

**MINUTES OF
COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022 –
6:00 PM**

PRESENT

MAYOR

TODD M. HARRELSON

COUNCIL

**JOAN GAUSE
LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR.
ANDREA L. COLEMAN
CARROLL D. PADGETT, JR.
MICHAEL E. SUGGS
JAN P. VESCOVI**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harrelson at 6:00 pm on Monday, July 11, 2022.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Councilwoman Gause.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Harrelson.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by City Clerk Massey.

FOIA:

Notice of the meeting with an agenda was publicly posted, published, and forwarded to the media no less than 24 hours prior to commencement.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- A. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE-** Representative not present.
- B. MCLEOD LORIS HOSPITAL REPORT-** Mayor Harrelson states he received a report from Scott Montgomery. Emergency room four is under construction. New primary care doctor, Shannon Smith, starts August 1st.
- C. COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR-** Mayor Harrelson states Coffee with the Mayor will not be held on the second Thursday of the month. The City of Loris, along with the Loris Chamber of Commerce, will be celebrating Loris's 120th birthday on July 26th at 9am in the community room.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

- A. PROCUREMENT POLICY-** Administrator Young states the new Procurement policy will be discussed in a council meeting. Attorney Moss states the Procurement Policy would repeal the existing policy. Councilman Padgett would like for the policy to be discussed in a Workshop. Administrator Young states the Procurement Policy is required by the state for grants.
- B. GRANTS-** Horry County sent a request for Proposals for the American Rescue Plan grant. Application date is July 29, 2022. Administrator Young has a meeting on July 21, 2022, in Florence to learn about the guidelines for the SCIIP Grant. Waccamaw COG will assist with the process. Administrator Young stated he was looking into a SCDOT grant.
- C. AUDITS-** Robin has completed the 2016-2017 audit. City Clerk Massey is working on the 2018 audit.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE-** Did not meet.
- B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE-** Councilwoman Vescovi states she wants everyone to be aware of the policy that they were given. Chief Buley presented the policy at the Public Safety meeting.
- C. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE-** Ron states they are working on hydrants and putting in new services. They are having a challenging time getting supplies.
- D. RECREATION COMMITTEE-** Councilwoman Vescovi states there are currently two teams participating in the State Tournament. There is a Top Gun tournament being held that will generate funds from field rentals. Registration opens August 1st for fall sports; these include football, cheerleading, volleyball, and fall softball. Tim will be meeting this week with Christina Jackson from McLeod Loris to discuss possible programs for the adults and seniors.
- E. BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE-** Did not meet.
- F. PLANNING, ANNEXATION, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE-** Administrator Young is working on several grants. He is also working with Waccamaw COG on the Comprehensive plan that is required every ten years.

BUSINESS:

- A. CITY OF LORIS MASTER PLAN STUDY-** Administrator Young states that he would like to send out a request for proposals statewide through SCBO. It should take two to three weeks to get back. Once he receives sealed proposals, Council will convene to review.
- B. RESOLUTION 02-22, A RESOLUTION COMMITTING THE CITY OF LORIS TO PROVIDING A LOCAL MATCH FOR MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA HOMETOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT AND FOLLOWING ITS PROCUREMENT POLICY WHEN SECURING SERVICES AND PRODUCTS WITH GRANT FUNDS-** Administrator Young said they will be meeting this week so they will be able to apply for the grant. Once the proposals for the Master Plan Study are received and reviewed, he will move forward with the grant.
- C. 1ST READING- ORDINANCE 05-22- AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE CITY OF LORIS, SOUTH CAROLINA WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM-** Administrator Young states that rates are changing for water. Councilman Suggs states he understood changes were across the board for all customers. City Clerk Massey states the changes are targeted for the most used meters. Councilman Hardee states that that the increases are for residential customers and asks if Grand Strand Water and Sewer is charging more for that water. Councilwoman Vescovi states that the usage increases across the board and the base rate is only for the ¾” meters. Councilwoman Vescovi states that the question being asked is “Why is the base rate change only for ¾ inch?” City Clerk Massey states these changes are target areas based on usage, but the change can be made across the board. The Council would like to see an increase for all base rates across the board. Councilman Padgett makes a motion to adopt Ordinance 05-22 with the changes made that were suggested by Council prior to the second reading. Councilman Hardee seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.
- D. EARLY VOTING PRODUCERS FOR THE UP COMING ELECTIONS-** Administrator Young states that the early voting will be held at the public safety building. Will be open two weeks prior regular voting. If Loris would like to use this voting system in the future, then we can write them a letter to gather more information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. DISCUSSION ON PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTUAL MATTERS-** Did not meet in Executive Session.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- A. PUBLIC WORKS-** Reviewed during Committee reports.
- B. CODE ENFORCEMENT-** None
- C. RECREATION DEPARTMENT-** Reviewed during committee reports.

D. POLICE DEPARTMENT- None

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT- None

PUBLIC AND PRESS:

Kenya Wright (4321 Bellamy Street) – on behalf of Kent Wright (former mechanic for Loris) she read a letter stating that he would like to collect unemployment because he was only given a six-day notice and that he was not given a reason as to why he was being let go. Mayor Harrelson states that it was clearly spoken about and discussed in Executive Session before he was let go. Councilman Suggs and Padgett both said that they were shocked to hear that he was let go. They stated that they spoke about the budget but were not told that he was going to be let go. Mayor Harrelson said that he would reach back out to Kenya once they go over and discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Councilwoman Gause for adjournment; Seconded by Councilman Padgett. All members voted in favor. There being no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

ATTEST:

**BRANDY GRAHAM
CITY CLERK**

**TODD M. HARRELSON
MAYOR**

LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS

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