstanding job with our athletic programs during his years as the Athletic Director. Under his guidance and leadership, the programs have grown steadily while participant satisfaction has continued to remain high. Danny has a track record being fully engaged with both the participants, their parents, coaches, and the community. As our parks and programs continue to expand, Danny is the right person for us to usher in the future of the Recreation and Parks Department. Danny Stewart emotionally thanked council for believing in him and having the faith in him. That was extremely touching to Danny, and he stated that this is dream job. He said that he had the best guidance from Randy, so he will give this new position his all, just like Randy did.

- *A motion to approve Danny Stewart as our new Parks and Recreation Director, was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
- *A second was made by Council Member Chandler.*
- *There was no further discussion.*
- *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

2. Mayor Rainwater introduced and invited up Mr. Daniel Brock, BCDCOG. The agenda had Ron Mitchum, CARTA Executive Director, listed to present CARTA's proposed FY22 Budget to Council, but Daniel Brock presented instead.

A detailed explanation of line-item changes was given to council, in their packets, but are also detailed below:

- Fare and contract revenues have been increased based on average and estimated receipts.
- HOP Lot Parking Fees have been reduced. The route has been suspended.
- Armad Hoffer Properties was a contract service for additional HOP route access for their residents. The HOP lot route has been suspended.
- Local contributions are funds received from local organizations for shelter construction. These contributions are recorded as incurred.
- Federal revenue includes estimated 5307 Urban funds, 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors & individuals with disabilities, and 5307 CARES Act funds. CARTA receives funds as a direct recipient from FTA and Pass-Through funds from the BCDCOG. Capital funds are reflected in the capital revenues budget. The increase in Federal funding is a reflection of the timing of expenditures between fiscal years.
- State Mass Transit Funds is operating funds as match to 5307 Urban funds. The decrease between fiscal years is a result of the timing of grant expenditures between fiscal years.
- Sales Tax – Charleston County is the operating funds. The matching requirements for capital are reflected the capital revenues budget line item.
- Advertising revenues have been increased to average and anticipated bus advertising sales.
- Interest is interest received from SC Department of Revenue. CARTA submits for reimbursement of the SC Fuel Excise Tax each month. SCDOR periodically pays interest earned on the funds they have held in the reimbursement process. Interest is recorded as received.
- Insurance proceeds is policy proceeds that are the result of accidents. Insurance is recorded as incurred.
- Sale of Assets is the proceeds from the sale of vehicles. As a result of the purchase of battery electric buses, we anticipate the sale of older rolling stock.

- Council Member Chandler stated that for years he knows that at least one council member has asked about covered shelter(s) at our Hanahan stop(s). He asked why we can't get them, but the new apartment up the street already have one. Mr. Brock replied that the shelters are costly, roughly \$12K-\$30K depending on the area and right-of-way. He would love to be able to partner with us and see about going in together.

There were no additional comments or questions.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS:

A. CITIZENS COMMENTS

-Terry Richburg – 1318 Raven Road – stated that he is an Eagle Landing resident and was here tonight with a continued concern with the business in his neighborhood. Said business is the former Club House for the Eagle Landing Golf Course. Since the course and Club House have closed, however, the Club House was reopened by Catherine Bachita (*spelling?*) as a “catering” company with an occasional event. Terry stated that this business has been an issue for him the past five (5) years. The loud parties (weddings, receptions, parties, showers, etc.), high level of music/DJ'ing, profanity, vulgar music, etc. He has supplied videos of proof of the disturbances to Mike Cochran and Chief Turner. He doesn't understand why no fines are being written and why appropriate steps aren't being taken if no fines are being written. Him and his neighbors want answers why they can't get this shut down. They feel that we aren't holding the business owner accountable.

-Mark Holmes – 1417 Talon Way -stated that he too is an Eagle Landing resident with the same ongoing concern as Terry. He has videos of parties, stated that just last week one party started at 7am, waking up him and his entire family. He called police dispatch and the party wasn't shutdown until 8:30am and then later that evening, another party began at 5:30pm. He doesn't believe that this type of business belongs in a neighborhood. He isn't able to enjoy peace and quiet, like other residents in Hanahan are. Mark said that this business does not share family, religious, or community standards. He believes the business needs to be rezoned or their business license needs to be revoked. Mark went on to say that the receptions go on at all hours of the day and night and when police do respond, they cut the music down but shortly after they leave, the music goes right back up. Mark stated that he has a letter dated June 16, 2016, and the last two pages of the letter to business owner state all the noise violations. Another letter he has, dated November 20, 2020, also states more noise violations to the business owner. He went on to say that the building was supposed to be a “catering company with an occasional event, which would not disturb neighboring homes”, but this has proven to be false. He said that he has called and asked for the call log of the

calls reported to this business, however, he was told there weren't any. He said that can't be accurate because he and his wife have called numerous times.

-Johnnie Harkness – 1036 Dominion Drive – said that he has experience on this topic, and he feels that if we limit what we put there or change the classification of the type of property/business. He doesn't feel that type of business needs to be in a neighborhood.

-Bobby Jones – 1415 Talon Way – also is an Eagle Landing resident and he too was here to voice his frustration of the noise from the "catering company". He stated that it is rented out to different patrons every time at all different times. It is never the same group. He said that the noise is so bad that he has had several neighbors move in and then move out due to the noise. Additionally, another neighbor allegedly found a bullet hole in the siding of their home and that was enough for them, they moved. He also wished to make it clear that if the police are patrolling the front of the Club House, they likely won't really hear the music, as the music is more towards the back of the Club House, where all of their home's backup to.

-Mayor Rainwater thanked the gentlemen for coming tonight and told them that we are aware of this ongoing issue there and that we are doing everything that we legally can. She asked that they continue to call dispatch when there is an issue and to keep recording the disturbances. We are responding to the calls, so it is not that we don't care, we truly do. We just need to make sure we are building a strong case, so we don't end up right back here in another five (5) years. She also asked for Jeff Hajek and Larry to provide her with more information regarding the HOA and PUD of Eagle Landing.

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 consultant that BCWS hired on our behalf is finishing up their cost/benefit analysis. A meeting is set for next week to go over these results.
- 2. Downtown Revitalization** – Dominion Energy is still reporting that there are some properties who need to be converted. They have a sub-contractor who is handling this, but it is not yet complete.
- 3. Phase 3 Tanner Trail** – The trail's final design is in process with the COG. Permitting is in process. The design now connects Edgewood Trace and the trail via a 5-foot path. This was deemed to be the only viable way to accomplish connecting this neighborhood and the trail system.
- 4. Parks Bond -**
 - Dog Park fencing at Spell is done. We are working on signage and items for the dogs to play on. Spell will be operational starting this month.
 - Loftis Field is growing in nicely but needs a little more time.

-53-Acre Park is moving along. Ken Childress is on-site daily overseeing the project for the city.

-Steward Street Park – on tonight’s agenda. This will get the project ready to go out to bid once material prices stabilize.

5. Golf Tournament – This event went exceedingly well. Sizemore Construction Group was our Gold Sponsor along with Thomas & Hutton as our Silver Sponsor. The First Citizens Bank (of Hanahan) team won the overall low score. Revenues exceeded expenses by an estimated \$15,200. Emily did an outstanding job on this event. Special thanks to Yeamans Hall Club for their generous donation of the club for this event.

6. Citizen of the Month – One thing that we have done for many years is recognize one of our residents for something special that they have done. These nominations often come from staff or council; however, we probably are overlooking some awesome things that our citizens have done or are doing. Starting with the September council meeting, we will post on social media two (2) weeks before a meeting to seek resident input. This way we will widen the net a bit and hopefully be able to identify more people who are doing amazing things in the city.

Highlights from unaudited Year End financials:

These are unaudited numbers and are subject to change as we accrue expenses and revenues back for the time period of 08-31-2021 as we accrue revenues and expenses until the end of August.

- FY 20/21 revenues exceeded expenditures by \$1.3 million
- Due to significant savings in expenses \$856K and increase in revenue of \$1.1 million
- Includes \$830K of COVID expenses/revenues
- Cash flow, our bank accounts have increased by \$16.4 million but \$14.4 million is from GO Bond funds
- In FY 19/20/21 we have incurred \$1.3 million in GO Bond expenses

Notes:

-8/24 – City Council Workshop @6:00pm

-8/28 – Art Vendor & Craft Fair at Amphitheater 11am-6pm

-9/6 – Labor Day – City Offices Closed

-9/14 – City Council Meeting @6:30pm

-9/18 – Hanahan Day at CSU @6:00pm

-Weekdays - COVID testing by the HFD @9:00-4:00pm

C. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth stated that he wished to encourage fellow council members to get out and ride along with our police officers. He did just that recently and they had a busy Friday night. Council Member Boggs also did a ride along, on a Saturday night and said that his night was less adventurous. Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth said that the ride along will really open your eyes, as it gives us a real-life view of what they deal with.
- Council Member Spurlock wished to thank Pat Eckstein for last week's Planning Commission Meetings. She does so much for our community and represents us well.
- Council Member Boggs wished to thank the gentlemen that came out from Eagles Landing neighborhood tonight and being the squeaky wheel and keeping us updated on the issues out there.
- Council Member Chandler thanked Emily Huff for her work in getting the Annual Golf Tournament planned and organized.
- Mayor Rainwater said that COVID numbers are rising again, and we are offering vaccines right here. She realizes that vaccines aren't for everyone but if it is for you, we strongly recommend getting it.

There were no additional Council Comments.

ADJOURNMENT

- *There being no further business to discuss tonight, a motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Boggs.*
- *A second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
- *There was no discussion.*
- *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*
- *Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.*

Our next regular monthly City Council Meeting will be September 14, 2021, at 6:30pm.