

MAYOR
MINNIE NEWMAN

CITY ADMINISTRATOR
JOHN P. CRIBB



CITY COUNCIL
JEFF C. CHANDLER
C. KEVIN COX
MIKE DYSON
JOEL E. HODGES
DAN OWENS
MICHAEL SALLY

HANAHAN CITY COUNCIL
Minutes from October 13, 2015
Meeting of City Council
Debbie Lewis Municipal Chambers
6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of Hanahan City Council was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 in the Debbie Lewis Municipal Chambers at 1255 Yeamans Hall Road in Hanahan at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was advertised in the Post and Courier. The Agenda for tonight's meeting was posted on the bulletin board at City Hall at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The honorable Mayor Minnie Newman presided.

Council Members presents included: Dan Owens, Mike Dyson, Kevin Cox, Jeff Chandler, Joel Hodges and Michael Sally.

Staff members that signed visitors log:

Johnny Cribb, City Administrator, Kim Peters, Clerk of Council, Gale Dollar, Clerk of Court, Larry Sturdivant, Building Official, Bo Bowers, Fire Chief, Dennis Turner, Police Chief, David Kornahrens, IT, Hilary VanOrsdel, Human Resources Director, Courtney Soler, Finance Director, Kitty Farias, Purchasing, Ricardo Perry, Pam Nelson, Frank Thompson, Ryan Burke and Marion Gibbs, Police Department.

A copy of the visitors log is included with the minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Minnie Newman and Honorary Mayor Emily Harsh called the October 13, 2015 regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. Mayor Minnie introduced Emily Harsh as our honorary Mayor for tonight. Emily is in the 9th grade at Hanahan High School. Her favorite subject is Science. Emily enjoys playing the guitar, singing and spending time with her friends. Emily would like to be a Pediatric Nurse when she graduates. Emily is here tonight with her mom Amanda. Amanda is the new clerk in the Building and Codes Department.

INVOCATION

Pastor Adam Spurlock from Restoration Church in Hanahan delivered the invocation tonight.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Dyson led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Newman announced that it was Johnny Cribb and Dennis Turner's birthday this week. Everyone sang "Happy Birthday" to them.

RECOGNITIONS:

A. Chief Turner recognized Officer Frank Thompson as Employee of the 3rd Quarter. This honor is voted on by his peers. Congratulations Officer Thompson on a job well done.

B. Recognition of Ethan Spence and his achievement of reaching Eagle Scout. Ethan did not come to the meeting tonight. We will recognize him at another time.

C. Kelly Bocook from Keep Hanahan Beautiful gave an update on the Butterfly Garden and Lowes Grant. They will be having a work day for Phase II on October 17, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. Kelly thanked the city for their support and asked for volunteers to come out and help at the work day on the 17th. She mentioned that Lowes had donated all the supplies for the upcoming work day.

PROCLAMATIONS:

A. Honorary Mayor Emily Harsh read the "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" proclamation. Mayor Minnie said she had attended the Grace Project downtown in Honor of Breast Cancer awareness. She suggested picking up a copy of a book sold during the event, "Shaken not Stirred". Mayor Pro-Tem Owens made a motion to declare October 2015 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Hanahan. Council Member Chandler seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Officer Ricardo Perry, the SRO at Hanahan Middle School read the "Red Ribbon Week" Proclamation. Council Member Chandler made a motion to declare October 2015 as "Red Ribbon Month" in the City of Hanahan. Council Member Sally seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

C. Sgt. Pam Nelson, Detective and Victims Advocate read the "Domestic Violence" Proclamation. Council Member Sally made a motion to declare October 2015 as "Domestic Violence" Month in the City of Hanahan. Council Member Hodges seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

Mayor Newman thanked Emily for helping out as Honorary Mayor tonight. She was presented with a certificate and gift from city council.

CITIZENS COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

1. Bill Healy, 7614 Stargazer, thanked the employees for their service during the flood. He said they did an outstanding job and asked for a standing ovation. He thanked each council member for their dedication and compassion. He said it was okay to agree to disagree. He gave a special thanks to the citizens committee. He said during the last election he thought the Tanner area needed representation. He ran for city council and lost. He said thank heavens he did not win so he did not have to deal with the school land issue. He thanked council for their foresight in applying for the trails grant. He said it was nonsense for anyone to say that council did not care. He said the history of the BCSD proved mistrust. They had flip flopped so many times and without the deed restriction in the contract the school district could change attendance lines with 2 votes of the school board at any time. He was asked that council to do just that by presenting the contract to the school district without deed restrictions and use the government land as an exit to North Rhett. He asked that council still fight for all Hanahan kids to go to Hanahan schools. He said it was time to build the school to get the kids out of trailers and sell the land with no strings attached. He said it was all about integrity or lack of integrity from the BCSD. He was proud of city council that they had shown integrity.

2. Pat Eckstine, chairman of the citizens committee also thanked council for their hard work and dedication. Mayor Newman thanked Mrs. Pat for all her hard work. Mrs. Pat thanked Council Member Cox for helping to acquire the Government Property and to Council Member Sally for his contacts with Senator Scott in getting the government land donated to the city. She said she supported the sale of the land with the road improvements and exit at North Rhett.

3. Kevin Hedgepeth 1954 Wild Indigo Way, thanked staff for their help during the flood. He mentioned the bad decisions and legal troubles of the school board. He said we had to get past the deed restrictions. The school was for the kids and their future. He said that multiple contracts were exchanged and there was a cloud of doubt and confusion. He said he had requested a FOYA and gave statistics on school enrollment. He asked council to vote yes without restrictions because it was all about the kids.

4. Carrie Kelly, 7490 Northgate presented council with a petition with 92 names on it from the rally tonight supporting the sale of Williams Lane property to BCSD for a fair price with deed restrictions limited to the purchase property. The petition will be included in the official minutes.

5. Michael Ramsey, 1018 Lepley Road, thanked council and said he knew where their hearts were. He said he knew where the BCSD was at. He felt it was our responsibility at present to represent the majority and vote to sell the land no matter what. He asked that we look at the big picture.

6. Jason Brooks, 7335 Waterthrus, said his hearts went out to the flood victims. He said the problems with the school district had continued on for awhile. He asked that we present a reasonable agreement to the school district. He appreciated Council Member Cox calling him. Council Member Cox asked if he had talked to Dr. Turner before he had a chance to present the plan. Mr. Brooks said he had talked to him before hand.

There being no further comments, this segment of the meeting was closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Items are adopted with a single motion, second, and vote unless a request for removal is heard from a Council Member. Items on the October 13, 2015 Consent Agenda are:

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the September 8, 2015 regular City Council Meeting.
- B. Emergency replacement of the roof at Hanahan Sally Port and Fire Station 1 from vendor ADC Engineering in the amount of \$8,150.00 for Engineering Fees.

Council Member Cox made a motion to approve the October 13, 2015 Consent Agenda. Council Member Chandler seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. To discuss contractual matters related to the purchase/sale agreement of city owned property on Williams Lane TMS #259-000-104 with Berkeley County School District.
2. To discuss a personnel matter in the Public Works Department

Council Member Hodges made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss these matters. Mayor Pro –Tem Owens seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0. Council went into Executive Session at 7:26 p.m.

ACTION AS REQUIRED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consideration and vote on contractual terms for Mayor Newman purchase and sale agreement of city owned property on Williams Lane TMS # 259-000-104 with Berkeley County School District...

Mayor Newman said council had accepted the challenge. She said they had learned from this process. She said you cannot teach passion of community you can only respond with compassion. She thanked the Citizens Committee for all their time and effort in dealing with the school situation. Council Member Cox thanked Mr. Healy and Jason Brooks for their input. He also reviewed what Mr. Bullwinkle stated from the December 10, 2013 city council meeting. At that meeting Mr. Bullwinkle said the deed restrictions were legal and binding. He wanted this in the official minutes because he said the school district would back out of the deed restrictions. He cited the Discovery, the law suit by the BCSD, the request to rezone the property owned by CPW after they bought it so it would be cheaper, the criminal cases against Individual employees at the school district.

With that being said Mayor Newman made a motion to sell the Land on Williams Lane Tax map # 259-000-104 to the Berkeley County School District for the appraised value. Berkeley County School District must bring up the roads and utilities to the property line of the 53 acre of our US Government Parcel. The City to grant the 66' right of way easement to the Berkeley County School District across from the US Government Parcel to North Rhett to provide a second means of ingress/egress. The property must be used for a school grades K-12 only. We will have our attorney draw up the contract to present it to the Berkeley county School District and it will be hand delivered by Council Member Hodges and Council Member Chandler. Council Member Hodges seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

B. Council Member Sally made a motion to authorization the City Administrator to execute an Environmental study on the 53 acre US Government Parcel as required in the transfer process and agreement to obtain title to the 53 acres US Government Parcel. Council Member Hodges seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Council Member Hodges made a motion to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance # 9-2015- a Filming Ordinance in the City of Hanahan. This ordinance will be found in Chapter 34, Article V, Section 34-122 of the City Code of Ordinance. Mayor Pro-Tem Owens seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

A. City Administrators comments

The following is the monthly update on projects and activities:

1. Trail at Tanner/Foster Creek – Final design plans have been approved by SCDOT and waiting on the Santee Cooper encroachment with an onsite meeting scheduled for 10/15. All easement documents have been signed and recorded. Project finalization scheduled for October and estimated to go out for bid in November.

Notes:

October 15 – Lunch Buddies

October 17 – Butterfly Garden work day – Keep Hanahan Beautiful

October 19 – Open house at HFD, 6-8.

October 25 – Michael Davis, Free Concert at Amphitheater, 2-5 p.m.

October 28 – Berkeley County Delegation Meeting, 6 p.m. City Hall

October 30 – Movie in the Park, costume contest, Trunk or Treat

November 14 – Red, White and Blue Festival

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Cribb

B. There were no Council Comments at this time.

C. Citizens Comments

1. Johnny Harkness, 1036 Dominion Drive – said I have a big question for you, (WORD FOR WORD) “What have I done to any of you all to be harassed continuously?” Because the City operates under your alls orders. Now the latest one is that you don’t pick up debris from Tenants. Now as I have noticed looking all over Hanahan and all the people I have talked to they picked up the yard furniture and debris. But I got a letter here, I had 3 tenants put things out and it says the City does not pick up debris put out by tenants. I got a letter in the mail today from the City’s Code people saying if I do not pick up all that stuff within 24 hours that they are going to fine me. Now tell me if I am mistaken but we have already gone through a legal battle several years ago about this sort of thing. These terms about not picking up from tenants, I believe was meant for apartment complexes not services by garbage people. These residents that we have there they pay 50% more property taxes than we do. So this is the terms, they are tenants and they do have the right to have stuff picked up. They pay more than you do. They also pay taxes on the business license for the rent they have to pay us and you get a portion of that along with all the other taxes they have to pay. Tax to live in the community, tax on sales, sales tax, tax on insurance, taxes on cell phone but all the things we have gone through this year that I have been here that I have complained about and no police protection. Now hopefully you have a Chief here that I think will do a good job as long as the politics stays out of it. But we have gone through a time where we had no police protection. We had to protect ourselves. If you remember in the past, that is what I was here complaining about. I got my best protection from the drug dealers from around here and that should not have been. Come on

now I thought we had a good community and I have had problems with just about everyone of your departments and I don't think it is just coincidental, I think it is this crew right here (pointing to city council) telling the city employees what to do. So this is the people I have to come to to find out why I have to deal with this sort of stuff. Tenants have just as much right to put things out there. If I have an eviction that is where the law says I have to put it. It does not give me any choices. But I had 3 tenants, you go to a dead end and there are 9 residents at that dead end, 3 of the residents put things out. Other people living down that street keep putting their stuff out and I have gone to see them and ask them not to do it but they keep right on doing it. Now when your guys came by there to pick up the stuff last week, I said to come the day after garbage day on Berkeley Street. I said you know fellows I put the stuff out here and the whole community has been going through this stuff and we have to keep picking it up and putting it together. I said if you don't mind would you bring the truck down, I will be here with the tractor and I will load it for you. Which I have loaded stuff for them many times before. I hate to see those guys out there having to deal with not just my stuff also the stuff in the couple of lots up there. They got a big pile of stuff when the weathers hot I go out there and help them load it up. They said not a problem until management got involved. They said we don't pick up from tenants. Now I thought we had gone through this legal battle before. But apparently it looks like we are heading that way again and you are the ones that control it. Apparently they are doing your wishes. That's what the ordinances said we do. They work to your wishes. And I am asking you what have I done to you all to get this sort of treatment from the City? I think it is kind of ridiculous. I don't know what you can do to correct it but I have some proposals. One thing we need to do in a 25 mile radius, roughly 25 cities, give or take a couple. Out of all the cities we have around here we only have two that has the form of government that we operate under. It's this one and St. Stevens. St. Stevens doesn't really operate under this form of government. They got rid of their administrator years ago and they let their mayor operate as a strong mayor. I think what this town needs to do, we need to change our form of government to have a strong mayor so we can have somebody to call during the month if we have a problem to get the problems in the city taken care of. Right now there is no one I can call. I can call any one of you and you tell me you only have one vote and you have no authority. And you don't. I am not belittling you but you don't have any authority other than sitting right here on this council seat. That is it. But if we change the form of government that would put an elected official that if we have a problem we can go to anytime of the month. That puts a person that we can point a finger to about what is going wrong in the community. Someone to blame and I think this is something that there are two ways you can do it. You can either vote to have a referendum to do it or the citizens will have to get a petition and go around and have it done. And I think it would be good idea that we do that. You need to think about something about this trash. We pay the taxes for that. You all provide garbage service to those people. Why you all will not pick up their stuff is beyond me. The day I told them that they did not have to lift a finger I would put it in their truck for them. Not from them, they were good with it but management says No we are not going to do that. We are not going to pick up anything from tenants. Okay that is when I said I would come to council. We have a couple of other things I would like bring up. You know there was a hit and run on Corner Street.

It is very dark down there. It's like midnight. You cannot see. Has anyone been down there at night at that intersection? Council Member Sally said I think that is part of the renaissance grant and we are improving lighting back there for them. Mr. Harkness said well okay. Hold that thought right there. There is a light at that intersection. There is also a big oak tree in that intersection. The light's in the oak tree. Now the power company has trimmed the top of it. If you want to see the wires at the top you are okay with that. But why does not someone go down there and trim that tree so we can have light in that intersection instead of having someone get run over. Another thing you talk about safety when you go down to the end of Berkeley Street where it turns into Murray there has been a lot of accidents. Whether anyone has been killed there I don't know. A lot of accidents down there. When people pull up to that intersection they can't see to the right because of all the bushes in those people's yard they can't see to the right. In your ordinances it says the people should keep their property clear so people can see. One of your ex council got killed at one of those intersections, Roy Robertson at the end of Hoover and Remount Road. The lady pulling out couldn't see because of the bushes and she pulled right in front of him and he hit her broadside. The bushes should have been clear. That is one thing we need to do about these intersections where people go. It is a safety issue. And that is what the laws on the books are for. To keep those areas clean so when someone pulls up there, there is a particular spot you have to stop, so they can see to the right and to the left before they pull out. That is something you need to look at. This talking about the garbage that is you all. I don't know what I have done to you all, but all the things that have been happening. It is one thing after the other, one department after the other. The only thing I can do is point and say it is coming from you all. Why? What have I done? Give me an idea. He asked what are we suppose to do about the trash? They said 24 hours or they will give me a citation for it. Is someone going to pick it up or I don't mind picking it up for them but they have to come there and it's their obligation to do that.

2. Carol Harkness, 1036 Dominion Drive, thanked council for all the help given during their son Aaron's sickness. She then went on to say that the harassment they had gotten over the grass not being cut after her father's death and during Aarons illness was a disgrace. She said they had to install cameras at their expense because of the harassment. She said it needs to stop.

3. Kevin Hedgepeth – 1959 Wild Indigo Way, said he is making a commitment to be at the BCSD meeting on October 27, 2015 for the contract vote. He thanked Council for their vote.

4. Pat Eckstine, Citizens committee thanked council for their difficult YES vote. She said she had also read every word of the Discovery as well. She said they would be rallying people to go to the school board meeting on October 27th. Come and bring a car load.

5. Darrell Burdick, 1245 Belvedere Drive, said he wanted an answer to Mr. Harkness's question. He said he had a lot of property in Hanahan and he paid about \$50,000 in taxes. Council Member Sally asked Larry Sturdivant that in our ordinance that states that on a single family residential property we treat it any different based on ownership status? Larry said that in our Code of ordinances what has been enforced for years due to an eviction, the debris has to be out for 48 hours but the city will not pick it up. It falls back on the property owners. Mayor Newman asked the stuff has to be out when. Larry said it had to be out for 48 hours per magistrates law but then the code of ordinances says the city will not pick the debris up that was put out due to an eviction .

Mr. Harkness said that the part about tenants where the city does not service is very vague and needs to be nailed down. Council Member Sally said we may be talking about two different things. I don't think we are talking about household trash. Mr. Burdick said people move out and leave their trash, TV sets whatever, if someone does an eviction notice on them they have to have it put out on the street. That is what is says. That is what the law says. There is no other place for the garbage to go but on the curb if it is an eviction case. I just think that residential people who are paying 4% taxes, I pay 6% on my property. We pay enough taxes we should get a little relief there if that is the case. I haven't had a problem up to this point on that but I have to agree with John that he is being discriminated against and in some cases I have in the past. When someone tells me that only two people in Hanahan that don't cut their grass, John and I, we are the only ones that got tickets for whatever that reason is. My taxes went up on the same house that I couldn't get a permit for to fix it up went up \$400 this year. More than any other house on Belvedere Drive. It seems a little strange to me. This old smoke and mirrors thing about taxes the last time. I got a house that doubled in taxes. So we pay our taxes that is the point. I'm not complaining about paying taxes. If I don't want to pay taxes, I guess I will sell the property. The one thing I would like to say and maybe you will maul this over maybe you won't, I was in business a long time and I think you can over regulate. I would think this country is already over regulated and the last stand we got is our city. Let's take a look at our government. The last place we got is our city. I haven't been involved over the years as much as I would have hoped I would have been when I look back and said I didn't have time. I wasn't here. The same point, maybe when you decide you are going to put an ordinance in just like the last one I did not get a chance to respond to it. I think most everybody was cutting the grass in their ditches but we had to come out with another ordinance that says you have to cut the grass on the other side of the sidewalk and you got to cut it in the ditch. Now if you are out there doing it and get hit by a car who do I sue? It my kid gets hit by a car because he is out there weed eating. The only point I'm making is sometimes you can over regulate. Mark Stokes a good friend of my son, I remember him coming up for another ordinance and he said you got too many already maybe you need to leave a little gray area. Right now you are boxing yourself in. So what happens is when you make an exception for somebody you better make it for the next person or they are going to make excuses but nobody complains about them. It's not right.

I agree you guys do a good job. You work hard. I'm just saying you should be open to change things maybe and you know it is our community, your community. You should not make it hard on one person. I have not had any recent problems myself personally but that is ridiculous not to pick up the trash. You might consider that soon we are going to have so many ordinances and regulations and so many rules and so many laws you can't do anything. You know I don't know where I will go. To the swamp or something. You know. It's getting ridiculous. Thank you.

There being no further business to discuss tonight, Council Member Chandler made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Hodges seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberley C. Peters, Clerk of Council

ATTEST:

Minnie Newman, Mayor