

**MINUTES OF
CITY OF LORIS SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
3909 WALNUT STREET
LORIS, SC 29569
MARCH 23, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT	COUNCIL	JOAN S. GAUSE MICHAEL DOZIER LEWIS C. HARDEE, JR. TODD M. HARRELSON MICHAEL E. SUGGS JAN P. VESCOVI
ABSENT	MAYOR	HENRY L. NICHOLS

NEWS MEDIA present were Mrs. Joyce Graham, writer for Tabor-Loris Tribune, and Ms. Jen Boyd, writer for The Loris Times.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called by Clerk Kenya Wright.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the regular council meeting held on January 3, 2017 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Dozier, seconded by Councilman Hardee to approve the minutes as presented. All members voted favorably.

The minutes of the special council meeting held on January 30, 2017 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Hardee, seconded by Councilman Dozier to approve the minutes as presented. All members voted favorably.

The minutes of the regular council meeting held on February 6, 2017 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Hardee, seconded by Councilwoman Vescovi to approve the minutes as presented. All members voted favorably.

The minutes of the special council meeting held on February 6, 2017 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Dozier, seconded by Councilwoman Vescovi to approve the minutes as presented. All members voted favorably.

COMMUNICATIONS:

MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause thanked everyone for all condolences for the recent passing of her husband Mr. Amos Gause.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

The department head reports were received as information.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Joan Gause informed that preparations were being made to begin interviews for the Clerk/Treasurer position which will be further discussed in executive session.

BUSINESS:

A. CDBG

Mr. Ryan Hayes from Hanna Engineering advised that Mayor Nichols previously called a meeting with Waccamaw Cog last Thursday to discuss the possibilities of applying for a CDBG Grant for drainage improvements on Canal Street. Councilman Harrelson was also present during the meeting. Ms. Jesse Walker with Waccamaw Cog stated that the City needed to have a comprehensive drainage study which the City does not currently have. Due to failure to meet certain criteria the project was shifted to waterline improvements on the North-West side of the City. New project cost would be around \$681,000. A pre-application package was prepared by Hanna Engineering and submitted. The total grant amount applied for is \$731,000 with the City obligated to pay a \$85,000 match.

Councilman Dozier questioned the time frame that Council would have to make a decision to decide to become financially obligated.

Councilwoman Vescovi inquired about the preliminary cost.

A motion was made by Councilman Suggs, to authorize Acting City Administrator to move forward with the preliminary study and begin the application process for the Community Development Block grant seconded by Councilwoman Vescovi. All members voted favorably.

B. City Grant Writer

Acting Administrator Kempski briefed council on the cost to hire a grant writer for the City. Lt. Buley is currently applying for grants in regards to the police department. Mr. Kempski, himself is currently doing grants for the recreation department. Mr. Wyatt is working on public works grants. The cost would be between \$10,000 to \$15,000 dollars up front along with a percentage of each grant to hire a grant writer to write all other grants needed. Mr. Kempski made a recommendation that the City does not move forward with the hiring of a grant writer.

C. Opening of Bids for Bayboro Pump Station

Four bids were received for the Bayboro Pump station project. All sealed bids were stamped and received before the closing date. Clerk Kenya Wright open and read aloud each bid. Bids included a base bid plus alternate 1, 2 & 3 and were as follows:

- 1. Level Utilities, LLC - \$547,762**
- 2. Greenwall Construction - \$489,666.66**
- 3. North American Construction - \$658,749**
- 4. ARC Incorporated - \$743,732.60**

Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause recommends that Hanna Engineering review and compare all bids received.

PUBLIC AND PRESS COMENTS:

Mrs. Janet Carter from 2840 Main Street expressed concerns about the condition of rundown properties and overgrown vacant lots. Mrs. Carter passed out photos and expressed concerns about a commercial truck parked on a residential lot located at the Corner of Spring Street and Main Street with a business advertisement on both sides for 26 days.

Mr. Alan Levinson of 5020 Forest Drive expresses his concern to Council about the upcoming hurricane season.

Mrs. Joyce Graham, writer for the Tabor-Loris Tribune, inquired about what would be discussed in executive session. She also inquired as to why interviews had not begun for the open positions of Administrator and Clerk/Treasurer.

Mayor Nichols arrived at 6:50 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Councilman Hardee, seconded by Councilwoman Gause to go into executive session to discuss personnel and contractual matters along with The Horry County Home Consortium Intergovernmental agreement and legal matters in regards to the Quick Claim deed to the Spring Street School. All members voted favorably.

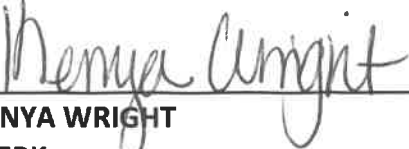
After the executive session, Council reconvened to open session upon a motion by Councilman Hardee, seconded by Councilman. Mayor Nichols and all members voted favorably.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Gause announced that no action was taken in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilman Hardee, seconded by Councilman Dozier to adjourn. Mayor Nichols and all Members voted favorably. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

ATTEST:



KENYA WRIGHT
CLERK

HENRY L. NICHOLS
MAYOR

LORIS COUNCIL MEMBERS

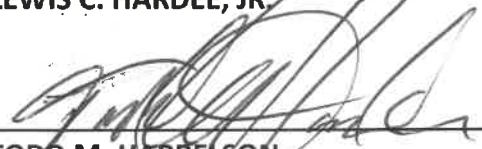


MICHAEL C. DOZIER

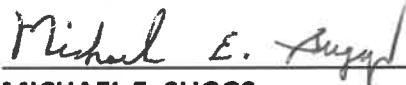
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