**Minutes from November 15, 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, November 15, 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 Dyson, Council Member Boggs, Council Member Sally, Council Member Spurlock, and Council Member Chandler. We had a quorum for tonight’s meeting.

Staff members that were present were: Courtney Soler – City Administrator, Michael Bargeron – Assistant Fire Chief, Larry Sturdivant – Building & Codes, Lee Lawson – City Planner, Dennis Turner – Police Chief, Joe Gill – Public Works Director, Gale Dollar – Clerk of Court, Cameron Spencer – Assistant to City Administrator, Kristine Amara – HR Director, Tyler Dempsey – IT, Allyson Driggers – City Treasurer, and Emily Huff – Clerk of Council.

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rainwater called the Tuesday, November 15, 2022, City Council Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**INVOCATION**

The Invocation was led by Pastor Sean McSwain of Restoration Community Church.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Chandler led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CIVILITY PLEDGE**

I pledge to build a stronger and more prosperous community by advocating for civil engagement, respecting others and their viewpoints, and finding solutions for the betterment of my city or town.

**RECOGNITIONS**

1. **Employees of the Month** – Mayor Rainwater asked for Courtney Soler, City Administrator to come up to present the Employees of the Month. Courtney then invited up Ms. Susan Taschner. Together, they recognized Kappy Fesler and Larry Sturdivant as Employees of the Month. Back in September, Ms. Taschner of 12 N Basilica had to have her air conditioner replaced. However, what was supposed to be a typical maintenance home repair became a major hassle for her. She wanted everyone to know their role in helping her with an unruly vendor who performed mediocre work in replacing her air conditioning unit meant so much to her. She felt they went above and beyond to help her. The vendor did not pull a permit, nor did they have a license to perform work in the city of Hanahan. Additionally, the air conditioning unit did not pass inspection, per Larry. Larry performed the inspection and told the vendor it was not up to code, only to be verbally abused over and over. He remained calm and carried on with job. Ms. Taschner said that Larry and Kappy both helped her in a time where she was clearly being taken advantage of, and she wanted to be sure they were rightfully recognized for their tremendous efforts in helping her remedy the spotty work. She said that Larry protected her as a Hanahan resident, and for that, she was truly grateful.

A certificate of appreciation and a gift card was presented, and pictures were taken with Council. Kappy couldn’t attend tonight’s meeting, but we will be certain she receives her certificate of appreciation and gift card.

1. **Citizen of the Month** – Mayor Rainwater then presented the Citizen of the Month award for November to Brandon Jessup for his efforts of organizing a clean-up day/committee on the very busy Henry Brown Blvd, back on August 20, 2022. He and a crew of volunteers gathered supplies and spent the day cleaning up litter. We certainly did not want his efforts to go unnoticed. Brandon wasn’t in attendance tonight, but a certificate of appreciation and a gift card will be mailed to him.
2. **Swearing In of Newly Elected Officials** – Berkeley County Supervisor Johnny Cribb was then invited up for the swearing in of our newly elected officials. Mayor Christie Rainwater, Council Member Michael Sally, Council Member Kevin Hedgpeth, and Council Member Adam Spurlock were all sworn in by Johnny Cribb. Each will serve a new four-year term, expiring in November 2026. Each signed their Oath, as did Berkeley County Supervisor Johnny Cribb, and they were notarized by Emily Huff. Pictures were taken with their families.
3. **Appointment of New Mayor Pro Tem** –Council voted for a new Mayor Pro Tem and they appointed Council Member Sally. This two-year term will go into effect January 2023.
* *A motion to approve Council Member Sally as our newly appointment Mayor Pro Tem, starting January 2023 through January 2025 was made by Council Member Chandler.*
* *A second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
* *There was no further discussion.*
* *The motion was called, and the vote was 6-0.*
* *Council Member Sally abstained.*
1. **Swearing In of New Firefighters** – Assistant Fire Chief Michael Bargeron introduced each of our four (4) new firefighters. Their bios were read, Oaths were read and signed by each of them, Assistant Fire Chief Bargeron, City Administrator Courtney Soler, and Mayor Rainwater. Pictures were taken with Council and their family/friends whom were in attendance. Our four (4) new firefighters that were sworn in tonight are Ryan Bobb (Firefighter/Paramedic), Brian Diaz (Firefighter/EMT), Stephen English (Firefighter), and Tanner Flood (Firefighter).
2. **Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Proclamation** – Mayor Rainwater then Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth to read the Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Proclamation. In summary, the proclamation states Pancreatic Cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, it is currently the third leading cause of cancer death in the United States and is projected to become the second leading cause around 2030. In 2022, an estimated 62,210 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 49,830 people will die from the disease. Pancreatic Cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate, at just 11 percent. When symptoms of Pancreatic Cancer present themselves, it is generally in later stages, and 91 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years. Approximately 880 deaths will occur in South Carolina in 2022. Pancreatic Cancer is the seventh most common cause of cancer-related deaths across the world.

Hanahan City Council declares November 17, 2022, as World Pancreatic Cancer Day in the City of Hanahan.

* *A motion to approve Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Proclamation, 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.*
1. **Shop Small Business Saturday Proclamation** – Mayor Rainwater then asked Council Member Sally to read the Shop Small Business Saturday Proclamation. In summary, the proclamation states The City of Hanahan celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community.

According to the United States Small Business Administration, there are 32.5 million small businesses in the United States, small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, small businesses are responsible for 62% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.8% of the employees in the private sector in the United States. 79% of consumers understand the importance of supporting the small businesses in their community on Small Business Saturday. 70% report the day makes them want to encourage others to Shop Small®, independently owned retailers, and 66% report that the day makes them want to Shop Small all year long.

58% of shoppers reported they shopped online with a small business and 54% reported they dined or ordered takeout from a small restaurant, bar, or café on Small Business Saturday in 2021.

Hanahan supports our local businesses that create jobs, boosts our local economy, and preserve our communities; and Hanahan City Council declares November 17, 2022, as World Pancreatic Cancer Day in the City of Hanahan.

* *A motion to approve the Shop Small Business Saturday Proclamation, was made by Council Member Boggs.*
* *A second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
* *There was no further discussion.*
* *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

**CITIZENS COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

**Bill Healy** – 7614 Stargazer – he wished to thank the city for the amazing Red, White and Blue Fall Festival. He knows that the Recreation Department plays the biggest role in making that event such a success, but he knows that it truly takes everyone as there are so many moving parts, and everyone had a part in it. He gave his compliments to all and said that he was truly amazed at the turnout. It was incredible and he felt blessed.

There were no other comments/questions.

There were no comments/questions that were submitted online.

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 November 15, 2022, Consent Agenda were:

1. Approval of the Minutes from the October 11, 2022, City Council Meeting
2. Approval of Emergency Repair Drain Leak - Station III
3. Approval of Revised Emergency Operations Plan Contact List
4. Approval the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant Program No. 1CF20181 – Hanahan Police Department Records Management Replacement
5. Approval of New Software (OMNICOURT) Purchase
6. Approval of Emergency Garbage Truck Repair (Unit 43)
7. Approval of Winning Asbestos Removal Bid
* *A motion to approve the items on the November 15, 2022,* *Consent Agenda, was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
* *A second was made by Council Member Sally.*
* *There was no further discussion.*
* *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Reappointments to Examiners and Review Board** – Mayor Rainwater invited up Building Official Larry Sturdivant for the reappointments to the Examiners and Review Board. Larry stated that the City of Hanahan’s Examiners and Review Board has three (3) committee members up for reappointment, Gary Pope, Coley Snowden, and Bobbie Jean Blackwell. All are currently on the board and each wish to serve another 3-year term. Larry stated that this is a 7-member board, and they currently have two (2) vacancies, which they are accepting applications for.
* Council Member Sally asked if they needed experience with building to serve on the board, to which Larry replied yes, that the board is closely related to building and code related items.

There were no further comments or questions from council.

* *A motion to approve the reappointments to the Examiners and Review Board 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.*
1. **Reappointment to the Design Control Committee Board** – Larry Sturdivant remained up front for the reappointment to the Design and Control Committee Board. Larry stated that the City of Hanahan’s Design Control Committee has one (1) committee member up for reappointment, Craig Pagels. He currently serves on the board and wishes to serve another 4-year term. Larry stated that this was a 5-member board, and this board oversees the aesthetics, which he hopes to be amping up a good bit.

There were no comments or questions from council.

* *A motion to approve the reappointments to the Design Control Committee Board was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth.*
* *A second was made by Council Member Boggs.*
* *There was no further discussion.*
* *The motion was called, and the vote was 7-0.*

**REPORTS AND COMMENTS:**

1. **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

There were no Citizen Comments.

1. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Courtney Soler presented her monthly report to Council:

1. **Downtown Revitalization** – It has been very exciting seeing so many poles being installed along Yeamans Hall Road. Kingston Electric should have the rest of the poles installed by this week, and then Lumenant will come and install the lights. Just a forewarning, the lights have been sitting for over a year and the company has already said that there may be some issues with the batteries because of that. We won’t know until they are installed.
2. **Phase 3 Tanner Trail** – The City, BCDCOG, SCDOT and Oak Pointe developers were able to meet to discuss the conflict of the road widening project and phase three of the trail and come to a mutually beneficial conclusion. Oak Pointe will rescind their SCDOT application for road widening and has agreed to come back after the trail has been put in to revisit the best solution for traffic calming (as a result of increased traffic from their 81 new homes). The projected start date is still November and December 2022, when the project will go out for bid. This work is being done by the BCDCOG.
3. **Park Bond Projects** –

-**53-Acre Park** – On October 28th, City staff, Gulfstream and Seamon Whiteside representatives conducted the substantial completion walkthrough of the park. As expected, Seamon Whiteside created an extensive punch-list of items that Gulfstream will need to complete before they are considered finished. Southcon is getting a lot of work done on our vertical structures and are still on target with a completion date of February 2023.

-**Steward Street Park** – Summit Engineering Phase 1 and 2 testing is completed, and the required remediation is being bid out.

* Mayor Rainwater stated the Brown Field Clean Up funds are available, and we should look into that. Courtney took note of that and said that she would research that.
1. **Streetlights** - The city signed a 10-year contract with Dominion Energy to convert all HID streetlights to LED, which will save the city over $60,000 in the first five years. The conversion started 11/12 and there will be daytime crews as well as night crews doing the conversion. The work will be done by Sumter Utilities and Gregory Electric and they will be in small white bucket trucks. We will get the word out to the public to please be patient and cautious while these trucks and workers are in our community. The higher traffic roads, such as Murray Drive, North Rhett, etc. will be done at night. Dominion is trying to complete the conversion before the Christmas holidays.
* Council Member Sally asked who’s 5G poles are they, to which Courtney said she couldn’t remember the companies name off the top of her head and neither could Larry. Council Member Sally then asked if they had to match our light poles. Courtney replied no they didn’t. He then asked if the new poles would accommodate our banners, and Courtney replied she was very adamant about the banners and said if the new poles won’t accommodate the banners, she will find a solution. The banners will happen though.

**5**. **The** **Fall Festival**, **Trunk or Treat, and the Red, White, and Blue Festivals** – were very successful and well attended this year. Major kudos to all parties involved, but specifically Danny, Doug, and the Recreation staff. The estimated attendance for all three (3) events was 5,700.

Courtney then moved on to the financial portion of her report and she said that 1st Quarter Financial Statements aren’t that exciting because they don’t tell us much. She said that all she can say is that we are running like we always do. Revenues and Expenditures are right on target. Expenses have come in under budget by $339,300. Most of the city’s revenues come in quarters 2-4, which causes the first quarter revenues to appear under budget. Several revenue lines are higher than the prior fiscal year, however, it is uncertain if this is timing issues or actual increased revenues. We will be able to analyze these accounts better as the year progresses.

Courtney said that we have had two (2) major changes at the city. One being the new city website and the other being hiring a Social Media Coordinator. She said that she wished to give a huge kudos/shoutout to Paige, our new Social Media Coordinator, as she has been killing it! Paige has been pushing out all of the important information and events for the city for the past few months. She thinks that we have the best website out there now but said she may be a little bias. Our new website is functional and easy to navigate. We have had 28,000 page views in one month and 7,000 unique visitors in one month, and that is huge!!

Courtney then introduced our recent new hires in Admin, which were Kristine Amara, HR Director and Cameron “Cam” Spencer, Assistant to the City Administrator.

Notes/Dates:

* Tomorrow, November 16th, we will host a final charette for the Comprehensive Plan from 5-8:00pm at the City Hall Gymnasium. This is drop-in style.
* City Offices will be closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.
* Next regular monthly City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30pm.
* The Christmas Tree Lighting will be on Friday, December 2nd at 6:00pm. The Vendor Village will open at 5:00pm.
* The Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 3rd at 10:00am.
1. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**
* Council Member Chandler said that the roof on the building across from Blackwell’s Hardware is an eyesore and dangerous. The building needs to come down (Carolyn Street – formerly Rose’s Collectables shop). Courtney and Larry both said that they would look into that. Council Member Chandler stated that they city owns that property.
* Council Member Boggs said that he received an anonymous tip from a resident about someone parking their semitruck in front of a residence in Otranto. Larry said that he was aware of this, however, it is not a semitruck, rather a truck and trailer. He said that the Ordinance is geared for vehicle weight (tonnage), so it was permitted to be where it was. Larry said that he did ask them to not park there anymore.
* Council Member Chandler thanked staff for their tremendous work for the Red, White and Blue Fall Festival. He said that is the city’s largest event each year and this year no exception, it was amazing. Council Member Chandler went on to say that he encourages everyone to like and share any and all city events when we see them posted on social media. Each share can reach so many additional people.
* Mayor Pro Tem Hedgpeth said that the Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival were both so amazing and such fun. He said the turnout was incredible.
* Mayor Rainwater said that the Fall is such a busy time for the city with back-to-back events. She said that she is so thankful for our staff and grateful that she lives in Hanahan.

There were no further comments from council.

**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 7-0.*
* *Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.*

Our next regular monthly City Council Meeting will be December 13, 2022, at 6:30pm.